

PHONOLOGICAL PROCESSES
Part 2.

- c. **Coalescence:** Two adjacent segments are replaced by a single one which shares features of the two original ones.

Consonant coalescence:

e.g. Korean:

WHEN A STOP AND h ARE ADJACENT, THEY ARE REPLACED BY AN ASPIRATED STOP.

English:

MORPHEME FINAL t, d, s, z AND A FOLLOWING GLIDE ARE REPLACED BY ALVEOPALATAL FRICATIVES.

Vowel coalescence:

Latin - Spanish:

ai au BECOME e AND o (THE RESULTING VOWEL HAS THE SAME VALUE FOR BACKNESS AND ROUNDNESS AS THE ORIGINAL HIGH VOWEL).

Vowel-consonant coalescence:

e.g. French:

A VOWEL PLUS A NASAL CONSONANT BECOMES A NASALIZED VOWEL WHEN THE CONSONANT IS WORD-FINAL.

- d. **Metathesis:** Two segments may interchange.

e.g. Hebrew:

s AND t INTERCHANGE WHEN ADJACENT.

3. **WEAKENING AND STRENGTHENING PROCESSES**

Vowels:

- a. **Syncope:** A vowel is deleted word-internally when it occupies a weak position (=unstressed).

Weakening process!!

e.g. Latin → French

English: *chocolate, nursery*, etc.

Weakening process!

- b. **Apocope:** The loss of a final unstressed vowel (weak position!)
 e.g. Saami (a Finno-Ugric language)
 Weakening process!
- c. **Diphthongization:** Stressed vowels and tense vowels are strong vowels;
 they frequently diphthongize.
 e.g. Latin → Italian
 Strengthening process!

Consonants:

- d. **Lenition** (consonant weakening)
 e.g. Finnish:

VOICELESS LONG STOPS BECOME SHORT WHEN THE SYLLABLE ENDS
 IN A CONSONANT.

$p \rightarrow v; k \rightarrow \emptyset$ WHEN THE SYLLABLE ENDS IN A CONSONANT.

NEUTRALIZATION: Phonological distinctions are reduced in a particular environment.
 Segments that contrast in one environment, have the same representation in the
 environment of neutralization.

- a. **Consonant neutralization**

e.g. German:

THE OPPOSITION BETWEEN /t/ AND /d/ IS NEUTRALIZED WORD-FINALLY
 (What is the phonological process?)

English:

THE OPPOSITION BETWEEN /t/ AND /d/ IS NEUTRALIZED INTERVOCALICALLY
 FOLLOWING A STRESSED SYLLABLE (What is the phonological process?)

- b. **Vowel neutralization**

e.g. Russian:

THE OPPOSITION BETWEEN /o/ and /a/ IS NEUTRALIZED IN UNSTRESSED
 POSITION (What is the phonological process?)

English:

VOWEL REDUCTION: WEAKENING OF AN UNSTRESSED VOWEL TO SCHWA
 (What is the phonological process?)

