

## ELISION

Elision is that phonological phenomenon in which certain sounds are lost or get elided when they occur in a particular kind of phonetic environment in connected speech. It usually happens in the case of two similar sounds occurring one after another. For instance, in the articulation of the groups of words like 'last time' 'fast track' 'right turn', we find that /t/ sound of the first word gets lost when articulated in continuation. These groups of words are realised as /lɑ:s taɪm/, /fɑ:s træk/, /raɪ tɜ:n/ respectively in actual pronunciation. The cases of elision are found within the words also. In the words like tonight, pronounced as /taɪnait/, and police, pronounced as /pəli:s/, /d/ sound gets dropped, making /tɔ:/ and /pl/ syllabic consonants when they occur in connected speech. Moreover, negatives attached to auxiliaries like haven't don't, etc. represent the examples of elision. Elision indicates the pace of fast moving highly mechanical world where economy and precision stand as the guiding force. The awareness of elision as a concept helps in understanding native speakers to a large extent.

## JUNCTURE

Juncture is that concept related to continuous speech in which the lack of recognizable pause between two words

~~known to me.~~

or syllables results into the complete difference in meaning of the expressions. Let us consider these groups of words.

I scream (ice cream)

A name (an aim)

That stuff (that's tough)

In appropriate situations (inappropriate situations)

When the above expressions are uttered without giving the required degree of pause between them, there is immense possibility of loss of communication. The expressions given in brackets may replace the intended expressions leading to complete communication failure. This feature of connected speech is studied under the heading juncture.

Thus, assimilation, elision, and juncture are the distinct features of connected speech about which a good deal of idea is very important for having a reasonable good command of spoken English. These concepts are very useful in making a scientific study of English on one hand, and adding to the intelligibility of a speaker as well as a listener, on the other hand.

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