

## المستخلص ABSTRACT

صاحب عبد الله عزيز. استقصاء الادغام والحذف الصوتيين لنصوص مختارة من المحادثات الانكليزية والعربية. (رسالة ماجستير).- بغداد : الجامعة المستنصرية : قسم اللغة الانكليزية ، ٢٠٠٧ .

English, like most languages can be expressed through two main modes: speech and writing. Conversation ,which is mainly a kind of spoken language, requires at least two participants, the first is the speaker and the second is the listener .Listening is equally important to speaking and it is an active process by which listeners recognize the sounds of the speaker's speech. English speakers adapt their pronunciation to their listeners in normal speech and use assimilation and elision for ease of articulation .This constitutes a problem for non-native English speakers participating in English conversations i.e., they are, undeniably, unable to completely understand the messages. This thesis aims at investigating and identifying assimilation and elision in (١٨) selected extracts of everyday British English conversations. It is hypothesized that: (١) Assimilation mostly varies according to place of articulation and regressive assimilations are dominant (٢) Voicing assimilation is primarily progressive (٣) Elision of consonants occurs more than that

of vowels and that /t/ is overwhelming (ɛ) Historical elision overrides contextual elision.

The plan of this study is theoretically and practically oriented. Chapter one is introductory i.e., stating the problem, aims, hypotheses, limits, procedures and values of this study. Chapter two deals with some issues in English pronunciation related to this study. Chapter three deals with assimilation and elision as aspects of connected speech. Chapter four is concerned with English conversation. This chapter consists of two parts. The first one is devoted to general theoretical background of English conversation, while the second part reflects the researcher's contribution in analysing the data. The study cannot be brought to light without the external assessments which came from the phonetician Dr. Coleman at Oxford University. Finally, chapter five deals with the findings, conclusions and suggestions for further research. The main concluding remarks of this study are as follows:

a. Assimilation:

1. Assimilation in RP English is mainly regressive i.e, (ʔ°) instances are identified which constitute ٥٦,٨٢%.

٢. Place assimilation occurs more in the data i.e., (١٨) instances which form ٤٢,٨٢ % while (٤) instances of assimilation of manner are found in the data constituting ٩,٠٢%.
٣. Voicing is mainly found in progressive assimilation.

b. Elision:

١. Elision predominantly affects consonants i.e., (١٠) cases are found which represent ٥٧,٦٩%.
٢. The most elided consonant phoneme is /t/ i.e., six instances are found forming the percentage of ٢٣,٨%.
٣. Historical instances appear more in the data in comparison with contextual cases of elision. The former is (١٦) in number which constitutes ٥٧,٧١% whereas the latter is (١٢) instances in number which forms ٤٢,٨٦%.

