

## ENGLISH PHONOLOGICAL RULES IN THE MOVIE *NOT CINDERELLA'S TYPE (2018)*

<sup>1</sup>Hatimah, <sup>2</sup>Hizliatul Zannah, <sup>3</sup>Rosidah  
<sup>1,2,3</sup>English Education Department, STAI Rakha Amuntai  
South Kalimantan, Indonesia

**Email:** [hatimah084@gmail.com](mailto:hatimah084@gmail.com), [hizlyatul@gmail.com](mailto:hizlyatul@gmail.com), [rosidah.1818@gmail.com](mailto:rosidah.1818@gmail.com)

### Abstract

*This research focuses on two aspects of English phonological rules which are assimilation and elision as the aspects of connected speech. In daily-life conversation, an English native speaker often use certain rules to speak naturally. This research is aimed to identify and analyze aspect of connected speech in Not Cinderella's Type movie. Qualitative approach with content analysis was used to gather data from the movie. The results showed that assimilation is occurred 115 times under progressive and regressive assimilation and elision is occurred 570 times in the form of aphaeresis and apocopation types. The results indicates that elision is frequently used by the characters in the Not Cinderella's Type movie.*

**Keywords:** English phonological rules, connected speech, assimilation, elision, movie

### A. INTRODUCTION

Phonetics and phonology are part of English which need to be understood as the speaker of English. They cover the things related to English pronunciation and all the speaker of English would like to have a good skill in pronunciation in order they are easy to communicate with native speaker. Unfortunately having a good skill in pronunciation is not easy, so that is why, as the speaker of English we have to know the things related to English spoken.

Learning spoken English is really hard for many students of English. They have got a lot of problem related to pronunciation such as they do not pronounce the word correctly and do not speak spontaneously. The most problem which the students have faced is applying of connected speech in order the students can speak as the lecturer's hopes. It indicates that they need to know the procedures of pronouncing the word correctly in order they can speak fluently. By having a good knowledge in phonetics and phonology, it can help us to know how to pronounce the word in English correctly. As researchers have stated previously that phonetics and phonology cover the things related to pronunciation, such as connected speech. Connected speech is a part of phonetics and phonology which is focused to the way of how the native speaker's pronounce the words.

More specifically, according to Ahmad HP (2007), articulation is learning the sounds of language produced by speech tools. The sound of language has been possessed by humans since birth to express something produced by the speech apparatus. The sounds of the language will form a meaningful word to inform something in communication events. In producing the sound of a language, it is necessary to have a well-functioning speaker's speech tool so that good communication is established.

According to Seong (in Patang and Misnawati 2014), connected speech is a phenomenon in spoken language that collectively includes phonological processes such as reduction, elision, intrusion, assimilation, and contraction. Roach (2009) in his book mentioned four aspect in connected speech which are rhythm, assimilation, elision, and linking. Two aspects will be the focus in this study: assimilation and elision. Assimilation are changes in pronunciation that take place under certain circumstances at the ends and the beginnings of words (that is, changes at word boundaries), when those words occur in connected speech, or in compounds for example good girl instead of /gʊg g :l ɜ /. Elision is very simply the omission of certain sounds in certain contexts for example The next day instead of /ðə nek s de 'ɪ/. They are the features of connected speech which the researchers are going to analysis the phenomena of assimilation and elision as part of connected speechmore details through, Not Cinderella's Type (2018) movie.

The similar studies had been conducted by Rosyidin, K. (2016) in the four aspects: assimilation, dissimilation, deletion and insertion in the film "The Martian". It is found that three of the types are occurred in the film which are deletion, assimilation, and dissimilation. Then, Ardila, Utami, YUSDANIANTY, and RUQIAH (2019) conducted a study to analyze assimilation and elision of a movie entitle Cinderella (2015). They found that the process of elision was occurred more than the process of assimilation in the movie.

### **Assimilation**

Assimilation usually happens in the double consonants. This is a phenomenon which shows the influence of one sound to another to become more similar. It occurs where one sound is influence by other close to it in the utterance. The process of assimilation involve two sounds close together in a word becoming closer together in term of pronunciation and make easier for the speaker by reducing vocal tract gymnastics (McMahon, 2002: 4). Assimilation usually refers to contextual variability of speech sounds, which is said to be caused by the influence of one sound upon another. So, assimilation are the features of an articulation may lead into (i.e. anticipate) those of a following segment, e.g. English white pepper /waɪt 'pepə/ → /waɪp 'pepə/.

Moreover, Skandera and Burleigh (in Ardila *et al*, 2019) categorized assimilation into *regressive assimilation*, *progressive assimilation*, and *coalescent assimilation*. *Regressive assimilation* refers to assimilation brought about by the influence of a following sound that occurs when the final phoneme of preceding word influences the initial phoneme of the following word or syllable like the word [good boy] pronounced as /gʊb\_bɔɪ/. *Progressive assimilation* happens as the initial phoneme of the following word or syllable influences the final phoneme of preceding word or syllable such as /t/ sound pronounced /p/ sound in the word [that page] into /ðæppeɪdʒ/. The last is *coalescent assimilation* that always merges two sounds to form a single, new sound, or rather phoneme<sup>10</sup>. It this can be illustrated by the sequences don't you /dɒntju:/, where the /t/ and the /j/ can merge into /tʃ/, resulting in the pronunciation /dɒntʃu/. (Rosyidin, 2016). In this research, *progressive and regressive assimilation* is taken to do the movie analysis.

### ***Elision***

Elision means the omission of one or more sounds in spoken language which the sounds are frequently omitted from certain grammatical words when they occur as weak forms in non-prominent position. (Skandera & Burleigh, 2005: 94). Simply, elision can be stated as under certain circumstances sounds disappear. For example in words like 'potato', the first syllable may disappear; the aspiration of the initial plosive takes up the whole of the middle portion of the syllable, resulting in these pronunciations /p<sup>h</sup>teɪtəʊ/ (Roach, 2009: 125)

Skandera and Burleigh (2005) divided elision into three categories based on the position of sounds omitted which are *aphaeresis* – elision at the beginning of a word, *syncope* – elision in the middle of a word, and *apocope* or *apocopation* –elision at the end of a word. Based on these three categories, the researchers only used *aphaeresis* and *apocope* or *apocopation* to analyze the elision process in the movie of Not Cinderella's Type (2018)

### **B. METHOD**

This study was designed to describe the phenomena of assimilation and elision as parts of connected speech reflected in the movie of Not Cinderella's Type (2018). It was belong to qualitative research since the data are collected in the form of words rather than numbers (Fraenkel & Wallen, 2008). This study also used document or content analysis focusing on analyzing recorded material to learn about human behavior through movie. The source of data was the Not Cinderella's Type movie and English script to ensure the utterances produced by the characters are identified correctly and found no mistakes. The procedure of collecting data was conducted through observation in several steps: First, watching the Not Cinderella's Type movie as well as listening the whole dialogues and monologue. The movie script were also looked very attentively in this time. Second, investigating character's dialogue to find out the speech featured assimilation and elision by signed them on the script paper. Third, listening to the selected words from the characters' dialogues to makesure that the aspects occur within. Last, analyzing the listed data with the theory proposed.

### **C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

After listening very carefully to the speech produced by Not Cinderella's Type movie's characters, elision mostly occurred in characters' dialogue and monologue. Although elision and assimilation are typical of rapid, causal speech used by native speaker but in this case elision were more frequently used by characters. The summary of the analysis can be seen in the following table.

SUMMARY OF ASSIMILATION AND ELISION

No	Aspect of Connected Speech	Times	
1	Assimilation	Progressive Assimilation	44
		Regressive Assimilation	71
2	Elision	Aphaeresis	551
		Apocipation	19
Total			685

## 1. Assimilation

Assimilation process is found to occur in 115 phrases. 71 phrases are applied with regressive assimilation and 44 phrases progressive assimilation. For the respective data, the identified words and phrases are analyzed based upon their types.

### a. Progressive Assimilation

There are 44 utterances found in this type and below is the sample of phrases with each of their phoneme alterations.

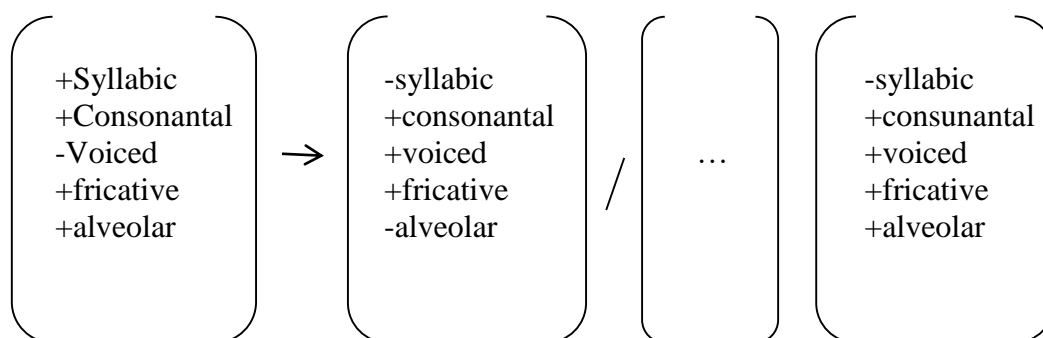
PHRASES FEATURED WITH PROGRESSIVE ASSIMILATION

No	Word/ Phrases	Phonetically transcribed	The speech produced	Phoneme encounters	Phoneme alteration
1	Relationships start	/rɪ'leɪʃənʃɪps stɑ:t/	/rɪ'leɪʃənʃɪpz ztɑ:t/	/s/ enc /s/	/s/ into /z/
2	And thanks	/ænd 'θæŋks/	/ænd dhæŋks/	/d/ enc /ð/	/d/ into /ð/
3	About them	/ə'baʊt ðem/	/ə'baʊððem/	/t/ enc /ð/	/ð/ into /ð/
4	Did they	/dɪd ðeɪ/	/dɪð ðeɪ/	/d/ enc /t/	/d/ into /ð/
5	Interview	/ɪntəvju:/	/ɪnəvju:/	/n/ enc /t/	/n/ into /n/

In the table above, the progressive assimilation process is first identified the alteration. Identified the alteration of dental voiced /ð/ into alveolar voiced /d/. In “about them” become “about dem” the process can be drawn with the feature matrices below:

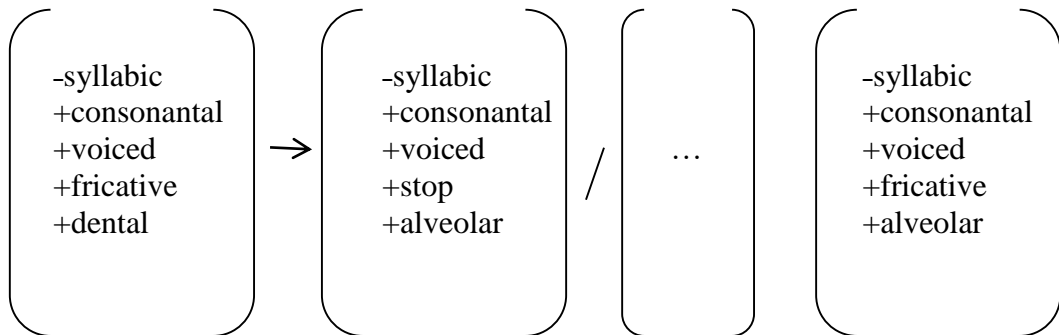
The alteration of voiceless alveolar /s/ into voiced alveolar /z/ is the first process of progressive assimilation. It occurs in the phrase "relationships star". This phrase is phonetically transcribed and faithfully pronounced as //, but it changes into //. The alteration drawn in feature matrix as:

**Relationships start** /rɪ'leɪʃənʃɪps stɑ:t/ → /rɪ'leɪʃənʃɪpz ztɑ:t/



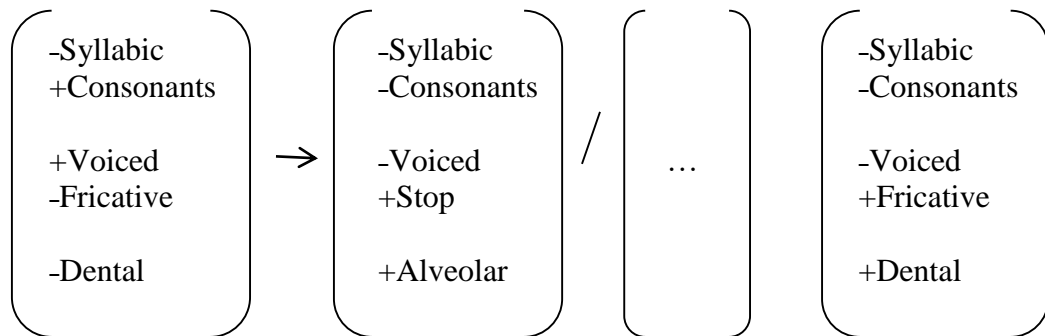
The alteration of dental voiced /ð/ into alveolar voiced /d/. In “get them” become “get dem” the process can be drawn with the feature matrix below:

**About them** /ə'baʊt ðɛm/ → /ə'baʊððɛm/



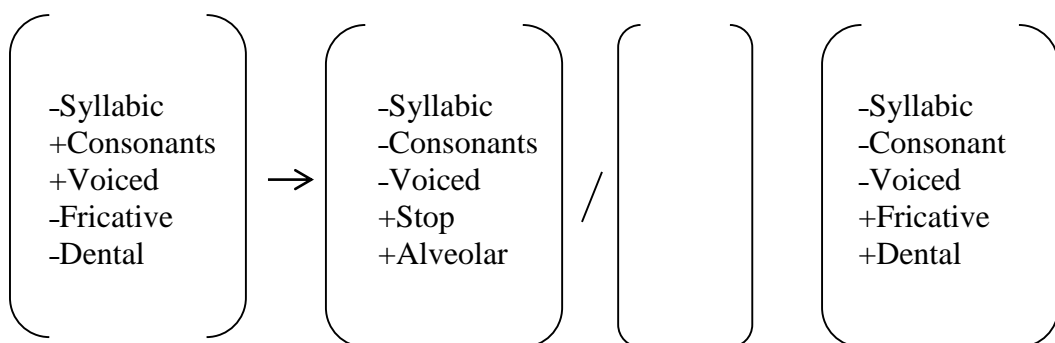
Whenever dental consonant /ð/ preceded by alveolar plosive /t/. Then it will change to Fricative Dental. (+Dental) (+voiced) → (+alveolar) (+voiced) = (+dental) (+voiced). The process can be drawn with the feature matrix below:

**And thanks** /ænd 'θæŋks/ → /ænd dhæŋks/



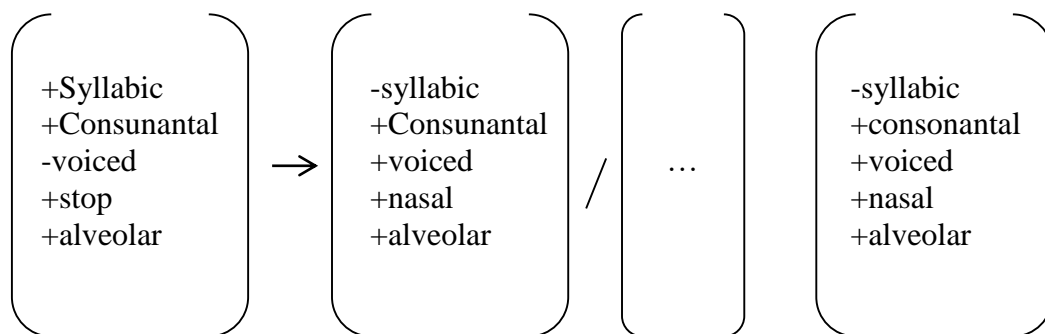
The alteration of dental voiced /ð/ into alveolar voiced /d/. The process can be drawn with the feature matrix below:

**Did they** /dɪd ðeɪ/ → /dɪð ðeɪ/



The alteration of phoneme found for this process is fricative dental /ð/ and stop alveolar /t/ and /d/ into nasal alveolar /n/ as preceded by /n/, in "interview" is phonetically transcribed pronounced as /'ɪntɜːv.ju/ modified into /ɪnnə.vju/. The following featured matrix:

**Interview** /ɪntəʋju:/ → /ɪnnəʋju:/



**b. Regressive Assimilation**

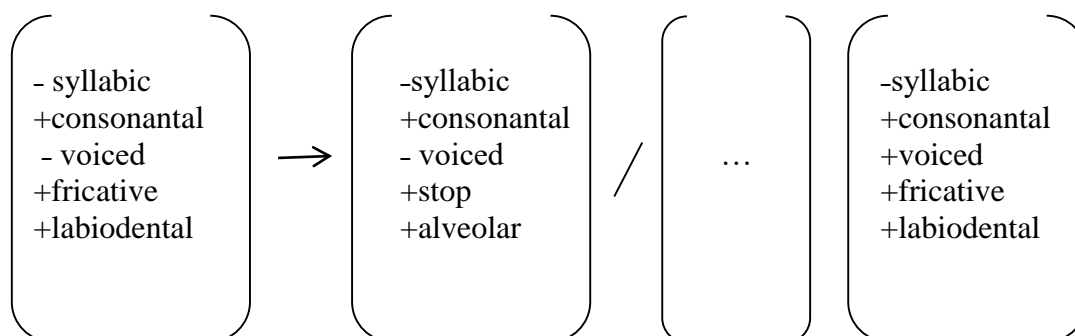
There are 71 utterances found in this type and below is the sample of phrases with each of their phoneme alterations.

PHRASES FEATURED WITH REGRESSIVE ASSIMILATION

No	Word/ Phrases	Phonetically transcribed	The speech produced	Phoneme encounters	Phoneme alteration
1	Have to	/hævtu/	/hæfta/	/t/ enc /d/	/t/ into /d/
2	Need to	/ni:dtu:/	/ni:dta:/	/d/ enc /t/	/t/ into /t/
3	Just gonna	/dʒʌst'gɒnə/	/dʒʌst'kɛmə/	/t/ enc /g/	/t/ into /k/
4	All right	/ɔ:l rit/	/ɔ:r rit/	/l/ enc /r/	/l/ into /r/
5	Let me	/'lɛt 'mi/	/'lɛmə/	/t/ enc /m/	/t/ into /m/

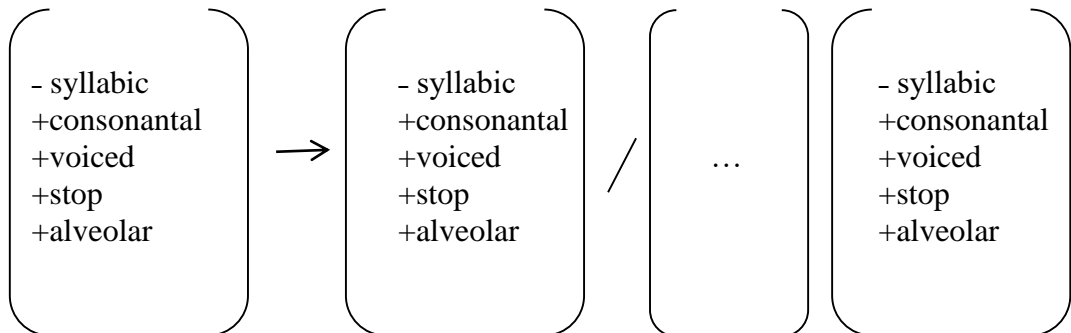
In the table above, the regressive assimilation process is, first the alteration of voiced /v/ into voiceless /f/ because the following sound /t/ is voiceless as in the phrase *have to*. This sort of voicing assimilation only effect /v/ and /z/. The feature matrix is:

**Have to** /hævtu/ → /hæfta/



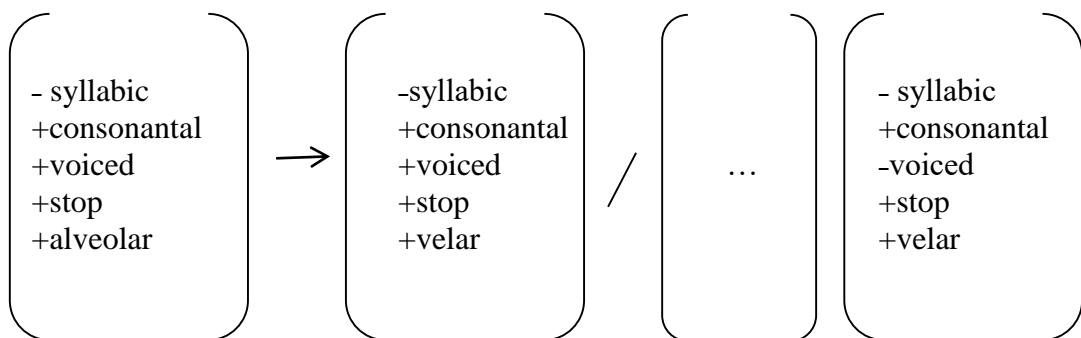
Second, the alteration of voiced /d/ into voiceless /t/ because the following sound /t/ is voiceless as in the phrase *need to*. This sort of voicing assimilation only effect /d/ and /t/. The feature matrix is:

**Need to** /ni:dtu:/ → /ni:dta:/



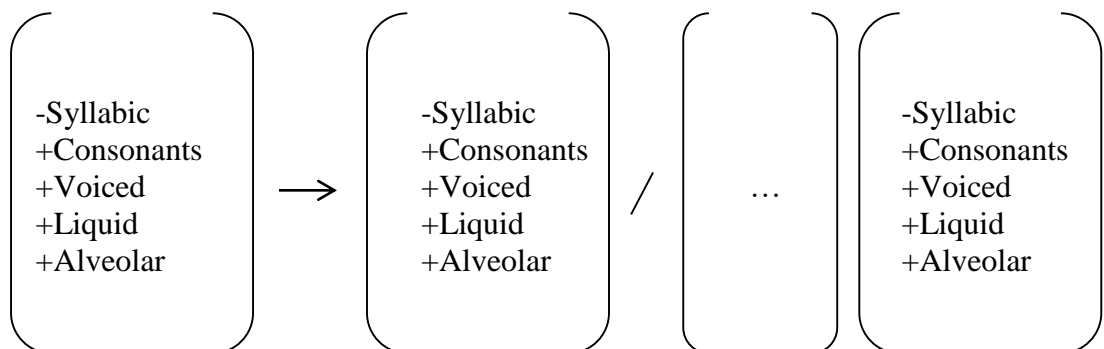
Third, the alteration of voiced /t/ into voiced /k/ because the following sound /t/ is voiced as in the phrase *Just gonna*. This sort of voicing assimilation only effect /t/ and /g/. The feature matrix is:

**Just gonna** /dʒʌst' gɒnə/ → /dʒʌst'keɪnə/



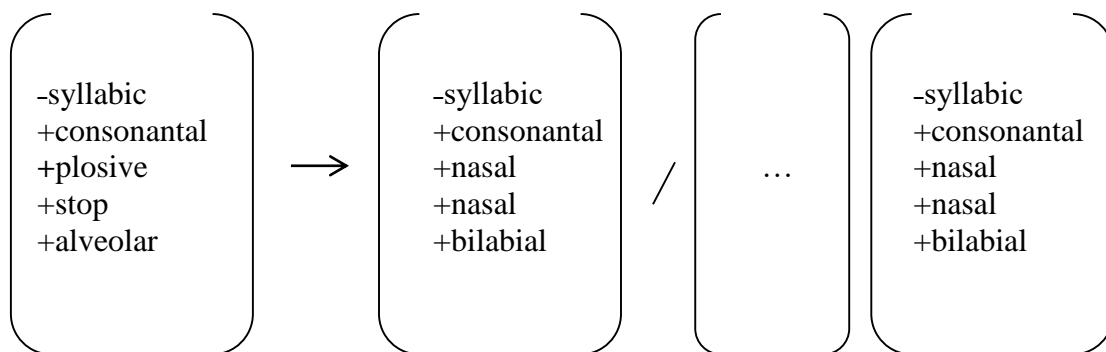
Fourth, the phoneme alteration found dealing with assimilation process is liquid /l/ into liquid /r/ as followed by liquid /r/ in explanation all right. This explanation is phonetically transcribed and faithfully pronounced as /Ô:l rit/, but the speaker pronounce it /Ô:r rit/

**All Right** /Ô:l rit/ → /Ô:r rit/



Fifth, the alteration of alveolar /t/ into bilabial /m/ because the following sound /m/ is bilabial as in the phrase *let me*. This sort of voicing assimilation only effect /t/ and /m/. The feature matrix is:

**Let Me** /'tɛt 'mi/ → /'tɛmə/



## 2. Elision

Elision process is found to occur in 570 phrases. 551 phrases are applied with Aphaeresis Elision and 19 phrases Apocipation Elision. For the respective data, the identified words and phrases are analyzed based upon their types.

### a. Aphaeresis

Aphaeresis in this term mostly occur in the contracted forms of *to be* (*is, am, are*), *auxiliary verb* (*will, have*), and *modal* (*would*) with various subject included pronoun. It arises around 180 phrases that frequently repeated by characters during the dialogue. The following are the sample of phrases taken for identification.

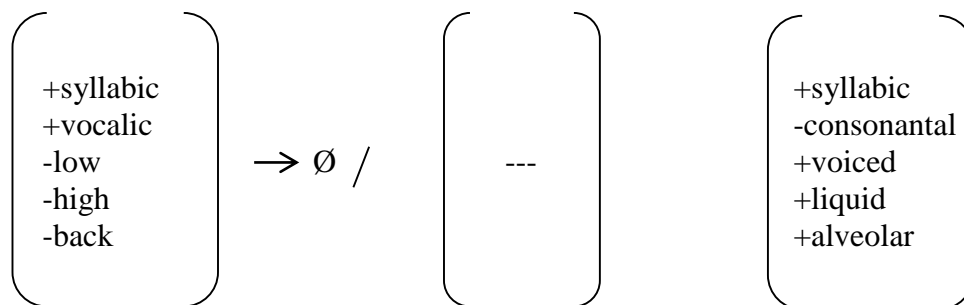
PHRASES FEATURED APHARESIS ELISION

No	Words/ phrases	Phonetically transcribed	The speech produced	Phoneme (s) Deleted	Morphological written
1	You are	/ju: ər/	/jʊr/	/ə/	You're
2	They will	/ðəɪwɪl/	/ðeɪl/	/w/	They'll
3	We have	/wɪhəv/	/wɪv/	/h/ and /ə/	We've
4	I would	/aɪwəd/	/aɪd/	/w/ and /ə/	I'd
5	Let us	/let ʌs/	/lets/	/ʌ/	Let's

The process of aphaeresis can be seen through the table which several words loss their beginning phonemes such as losing /æ/, /ə/, /i/, /w/ and /h/ while the others loss two phonemes, /h/and /æ/ in *have* as well as /w/ and /ə/ in *would*. The feature matrices are described below:

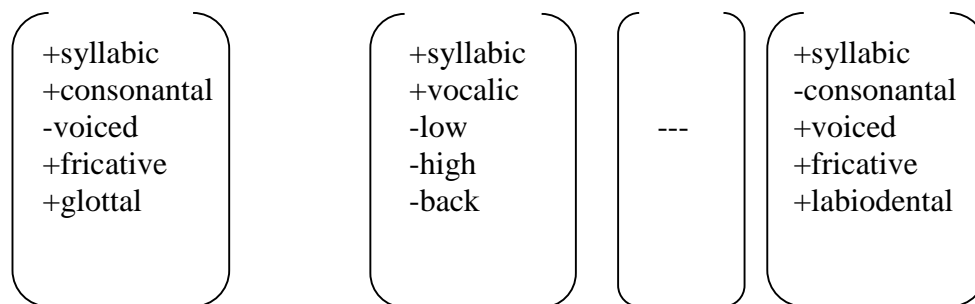


**You are** → you're  
/ju: əɾ/ → /jɔ:ɾ/



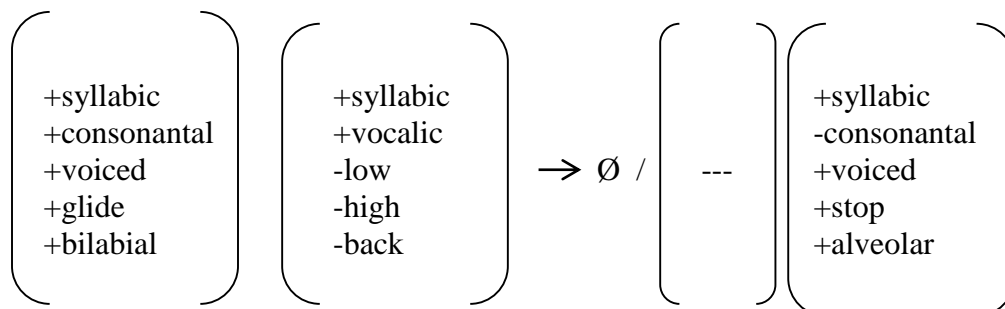
*Are* /əɾ/ above losing its initial phoneme /ə/ and the phrase above is a contracted form.

**We have** → we've  
/wi:həv/ → /wi:v/



The phoneme /h/ and /ə/ are losing in the initial part of *have*. This phrase is also belong to contracted form.

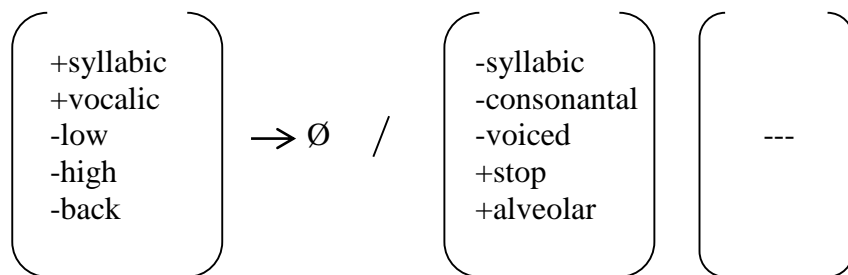
**I would** → I'd  
/aɪwəd/ → /aɪd/



The data on the process of aphaeresis above comprises contracted forms as they morphologically possess short forms of words. Let us and we have, for instance, are shortened as let's and we've. The whole phrases above are phonologically considered as featured by aphaeresis process because the loss of a phoneme or phonemes is occurring in the initial parts of the words, such as, us /As/

or /əs/ and are la:r/ or /ər / pronounced as /s/ and /r/. Both of the words are losing one phoneme, that is, /A/ or /a/ in us and /a:/ or /a/ in are. Whereas the last two samples of data are found to lose two phonemes, /h/ and /æ/ or /al in have, and /w/ and /o/ or a/ in would. As described in the following feature matrix:

Let us → let's  
/'let 'əs/ → /'lets/



The loss of vowel /ə/, in this phrase above, occurs in the initial phoneme of us /əs/ and the phrase above is included in contracted forms.

### b. Apocopation

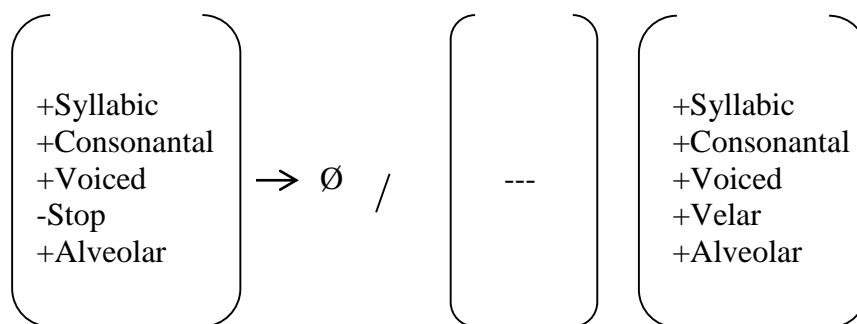
The process of apocopation occurring for 19 phrases in two of its rule. The followings are the sample of the process.

#### PHRASES FEATURED APOCOPATION ELISION

No	Words/ phrases	Phonetically transcribed	The speech produced	Phoneme (s) Deleted	Morphological written
1	Asked me	/'æst 'mi/	/'æsk 'mi/	/d/	Ask me
2	Talked till	/tɔkt 'tɪl/	/tɔk 'tɪl/	/t/	Talk till
3	Killed your	/'kɪld 'jɔ:ɹ/	/'kɪɹ 'jɔ:ɹ/	/d/	Kill your

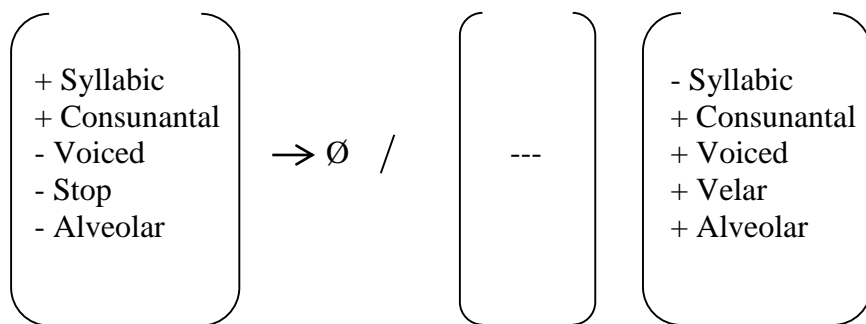
In the process of apocopation, when the stop alveolar consonants /t/ and /d/ occur in the final phoneme of consonant clusters and being linked to a word beginning with another consonant, it will be deleted as in *asked form* that the /t/ in the final phoneme of ask is omitted and *listen and speak* which /d/ in *and* is omitted because of /s/. The feature matrix is described below:

Asked me /'æst 'mi/ → /'æsk 'mi/



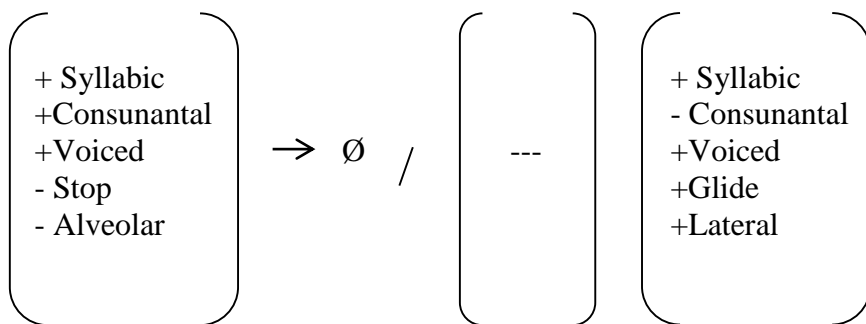
Next, when a consonant is pronounced as weakly, stressed syllable in the final phoneme, it tends to be deleted, as in *went aboard* which is produced as /wen ə' bɔ:rd/ because /t/ constitutes weakly stressed syllable. Below is the feature matrix:

**Talked till** /tɔkt 'tɪl/ → /tɔk 'tɪl/



Also, when the stop alveolar consonants /t/ and /d/ occur in the final phoneme of consonant clusters and being linked to a word beginning with another consonant, it will be deleted as in *asked form* that the /t/ in the final phoneme of ask is omitted and *listen and speak* which /d/ in *and* is omitted because of /s/. The feature matrix is described below:

**Killed your** /'kɪld 'jɔ:ɹ/ → /'kɪɹ 'jɔ:ɹ/



/t/ and /d/ in the phrase are elided by the speaker as they are stop alveolar final phoneme in two final consonant cluster that is directed by the consonant.

Investigating the phenomena of assimilation and elision in the movie of *Cinderella's Type (2018)* is designed to exemplify how those rules modify in the pronunciation for particularly the second language. It is found that the number of phrases featured with elision in speech production is very high compared to assimilation. This indicates that the native speakers, represented by NCT's characters, are severely applying elision process in their speech.

#### **D. CONCLUSION**

Based on the analysis above, the researchers investigated the process of assimilation and elision from the movie of Not Cinderella's Type(2018). The process of elision has more than the process of assimilation. Assimilation is a process of replacing one sound (or changing some properties of a sound) under the influence of another sound which occurs near to it. Whereas elision is the omission process of one or more sounds inspoken language. In the movie the researchers found 115 assimilations and 570 elisions.

#### **E. REFERENCE**

- Ahmad, H.P. (2007). *Phonology teaching materials phonetic series*. Jakarta: JBSI UNJ.
- Ardila, I., Utami, P., YUSDANIANTY, S., and RUQIAH, S. (2019). Assimilation and elision reflected in the movie of Cinderella (2015). *Journal Al-Risalah* 15(2), 239-258.
- Fraenkel, J.R. and Wallen, N.E. (2008). *How to design and evaluate research in education, seventh edition*. New York: McGraw- Hill.
- McMahon, A. (2002). *An introduction to English phonology*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.
- Patang, H., & Misnawati. (2014). Students realization of connected speech aspects. *IDEAS: Journal on English Language Teaching and Learning, Linguistics and Literature*, 2(1).
- Roach, P. (2009). *English phonetics and phonology*. New York: Cambridge University.
- Rosyidin, K. (2016). *English phonological rules applied in "the martian" film*. Thesis: Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang.
- S, Howard, Bill, W, John, L. (2008). *Connected speech: the handbook of clinical linguistics*. Blackwell Publishing.
- Skandera, P. & Burleigh. (2005). *A manual english phonetics and phonology*. German: Gunter NarrVerlag.