

# CONNECTED SPEECH



An advanced student of mine speaks both clearly and usually correctly, but can often sound over formal and at times stilted. He has learnt his English "through the eye" and has trouble interpreting the utterances of native speakers who do not monitor their output. His delivery is an attempt at a precise version of every sound. With native speakers, articulatory precision is a stylistic device, a conscious choice if we want to emphasize a point, be insistent or threatening. In normal social interaction though, this is not usually the case and articulatory imprecision is the more natural and functional option.

**WITH LOTS OF WORDS ENDING IN /R / IT IS SILENT.  
EG:**

**FATHER  
THERE  
HER  
TOWER  
HARE  
FOR  
CLEAR**

**HOWEVER!! IT IS NOT SILENT WHEN FOLLOWED BY A VOWEL SOUND.**

**FATHER-IN-LAW  
THE HARE AND THE TORTISE  
THERE ARE FOUR OWLS IN  
HER OLD BARN  
CLEAR AS WATER  
THE TOWER OF LONDON**

**THE INTRUSIVE (IMAGINARY /R/) WE USE WHEN ONE WORD  
FINISHES WITH A VOWEL SOUND AND THE NEXT WORD  
STARTS WITH A VOWEL SOUND.**

**AMERICA /R/ IS A BIG COUNTRY  
A BANANA/R/ IS A YELLOW FRUIT  
PAMELA/R/ ANDERSON  
I WANT TO VISIT CHINA/R/ AND VIETNAM**

## **LINKING /W/ SOUND**

**WHEN ONE WORD FINISHES WITH AN /O/ OR /U:/ SOUND**

**EG- GROW OR YOU**

**AND THE NEXT WORD BEGINS WITH A VOWEL WE USE A /W/  
SOUND BETWEEN THE TWO WORDS.**

**YOU/W/ ALL GROW/W/ UP**

**WHEN DO/W/ I HAVE TO/W/ ATTEND**

**I CAN'T DO/W/ IT TO/W/ OFTEN**

## **LINKING (VERY SOFT) /J/**

**WHEN ONE WORD ENDS IN-**

**/AI/-BUY**

**/I:/-TEA**

**/EI:/-TODAY**

**/OI:/-BOY**

**AND THE NEXT WORD BEGINS WITH A  
VOWEL,ANY VOWEL.**

**I /J/ OWN A CAMERA**

**I /J/ ATE A PIZZA LAST NIGHT**

**HE /J/ ALWAYS SAYS THAT**

**HE /J/ ALWAYS HAS CLASSES ON TUESDAYS**

**DAY /J/ AFTER DAY**

**MONDAY /J/ AND THURSDAY**

**BOY/J/ AND GIRL**

**THERE'S A TOY /J/ON THE FLOOR**

I\_agree   We\_aren't ready   blue\_eyes   Go to\_England   Try\_again  
draw\_a line   Go\_ahead   day\_and night   she\_arrived  
score\_a goal   Never\_again   A few\_apples   Give me\_a ring  
True\_or false   four\_and a half

/w/	/j/	/r/



I _agree	We_aren't ready	blue_eyes	Go to_England	Try_again
draw_a line	Go_ahead	day_and night	she_arrived	
score_a goal	Never_again	A few_apples	Give me_a ring	
	True_or false	four_and a half		

/w/	/j/	/r/
GO TO ENGLAND GO AHEAD TRUE OR FALSE BLUE EYES A FEW APPLES	TRY AGAIN I AGREE WE AREN'T READY DAY AND NIGHT GIVE ME A RING	SHE ARRIVED SCORE A GOAL NEVER AGAIN TRUE OR FALSE

