



IIT Madras

BSc Degree

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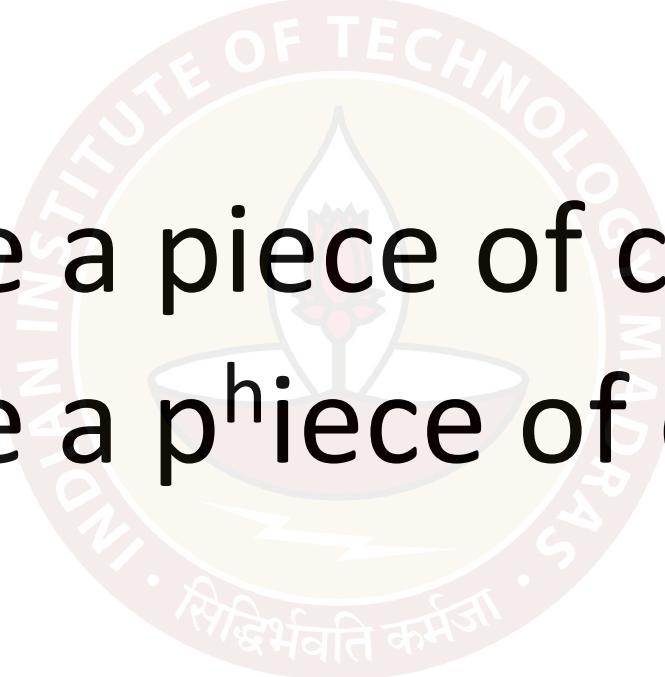
Aspiration in English words

Rajesh Kumar



Elements of words

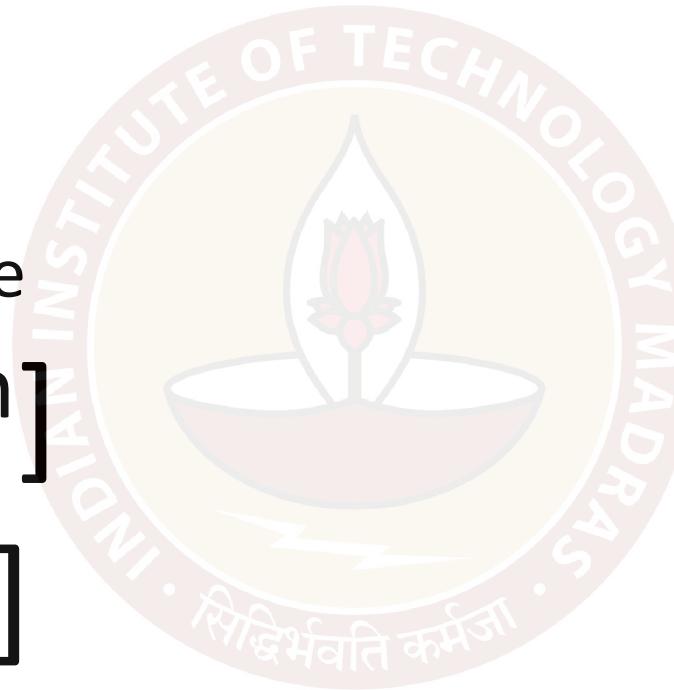
- Aspiration – A feature of sound
- Syllable – A unit of words
- Stress – A feature of vowels in a syllable



Take a piece of cake.
T^hake a p^hiece of c^hake

[p], [t], [k] Voiceless stop sounds

- -asp
 - -voice
 - [p]
 - [t]
 - [k]
- +asp
 - voice
 - [p^h]
 - [t^h]
 - [k^h]



Some English Words

- Pen
- Pin
- Pan
- Park

- Tan
- Truck
- Trick
- Team

- Car
- Can
- King
- Crush



CCVC

• Cry	/k ^h raai/ r is voiceless
• Try	t ^h
• Plot	p ^h
• Clock	k ^h
• Crime	k ^h
• Tie	t ^h
• Town	t ^h
• Tank	t ^h



Aspiration in stressed syllable

• Potato	/pa T ^h AE to/	(3)
• Hotel	/ho T ^h EL/	(2)
• Nepal	/ne P ^h AL/	(2)
• Intense	/in T ^h ENS/	(2)
• Intension	/in·T ^h EN shan/	(3)
• deeper	/DIIP er/	(2)
• Institute	/IN stii tute/	(3)

Aspiration in stressed syllables

- attention /aet T^hE N shan/ (3)
- retain /rii T^hA E N/ (2)
- retention /rii T^hA E N shan/ (3)
- Impossible /im P^hO S si bal/ (4)
- impatient /im P^hA E shant/ (3)

Aspiration in stressed syllables

- department /di P^hAART ment/ (3)
- competition /kom pii T^hii shan/ (4)
- decrease (v) /di K^hRIIZ/ (2)
- decrease (n) /DI kriiz/ (2)
- Institution /in sti T^hyu shan/ (4)

Stress on 1st syllable – 2nd syllable unstressed and unaspirated

- Purple /P^hAR pal/
- Practice /P^hRAK tis/
- Circle /SAR kal/
- Turtle /T^hAR tal/
- Sample /SAM pal/
- Temple /T^hEM pal/
- Happy /HAP pi/

2nd syllable stressed – first sound aspirated

- Platonic /plaɪ θoʊn ɪk/ (3)
- Iconic /aɪ kʰoʊn ɪk/ (3)
- Atomic /ae θoʊm ɪk/ (3)
- Compassion /kəm pʰeɪʃən/ (3)
- Complete /kəm pliɪt/ (2)