

**Norwegian Pronunciation,
Rhythm and Tone**

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Lecture 6
Today's Topics:

- Tonemes
- Repetition of consonant/vowel length
- Listening skills

We will go over some topics from earlier lectures we haven't focused on. We will rehearse toneme difference, and practice long/short vowels and consonants.

Today's practical task

The short dialogue “På kafé” is the material you will analyse. Try to predict how the lines may be spoken. Things to consider are:

- What is the stressed (lengthened) word?
- L at the end of an unstressed word. If the next sound is a *consonant* it is often dropped, if a vowel it is pronounced (this is especially important for the frequent words: vil, skal, til).
- R at the end of an unstressed word. If the next sound is a consonant it is often dropped, if a vowel it is pronounced. NOTE: If the next letter is d, t, n, l, or s – new retroflex sounds are formed (consult the box below)
- Unstressed “jeg” is pronounced [jæ]. Only when stressed is it pronounced [jæi]
- Words that contain -ski- and -sky- are pronounced [-ʃi-] and [-ʃy-], (the sh-sound).
- “Også” is pronounced [åsså]
- In most words ending -ld, the -d is not pronounced (incl. kald, hold, fold, meld, skyld, ..)

More on tonemes

Many toneme 2 words (drop) become toneme 1 (flat) when unstressed, and long vowels/consonants become short. E.g. the word “kopper” (cups) when said in isolation or stressed, has a dropped tone on the first syllable. When it is rushed through, i.e. unstressed, it has a flat tone on the first syllable. Compare sentence 1, where the stress is on ‘kopper’ (maybe because the waiter brings two *pots* of coffee) with sentence 2, where the stress is on ‘kaffe’.

1 Vi vil gjerne ha to *kopper* kaffe. [vivi-jæŋa-to-kåppe'-kaffe]

2 Vi vil gjerne ha to kopper *kaffe*. [vivi-jæŋa-tokåpe-kaffe]

This is especially noticeable in personal pronouns like: mine, dine, sine, våre, dere, deres (one syllable words are always flat, jeg, du, vi, etc.). Listen to the word “dere” in these two sentences. Unstressed it has toneme 1 (flat), stressed it has toneme 2 (drop):

Dere vet ikke hva. [derevetike-vaa] (You don't know what (this is).)

Dette er til *dere* [detæt̪i-deere] (This is for you.)

På kafé

Ingrid:	Hva vil du ha?
Michael:	Jeg vil gjerne ha en kopp kaffe.
Ingrid:	Det vil jeg også.
Michael (til kelneren):	Unnskyld!
Kelneren:	Ja?
Ingrid:	Vi vil gjerne ha to kopper kaffe.
Kelneren:	Ja. Vil dere ha noe å spise også?
Michael:	Jeg vil gjerne ha en kake.
Ingrid:	Nei takk.
Kelneren:	To kopper kaffe og en kake.
Ingrid:	Ja takk.

**Spelling to
phonetic
symbol:**

rd = ɖ
rt = ʈ
rn = ŋ
rl = ɭ
ng = ŋ
skj/sj/rs = ʃ
kj = ɕ

Next week: The Miracle Trick for Impressing with your Spoken Norwegian!

LYTTEØVELSE

1 file fille	2 ruge rugge	3 fold fall
4 pleie bleie	5 du do	6 viske veske
7 blått bløtt	8 terge Terje	9 bli bly
10 furt futt	11 gjør det jøde	12 streker strekker

Ekstra:

↘
være [verb]

→
været [noun]