Chapter 5

E elliptic and Assimilation are prominent features in speech, particularly in the pronunciation of loan words. Often, things are added to or taken away from a word, which can lead us to hear ellipsis and assimilation.

1. Ellipsis (Ellipsis)

Words that are unstressed (unstressed) in English can be reduced to /ə/ syllables. For example, about, around, because, believe, today. For example, in the word chocolate, the unstressed syllable /ə/ is dropped, leaving the word as chocolate.

The unstressed syllables in English are reduced into /ə/, for example: about, around, because, believe, today. Very often a sound in three syllable words is completely dropped. This is called ellipsis. An ellipsis can occur in the front or in the middle of
the word, for example:-

vegetable, family, traveller, generous, history,
literature, business, terrible, interesting, every

I. Listen to the following words. Underline which syllable is reduced.

1. already 2. politician 3. excited 4. perhaps
5. extraordinary 6. different 7. general 8. environment
13. average 14. cabinet 15. mathematics 16. separate
17. temperature 18. comfortable 19. probably 20. deteriorating

II. You will hear words or sentences spoken with ellipsis. Write down the whole sentence.

1.
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6.
การสังเกตการณ์ว่าเรื่องการลงเสียงหนัก—เบาในภาษาอังกฤษสามารถพิจารณาเพียง เหตุผลเพียงเสียงหนัก—เบาเท่านั้น ซึ่งจะทำให้การคิดเห็น ผลส่งผลให้การลงเสียงเบา (unstressed) ลงปานมากกว่าการฟังยากขึ้น ดังนั้นเรื่องของการเรียน พระองค์จึงจ่าเป็นทักษะการฟังและการพิจารณา

2. การกลมเสียงลง (Assimilation)

เมื่อเสียงอยู่ในเสียงกลมกับ เสียงพระองค์เสียงทางหนึ่งนั้นจะเปลี่ยนเพื่อให้การออกเสียง
In English, when two sounds are close together, the sound changes to make pronunciation easier. This is called assimilation.

Usually y can change when it follows t, d, s, z for example:

1. Don't you see the difference?
   
   t and y is changed into 'ch' /ʃ/. You often hear
   
   Don't cha see the difference? in a relaxed spoken English.

2. Would you mind turning on the light?
   
   d and y is changed to j /ʒ/. You often hear
   
   Would je mind turning on the light?

3. She wants your help.
   
   s and y is changed into sh /ʃ/. You often hear
   
   She wants shə help.

4. How's your life?
   
   z and y is changed into zh /ʒ/. You often hear
   
   How's zhə life?
In relaxed spoken English you will often hear the following pronunciation, for example:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What do you</th>
<th>becomes</th>
<th>Whaddaya</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What are you</td>
<td></td>
<td>What cha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>want to</td>
<td></td>
<td>wanna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>going to</td>
<td></td>
<td>gonna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ending &quot;ing&quot;</td>
<td></td>
<td>in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>got to</td>
<td></td>
<td>gotta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>have to</td>
<td></td>
<td>have ta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>don't know</td>
<td></td>
<td>donno</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
<td></td>
<td>'n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td></td>
<td>'er</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>them</td>
<td></td>
<td>'em</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>her</td>
<td></td>
<td>'er</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>can</td>
<td></td>
<td>kin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No matter it's ellipsis or assimilation or any relaxed spoken pronunciation, the students have to know what the slow pronunciation is.
III. You will hear each sentence spoken. Repeat each sentence with slow pronunciation.

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18.
In this exercise, you will hear a dialogue between two men. The topic of the story is "The Secret of a Long Life". The following are the questions so that you will have some purposes to listen in your mind. Before you listen, study these expressions first.

- **on the contrary** = quite the opposite

- **Well** = a word used to introduce a remark, resume the thread of a conversation, or simply gain time to collect one's thoughts.
- in that vein = in that way: along those lines
- discreet = proper, inoffensive, prudent

"The Secret of a Long Life"

Questions

1. What does John do?

2. What topic is John interested in writing on?

3. Why did he approach a white-haired man?

4. How old was the white-haired man?

5. According to the story, what do people generally believe will make you have a long life.
   A. 
   B. 
   C. 
   D. 

6. Did the white-haired man follow the good ways to live a long time? If not, what did he do?
A. ____________________________
B. ____________________________
C. ____________________________
D. ____________________________

V. Listen to the story and then fill in the blank with a word or a phrase that has the meaning similar to that you hear.

The Ant and the Grasshopper

While the grasshopper was _________ in the shade one hot summer's day, an ant _________ in the sun with a grain of rice that he was _________ out to his nest.

"Hey, Mister Ant," the grasshopper said. "Why don't you take it easy, like me? You can work tomorrow." The ant ________.

"I'm _________ food now for the cold winter ahead; and if you know what's good for you, you'll do the same," he said. Three or four months later, winter came and it was very cold.

While the ant was _________ in his nest, the _________ grasshopper shivered under a pile of dead leaves and wished that he'd _________ to the ant's _________.
VI. Listen to the story and then put in correct order the sequence of the incidents.

They went for a ride.

The pilot charged ten dollars for three minutes for a ride.

The farmer said he almost cried out when his wife fell out of the airplane.

The farmer and his wife saw an airplane at the fair.

After they landed, the pilot congratulated him for not making a sound.

The farmer agreed not to say a word; if he did he had to pay ten dollars for three minutes.

The pilot said the farmer and his wife could have a free ride if they made no sound.