

Phonological Processes

Substitution Processes

One sound is substituted for another sound in a systematic way

Atypical Patterns
Typical Patterns

Process	Description	Example	Likely Age of Elimination
Frontal Lipping	A sound is made with the tongue in a more forward position, usually through the teeth	thlide for slide	Atypical process
Lateral Lipping	A sound is made with the tongue directing air laterally rather than forward through the teeth	soap sounds more like shoap; teeth sounds more like cheeth	Atypical process
Fronting	A sound made in the back of the mouth (velar) is replaced with a sound made in the front of the mouth (e.g., alveolar)	tar for car; date for gate	4
Backing	A sound made in the front of the mouth (bilabial or palatal) is replaced with a sound made in the back of the mouth (velar)	gog for dog	Atypical process
Stopping	A fricative and/or affricate is replaced with a stop sound	pun for fun; tee for seedoo for zoo; berry for verychop for shop; top for chop; dump for jump; dat for that	/f, s/ — 3/z, v/ — 4sh, ch, j, th — 5
Gliding	A liquid (/r/, /l/) is replaced with a glide (/w/, /j/)	wabbit for rabbit; weg for leg	6-7
Deaffrication	An affricate is replaced with a fricative	ship for chip; zhob for job	4
Final Consonant Devoicing	Devoicing of a final voiced consonant in a word	pik for pig; dok for dog	4
Prevocalic Voicing	Voicing of an initial voiceless consonant in a word	big for pig	3

Assimilation Processes (Consonant Harmony)

One sound becomes the same or similar to another sound in the word

Process	Description	Example	Likely Age of Elimination
Velar Assimilation	A non-velar sound changes to a velar sound due to the presence of a neighboring velar sound	kack for tack; guck for duck	3
Nasal Assimilation	A non-nasal sound changes to a nasal sound due to the presence of a neighboring nasal sound	money for funny; nunny for bunny	3

Syllable Structure Processes

Sound changes that affect the syllable structure of a word

Process	Description	Example	Likely Age of Elimination
Cluster Reduction	A consonant cluster is simplified into a single consonant	top for stop; keen for clean	with /s/ — 5 without /s/ — 4
Weak Syllable Deletion	An unstressed or weak syllable in a word is deleted	nana for banana; tato for potato	4
Final Consonant Deletion	A deletion of the final consonant of a word	bu for bus; no for nose; tree for treat	3