

Day 17

The Sounds of English

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i) Pronunciation of individual English words involves a lot of 'schwa sounds' (the name of the neutral vowel sound represented by the IPA symbol /ə/. E.g. corporate /kɔːpərət/

ii) When we say a sentence in English, we join or "link" words to each other. Because of this linking, the words in a sentence do not always sound the same as when we say them individually. Linking is very important in English. If you recognize and use linking, two things will happen:

1. you will understand other people more easily
2. other people will understand you more easily

iii) There are some sounds that disappear in a sentence.

- Consonant sounds at the end of words disappear if the same consonant sounds follow.
- Such consonant sounds as /p/ /b/ /t/ /d/ /k/ /g/ at the end of words disappear if followed by consonant.