**10. ASSIMILATION**

Assimilation is a process of alternation of speech sounds as a result of which one of the sounds becomes fully or partially similar to the adjoining sound. Types of assimilation could be distinguished according to the: 1) **direction** and 2) **degree of completeness.**

**Direction of assimilation**

-**progressive** (the articulatory features of one sound are changed under the influence of the preceding sound ) e.g. dogs [dɒɡz] voiced sound /d/ influenced voiceless /s/ and /s/ became /z/, cats [kæts] voiceless /t/ influenced /s/ and it became voiceless too;

**-regressive** (the articulatory features of one sound are changed under the influence of the following sound ) e.g in the tree [ in ðə triː] interdental / ð/ influences alveolar /t/ and it becomes dental;

-reciprocal (double) (mutual influence of the adjacent sounds) e.g. try [ˈtraɪ] voiceless /t/ influences sonorant /r/ and it becomes partialyy voiceless; post-alveolar /r/ influences alveolar /t/ and it becomes post-alveolar too.

**Degree of completeness**

According to the degree of completeness assimilation could be **complete** and **incomplete** (**partial).**

Assimilation is called complete if the two adjoining sounds become alike or merge into one: lam**pp**ost [ˈlæm**p**oʊst].

Assimilation is called incomplete when the likeness of the adjoining sounds is partial as the assimilated sound retains its major articulatory features: play [ˈpleɪ] voiceless /p/ influences sonorant /l/ and sonorant /l/ becomes partially devoiced.

**Main cases of assimilation**

**Progressive assimilation:**

1. Voicing

A voiced sound influences voiceless one and it becomes voiced: goods [ɡʊ**dz**]

1. Devoicing

A voiceless sound influences voiced one and it becomes voiceless: books [bʊ**ks**]

1. Loss of aspiration

[S] influences aspirated sounds [p, t, k] and they lose their aspiration: **sp**eak, **st**ill, **sk**ill.

**Regressive assimilation:**

1. Interdental sounds [θ, ð] influence alveolar sounds [t, d, n, l, s, z] and they become dental: on the table [ð → n→ dental];
2. Plosive+plosive →loss of plosion [bb, pp, bp, gg, kk, kg, nn…]: 2nd plosive influences the 1st one: good day [d+d → loss of first plosive];
3. Plosive+[l]→ lateral plosion: lateral [l] influences all plosive sounds and they become lateral: please, glow, blew [l → p, g, b → lateral plosion];
4. Plosive+[n,m] → nasal plosion: nasal [n, m] influence all plosive sounds and they become nasal: garden, good morning [n, m→ d → nasal plosion];
5. Labio-dental [f,v] influence alveolar [n] or bilabial [m] and they become labio-dental: sunflower, comfort [f→n, m→ labio-dental];
6. Plosives [d, t]+ affricates [dʒ, t∫]→ affricates influence plosives and affricate plosion is appeared: Bad Jack [dʒ → b];
7. Plosives [d, t] + [j] → [dʒ, t∫]: would you- [wʊd ju- d+j→ dʒ]; meet you- [miːt ju- t+j→ t∫];
8. Consonant + [w]→ labiolization (lip-rounding); [w] influences the preceeding sound and it becomes labiolized: swan [swɑːn], w → s –it becomes labialized: queen [kwiːn], k+w:
9. [n+g,k→ ŋ]: congress [kɒŋɡrɛs] [g] influences [n] and it becomes nasal [ŋ]; tin can [tiŋ kæn- [k] influences[n] and it becomes [ŋ];
10. Interdental sounds [θ; ð] + [s] → interdental [θ; ð] become [s]: birth certificate [bəːθ səˈtɪfɪkət: s→θ→s].

**Double (reciprocal) assimilation**

1. Alveolar [t,d]+ post-alveolar [r]; [r] influences [t,d] and they become post-alveolar; voiceless [t] influences sonorant [r] and it becomes partially devoiced;
2. Lateral plosion+ voiceless consonant sound: please [p+l], voiceless [p] influences sonorant [l] and it becomes partially devoiced; lateral [l] influences [p] and it becomes lateral too.
3. Nasal plosion+ voiceless consonant sound: Kate knows [t+n], voiceless [t] influences sonorant [n] and it becomes partially devoiced; nasal [n] influences [k] and it becomes lateral too.
4. Labialized [w] + voiceless consonant sound: swan [s+w], voiceless [s] influences labialized [w] and it becomes partially devoiced; labialized [w] influences voiceless [s] and it becomes lateral too.

**Find reduction and assimilation Сделать транскрипцию и найти редукцию, ассимиляцию**

1. Would you meet me on Tuesday at the station, if it’s possible?
2. Don’t be sad, please, could you smile and stop crying?
3. I haven’t found your broken chair in the garden.
4. That trip with Sam was quick and comfortable.
5. He must clean the rooms while boys are sleeping.
6. Her smart brother James was the tenth in the list.
7. His son doesn’t play with little kittens.
8. Sunflowers look quite nice and beautiful.
9. Don’t break the rules, you should treat them with respect.

**Разобрать предложения по тоновым группам, выделить pre-head, head, nucleus, tail, выделить части речи**

1. Have you found this book in the bag or on the shelf? –Actually, I have just bought it in the shop.
2. Did he try to call you, him or her?
3. She was there when it happened, wasn’t she?
4. My friend, Jeremy, plays the guitar and his wife, Carla, plays the piano.
5. Hello, Mrs Jones, how are you doing?
6. Thank you for your help, it was nice of you.
7. Bring me this blanket, it is too cold in here.
8. Oh! How great she is!
9. “I told them about the party”, Jack said, “but I think nobody will come”.
10. My brother and I didn’ t manage to do everything on time but hopefully tomorrow we will cope with it.