

SOUNDS IN COMBINATION

There are five rules which govern the pronunciation of words when they are spoken as part of an utterance in the English language.

These five rules are:

1. **Catenation** (consonant → vowel)

e.g. Why don't you come over tonight?

come.móver

2. **Assimilation** (consonant → consonant)

e.g. Wear your light blue dress for the party tonight.

lighp.blue

3. **Intrusion** (vowel → vowel)

e.g. Let's see, Matt and me and Mary makes three for dinner.

Matt.tánd me.y.ánd

4. **Weakening**

e.g. What would you do if the police arrested you?

yu thu yu

5. **Elision**

e.g. You shouldn't wear white trainers to a job interview.

whi.trainers