**Pr Z Sebane L1 Phonetics Course May 17**

Aspiration :

Voiceless sounds are called fortis because they are produced with force of air stronger than voiced sounds. Voiced sounds are called lenis.

The opposition fortis /lenis is required to compare voiceless and voiced consonants.

Fortis stops or plosives produce **aspiration** . It is a slight ( h ) sound that follows /p,t,k/ in somes cases

Aspiration is possible only when /p , t , k / :

1. Occur in a stressed syllable ( ‘ )
2. Make a CV combination ( consonant/vowel )
3. Are not preceded with / s / sound

Examples : ‘***ta***ble - ‘***po*** ssible - par ’***ti*** cular -‘ **cur**tain

 **‘ CV ‘ CV ‘ CV ‘ CV**

Aspiration is not produced in :

1. Spain- state – skirt , because / s / occurs before / p , t , k /
2. Police - perhaps - tomorrow - combine , because all fortis plosives take place in unstressed syllables.
3. Claim - try - please – applaud – because fortis plosives occur in CCV syllables.

Alternative pairs

In English, / t , d / , / s , z / are alternative pairs .

They alternate ( occur in turn ) to modify grammatical instances like plural forms or tense endings.

Examples

a )- The plural form of the following words is either / s / or / z / depending on the final sound of the word: ( voiceless/voice )

Pipe ( s ) - bribe( s ) - Cat ( s) - dog ( s) - hike ( s ) - bag ( s ) – laugh (s ) – live ( s ) ..

Although the s makes the plural form , it is produced / s / or / z / following the last sound of the word.

b ) – The regular past tense ending takes also the same rule :

Examples :

Hoped /pt / - robbed / bd / - joked / kt / - begged / gd / - kissed / st / - pleased / zd / - rushed / **ʃt**/ / launched /t**ʃt** / - arranged / dʒd /

Words ending with / s , z / /**ʃ**/ , / t**ʃ ,**dʒ / : are produced with the vowel / **i** / between the two last consonants .

House / haus**i**z / , please , / pli:z**i**z / , bush , / buʃ**iz /**

Launches / lon tʃ**i**z **/** ranges / reindʒ**i**z /

Words ending with / t,d / are produced with the vowel / **i** / between the two last consonants.

Invited / invait**i**d / , need / ni: d**i**d /