

AN ANALYSIS OF ASSIMILATION AND ELISION REFLECTED IN THE MOVIE “UP” (2009)

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Abstract

Native speakers use several speech habits to make conversation more efficient in daily communication. This study aims to identify and analyze aspects of connected speech, namely assimilation and elision in Up (2009). The author uses a qualitative approach with analysis of film content and the results show that the assimilation process occurs 39 times and the elision process occurs 32 times. This finding shows that the process of assimilation occurs more than the process of elision, although the process of assimilation and elision is not very much present in this film because the speakers of the film use the native language.

Keywords: Analisis, Assimilation, Elision, Movie.

A. INTRODUCTION

The fact that, in stress-timed languages like English, several syllables may have to be fitted into a relatively short time span requires various means of making the pronunciation easier. Among them are not only the processes of reduction and elision, but also a process whereby one sound, usually a consonant, becomes more like, or identical with, a neighboring sound regarding one or more of the distinctive features. More specifically, according to Roach (2009), assuming that know how the phonemes of a particular word would be realized when the word is pronounced in isolation, in cases where find a phoneme realized differently as a result of being near some other phoneme belonging to a neighboring word call this difference an instance of assimilation. From that definition, can conclude that assimilation is a process of influencing of sound of a word with another sound of a word that near of it. Meanwhile according to Skandera and Burleigh (2005), the omission of one or more sounds in spoken language is technically termed elision.

From that definition, it can be concluded that elision is process of deletion of sound of a word when it spoken. There also known that sounds are frequently omitted from certain grammatical words when they occur as weak forms in non-prominent positions, and that the process of omitting, or eliding, sounds is not normally represented in the spelling. (But we saw that elision can be represented in the spelling of contractions, like I've and he's). In addition, assimilation frequently occurs across word boundaries, as when ten pigs is pronounced [tem pighz], but it also occur within word, as when the plural -s in pigs is pronounced /z/, thus prolonging the intensity of articulation, or voicing, of the preceding lenis consonant, /g/. Elision and assimilation is an important means of making the pronunciation easier, and consequently maintaining the natural, isochronous rhythm of English. In this paper, the researchers will analyze the phenomena of assimilation and elision as part of

connected speech more details through “Up (2019) movie. So, the researcher focus on the analysis of assimilation and elision reflected in the movie “Up” (2009).

According to Audi (1999) analysis is a process of breaking down a concept, proposition, linguistic complex, or fact into simple or final constituents. According to Wiradi (2009), analysis is an activity that includes activities to sort out, distinguish something which is then classified and grouped according to certain criteria and then look for the meaning and relation of each. Based on the definition above, it can be concluded that analysis is the process of breaking a complex substance into smaller parts to get a better understanding, which consists of activities such as; parse, distinguish, and sort out something to be seen again and then look for its meaning.

In addition, according to Hornby (2006) movie means a series of moving picture recorded with sound that tells a story, shown at cinema/movie. Moreover, a movie is a mass media that has audio-visual properties, which can reach large audiences. So, the movie is a live picture that has a storyline from a certain character made by a producer and media communication in the form of audio-visual to convey a message to a group of people. The purpose of the movie for today's society is only for entertainment.

Connected speech is spoken language in a continuous sequence, as in normal conversation. It is also called connected discourse. There is often a significant difference between the way words are pronounced in isolation and the way they are pronounced in the context of connected speech. In connected speech, words or syllables are clipped, phrases are run together, and words are stressed differently than they would be in writing (Richard Nordquist, 2009). According to Howard, "Connected speech is more than just a string of individual target segments joined together in series, since each segments is liable to influence the segments that surround it. The precise form that these influences take is determined by the particular language in question, and so the phonology of connected speech is part of the phonology of the language that the child has to master..."In Connected Speech Processes or we can called it as CSP, we have several processes that two of there that the writers discussed, they are assimilation and elision.

Giegerich (1992) who defines that (anticipatory) assimilation is a common phenomenon for which a segment either fully or partially anticipates the place of articulation over the following segment (213). Assimilation is a change in sound phonetically due to the influence of sounds that tasted before and after. So that changes in sound can have an impact: If the change does not change the meaning. And Changes the identity of the phoneme, then the sounds are allophones and variants of the same phoneme. Changes the identity of the phoneme, then the sounds are There are two types of assimilation based on the flow of articulation, namely; Progressive assimilation, which is the process of sound influence on the sound after it. Regressive assimilation, is the process of sound influence on the previous sound.

According to Giegerich (1992), elision often happens before sonorant consonants which give the consonants an opportunity to be syllabic so that they will occupy the peak of the syllable. The process is called vowel elision, for examples are button /batn/ or /batn/ and little /lital/ or /litl/ (287). Elision also can be categorized based on the position of sound(s) omitted distinguishes between; elision at the beginning of a word called aphaeresis, elision in the middle of a word called syncope, and elision at the end of a word called.

B. METHOD

This study was designed to describe the phenomena of assimilation and elision as parts of connected speech reflected in the movie “Up” (2009). It was belong to qualitative research since the data are collected in the form of words rather than numbers. This study also used document or content analysis focusing on analyzing.

The source of the data taken is the movie “Up” (2009) and English script contained in the movie source by the characters are identified correctly and found no mistakes. The procedure of collecting data was conducted through observation in several steps: First, watching this movie until the end. Second, looking for the movie's script. Third, comparing the script with what we have heard from the movie. And the last, analyzing the listed data with the theory proposed.

The movie “Up”, which aired in 2019, is a movie that tells the story of a grandfather and a child named Russell who are on an adventure to find Paradise Fall by flying a house using ten thousand balloons. The story begins when a boy named Carl Fredricksen and his girlfriend Ellie both idolize an adventurous character named Charlez Muntz. As adults, Carl and Ellie married. Unfortunately they were not blessed with a child. Until finally Carl and Ellie decided to set aside some of their money for savings. They aspire to find Paradise Fall and build a house there like their idol Charlez Muntz. Unfortunately, this dream has not come true even though Carl and Ellie are old. Untill finally Ellie died. Lonely Carl refuses to move out of his house despite the construction company offering to buy his house.

Long story short, Carls got into a fight with one of the workers who damaged his mailbox so Carls was sentenced to move house and had to live in a nursing home. Carls was disappointed, but he didn't lose his mind. He remembers his unfulfilled dream with Elly and decides to go on an adventure to find Paradise Fall. Carls installed ten thousand helium gas balloons. The pressure from the balloon created cracks all over the bottom of the house and sent Carls' house flying. Grandpa was very happy; finally his dream with Elly came true. Suddenly there was a knock from inside Carls' room as the house was flying high. It turns out that a little boy named Russell will accompany his long journey. Their adventure begins. They experienced many incidents along the way until they finally managed to reach Paradise Fall and set up a house there. It is the first animated film to be screened at the Cannes Film Festival. Very moving and touching are the right words to describe this film. Even since its initial release, this film received 224 positive responses and only 3 negative responses from various media.

Another high-quality movie created by Pixar, “Up”, is not only superior in terms of animation, but also contains the full meaning of the film's core story. Another advantage is Pete Docter's ingenuity in concocting a film with a heavy story into an entertaining spectacle for all people, especially children.

C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

After we listened carefully to the speech produced by “Up” movie, Elision was more dominant in the speech in this movie. Although elimination and assimilation are typical of fast, causal speech used by native speakers but in this case the omission is more often used by characters. The number of analyzes can be seen in the following table.

SUMMARY OF ASSIMILATION AND ELISION

Summary of Assimilation and Elision			
No	Aspect of Connected Speech		Times
1	Assimilation	Regressive Assimilation	29
		Progressive Assimilation	10
2	Elision	Aphaeresis	21
		Syncopation	11
		Apocipation	0
	Total		71

1. Assimilation

Assimilation process is found to occur in 39 phrases. 10 phrases are applied with progressive assimilation and 29 phrases in regressive assimilation. For the respective data, the identified words and phrases are analyzed based upon their types.

a. Progressive Assimilation

There are 29 utterances found in this type, few of words that belong to same phrases with many repetitions in the character's dialogue and monologue 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	Phoeme encounters	Phoneme alteration
1	Bathroom	/ˈbæθrʊm/	/bæθrʊm/	/t/ and /h/	/t/into/h/
2	Pictures	/ˈpɪktʃəz/	/pɪktʃə(r)z/	/s/ and /z/	/s/into/z/
3	Plays	/pleɪz/	/pleɪz/	/s/ and /z/	/s/into/z/
4	Worked	/wɜːkt/	/wɜːkt/	/d/ and /t/	/d/ and /t/
5	Dogs	/dɒgz/	/dɒgz/	/s/ and /z/	/s/into/z/

b. Regressive Assimilation

There are 10 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	Phoeme encounters	Phoneme alteration
1	What do you	/wɒtdəjuː/	/wɒddəjə/	/t/and/d/	/t/and/d/
2	Have to	/hævtu/	/hæftə/	/v/ and /t/	/v/into/f/
3	Used to	/juːst tu/	/juːzdtu/	/s/ and /z/	/s/into/z/
4	Gentlement	/dʒəntlmən/	/dʒəntlmən/	/n/ and /m/	/n/into/m/
5	Improbable	/ɪnprəbəl/	/ɪmˈprəːbəl/	/s/ and /z/	/s/into/z/

In the table above, the regressive assimilation process is, first, identified the alteration of alveolar voiceless /t/ into alveolar voiced /d/. /t/ is converted into /d/ as followed by another alveolar sound /d/ as shown in what do you become waddeya.

Second, 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/.

Third, it is found that voiced /s/ alters into voiced /z/.

2. Elision

Elision process arises in around 32 phrases and few of words that belong to same phrases with many repetitions in the character's dialogue and monologue. Approximately, 21 of them constitutes aphaeresis, 11 of them are syncopation, and there was no elision apocopation.

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 23 phrases that frequently repeated by characters during the dialogue. The following are the sample of phrases taken for identification.

PHRASES FEATURED WITH APHAERESIS

No	Word/ Phrases	Phonetically transcribed	The speech produced	Phoeme (s) delete	Morphological written
1	You were	/ju: wer/	/ju: r/	/w/ and /e/	You're
2	You will	/ju: wɪl/	/jʊɪl/	/w/	You'll
3	I am	/aɪəm/	/aɪəm/	/a/	I'm
4	We have	/wi hæv/	/wɪv/	/h/ and /a/	We've
5	There is	/ðeərɪz/	/ðeərz/	/i/	There's

The process of aphaeresis can be seen through the table which several words loss their beginning phonemes such as losing /a/, /i/, /w/ and while the others loss two phonemes, /w/ and /e/ in *were* as well as /h/ and /e/ in *have*.

b. Syncopation

This type of deletion process applied for 1 word and 11 phrases. Because of the many repetitions of the same phrases, the following are the sample of word and phrases in each rules utilized for the syncopation process.

PHRASES FEATURED WITH SYNCOPATION

No	Word/ Phrases	Phonetically transcribed	The speech produced	Phoeme (s) delete	Morphological written
1	Protect her	/prateker/	/pra'tekt h3:/	/t/ and /h/	-
2	Do not	/danot/	/daunt/	/0/	don't
3	last car	/lastar/	/la:st 'ar/	/c/	-
4	We have	/wi hæv/	/wɪv/	/h/ and /a/	We've
5	There is	/ðeərɪz/	/ðeərz/	/i/	There's

In the process of apocopation, 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 /pra'tekt h3:/ because /t/ constitutes weakly stressed syllable.

D. CONCLUSION

Based on the above analysis, the researchers investigated the process of assimilation and elimination from the film *Up* (2009). Where the Assimilation process arises more than the Elision process. Assimilation is the process of replacing one sound (or changing some sound properties) under the influence of another sound occurring nearby. While elision is the process of removing one or more sounds spoken by the language. In the film the researchers find 28 assimilations and 23 eliminations. The characters in this film speak their native language more so that there is not much assimilation and elision processes.

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