



Accent Coach Brenda
<https://www.accentcoach.ca>



Connecting Words

*To Help You Be Better
Understood By Others*



My Goal Is To Help You
Become Confident When
Speaking in Your Work
and Social Life

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The Medium is the Message



What is so important about correctly connecting your words when speaking? That's a million dollar question. Well, not to waste any of your time...it is **because if you don't**, your English as a First Language listener will likely ask you to repeat yourself; ignore you; not engage you in the conversation very much, if at all; or misunderstand your message.

But that all can change for you!





**Koreans do it,
Italians do it, but not
everyone does it.**



I bet you haven't really thought about it. I didn't until I became more and more interested in training to become an accent specialist. That is, many languages connect their words when speaking. Some, so much so, that they sound like they are singing.





do I need to do it?

Modifying how you link your words can:

Enhance your rhythm

Improve your timing

Refine your pronunciation

Make your message clearer

Increase how easily others understand your
speech

And, anything else?

YES!

**Goals &
objectives**



- Link every sound and word smoothly
- Blend sentences so they flow like a single word

Let's Start!



Be a Smooth Operator!

- Consonant to Consonant
- Consonant to Vowel
- Vowel to Vowel

Consonant to Consonant

When a word ends with one consonant sound and the next word begins with the same consonant sound, you must connect them so well that they sound like one word.

EXAMPLE

social life: /SOH-shuh **LYF**/
morning girl: /MOR-ning **GURL**/
clean nothing: /KLEEN **NUH**-thing/

scrub bath things: /SKRUB **BATH THINGZ**/
I want to go with them: /AY WONT **tuh GO**
WITH **them**/



Consonant to Vowel

When one word ends in a consonant sound and the next begins with a vowel sound, connect them so smoothly it sounds like a single word. It may even feel like the consonant starts the second word instead of ending the first.

EXAMPLE

Am I? /AE-my/

Pick it: /PIH-kiht/

Miss out: /MIH-SOWT

With eagles and a cat: /wih-**THEE**-guhl-zuh-nuh-KAT

They got a good offer: /thay GAH-duh-GUHD-AW-fur/



Vowel to Vowel

When one word ends in a vowel sound and the next word also begins with a vowel sound, we use the *W and Y shadow* in-between. This will enhance the pronunciation of seven of the most common English vowel sounds, thus, promoting fluent, connected speech.



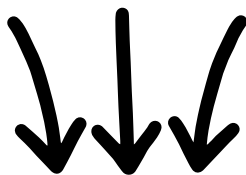
Do not do this when your first word ends in a *silent e*.

Such as: 'shave^e it or 'fade^e in'.

So..try this... say the word 'go'. Did you notice? Your mouth formed into a bit of a W at the end of the word and you *said* a tiny bit of a W! That's a W shadow.

Now try this...say the word 'me'. This time your mouth and throat made a Y sound right at the end! You can feel it in the back of your throat. That's a Y shadow.

Time To Practice



W Shadow

OH as in 'go'

UUU as in 'new'

OW as in 'cow'

Y Shadow

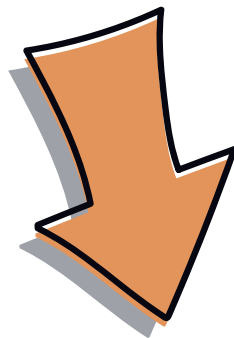
EEE as in 'me'

AY as in 'day'

I or AI as in 'I' or
'bye'

OY as in 'boy'

PRACTICE
MAKES
progress



W Shadow

Go in: /GOH-**w**-IHN/

Do one: /DOO-**w**-uhn/

Now enter: /NOW-**w**-ent-er/



Y Shadow

Be in: /BEE-**y**-IHN

The day eggs: /Thuh-day-**y**-egz

I enter: /EYE-**y**-ent-er

Bye everyone: /BAI-**y**-EV-ree-wuhn/

The toy is: /Thuh-TOY-**y**-iz

I hope you have had some fun with learning how to connect your words when speaking in English.

Is it necessary you may ask? It is if you want to speak coherently at a pace and with a rhythm that your native English speakers are used to and are expecting.

Let me tell you a little story.

A few years ago I was listening to this woman on YouTube talking about her ongoing personal experience with a story that had gone global and that many people were following.

She was Iranian-American and spoke with a Persian accent. Her grammar and sentence structure were not very good at all but yet she held my attention. Why? Because she was connecting her words well and she had good rhythm -where to linger and where to rush, intonation and syllable/word stress. *She was enjoyable to listen to.*

I have never understood why when teachers teach all the vocabulary and grammar that they don't teach more of the proper speech patterns. Being understood well and quickly is just as important in speech as it is in writing. Just my thoughts.



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I invite you to check my website for programs, classes, and workshops. Please note that they change each month.