



The Sounds of English

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 /kɔ:pəɾt/

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.