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TASK 1

Instruction: Read the introduction. Next, do the task below:

The process of articulation is a complex one, and many fine modifications are carried out very rapidly when we speak. Some examples of such processes are:

Deletion: process that removes a segment¹ from certain phonetic context. /t/ and /d/ are particularly prone to delete when they occur between two consonants, e.g., *directly* /də'rekɹli/ in fast speech /də'rekli/. Next, are the weak forms (e.g., pronouns, articles) in which the vowel is usually the schwa (ə), e.g., to /tu/ in fast speech /tə/.

Assimilation results from a sound becoming more like another nearby sound in terms of one or more of its phonetic characteristics, e.g.,

a) alveolar consonant /t,d,n,l,s,z/ can assimilate to a bilabial place of articulation before labials /m, p, b/.

b) /t,d,n,l,s,z/ assimilate to a bilabial place of articulation before labials (p, b, m), e.g., /maɪppʊt/ *might put*,

c) alveolar stops /t, d/ and a following /j/ may merge to form an affricate (tʃ, dʒ), e.g., shut your eyes /ʃʌtʃəɹaɪz/ .

d) alveolar consonants /t,d,n,l,s,z/ can assimilate to a velar place of articulation before velar consonants /k, g/

Write the words, phrases and sentences below that are transcribed in fast speech.

1	/əmenz/	
2	/'hænfʊl/	
3	/gʊg 'gɜ:l/	

¹ Segment-in phonology is “any discrete unit that can be identified, either physically or auditorily, in the stream of speech”.

A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics, David Crystal, 2003, pp. 408-409.

4	/ðæk 'kɪd/	
5	/'neks deɪ/	
6	/tem 'men/	
7	/bæb 'bɔɪz/	
8	/ɪn'vesmənt/	
9	/'hɒp 'mʌfru:mz/	
10	/ðə bɔ:l ðətfu: brɔ:t/	
11	/bətfu:z jɔ: hed/	
12	/lɑ:stfɪə/	
13	/kʊdʒu help mi:/	
14	/wʊdʒɔ:z wɜ:k/	
15	/fɪ: hædʒu:ni:vɜ:sɪti stju:dənts/	
16	/aɪ 'went tə ðə həʊ 'tel ən 'bʊkt ə 'ru:m fə 'tu: 'naɪts fə maɪ 'fɑ:ðər ən hɪz 'best 'frend/	

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KEY:

1	/əmenz/	amends
2	/hænfʊl/	handful
3	/gʊg 'gɜ:l/	good girl
4	/ðæk 'kɪd/	that kid
5	Neks dæɪ/	next day
6	/tem 'men/	ten men
7	/bæb 'bɔɪz/	bad boys
8	/ɪnvesmənt/	investment
9	/'hɒp 'mʌʃru:mz/	hot mushroom
10	/ðə bɔ:l ðætʃu: brɔ:t/	the ball that you brought
11	/bətʃu:z jɔ: hed/	but use your head!
12	/lɑ:stjɪə/	last year
13	/kʊdʒu help mi:/	could you help me?
14	/wʊdʒɔ:z wɜ:k/	would your work?
15	/ʃi: hædʒu:ni:vɜ:sɪti stju:dənts/	she had university students.
16	/aɪ 'went tə ðə həʊ 'tel ən 'bʊkt ə 'ru:m fə 'tu: 'naɪts fə maɪ 'fɑ:ðər ən hɪz 'best 'frend/	I went to the hotel and booked a room for two nights for my father and his best friend.