

STRONG AND WEAK FORMS

Auxiliary verbs

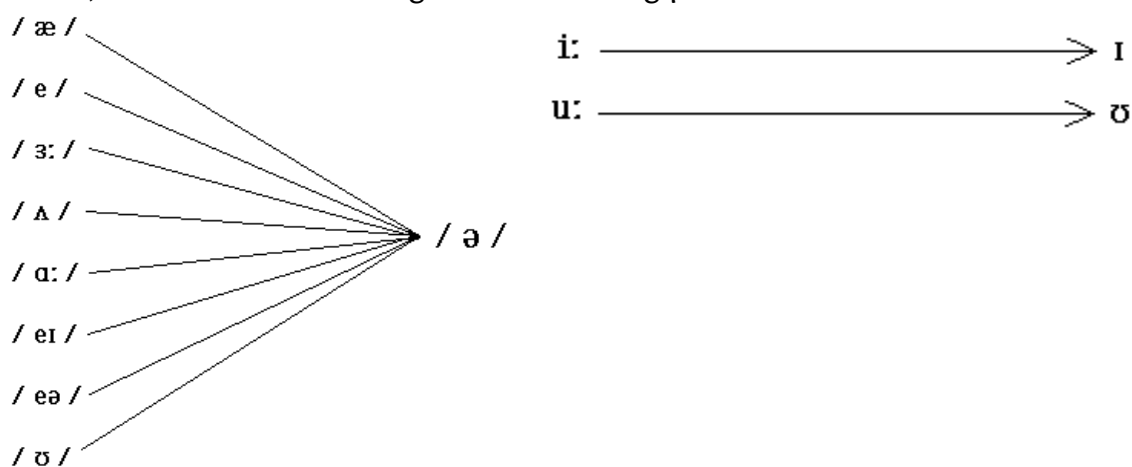
WORD	STRONG	WEAK	EXAMPLE	TRANSCRIPTION
am	æm	m (after I)	I'm tired.	aɪm taɪəd
		əm (elsewhere)	Why am I here?	waɪ əm aɪ hɪə
are	ɑ:	ə (before consonants)	They're going.	ðeə ɡəʊɪŋ
			The girls are beautiful.	ðə ɡɜ:lz ə bjʊ:təfl
	ɑ:r	ər (before vowels)	They're honest.	ðeər ɒnɪst
			The men are ugly.	ðə men ə ʌɡli
is	ɪz	s (after voiceless sounds other than /s, tʃ, ʃ /)	That is fine.	ðəts faɪn
			This cat 's fast	ðɪs kæts fɑ:st
		z (after voiced sounds other than /z, dʒ, ʒ /)	This dog is lovely.	ðɪs dɒɡz lʌvlɪ
			Where is John? John's here.	weəz dʒɒn/ dʒɒnz hɪə /
		ɪz (after / s, z, tʃ, dʒ, ʒ, ʒ /)	This watch is mine.	ðɪs wɒtʃ ɪz maɪn
			Which is right?	wɪtʃz raɪt
was	wɒz	wəz	The weather was terrible	ðə 'weðə wəz 'terəbl
were	wɜ:	wə (before consonants)	We were late.	wɪ wə leɪt
		wər (before vowels)	They were asleep.	ðeɪ wər əsli:p
do	du:	də (before consonants)	How do they come?	haʊ də ðeɪ kʌm
		dʊ (before vowels)	What do I get?	wɒt dʊ aɪ ɡet
does	dʌz	dəz	When does the train leave?	wen dəz ðə treɪn li:v
has	hæz	həz (initially in a sentence)	Has he paid the bill?	həz ɪ peɪd ðə bɪl
		əz (after /s, z, ʃ, ʒ, tʃ, dʒ /)	The rose has withered.	ðə rəʊz əz wɪðəd
			The place's changed.	ðə pleɪs əz tʃeɪndʒd
		z (after voiced sounds other than / z, dʒ, ʒ /)	The lion's died.	ðə laɪənz daɪd
			Mary's passed.	meərɪz pɑ:st
		s (after voiceless sounds other than / s, tʃ, ʃ /)	The milk's gone sour.	ðə milks ɡɒn saʊə
John's been sick.	ðʒɒns bi:n sɪk			
have	hæv	v (after I, he, she, we, they)	You've broken it.	ju:v brəʊkən ɪt
		əv (elsewhere)	The men have eaten.	ðə men əv i:tɪn
had	həd	həd (initially in a sentence)	Had he already danced?	həd ɪ ɔ:lredɪ dɑ:nsd
		d (after vowels)	We'd never seen it before.	wɪ:d nevə si:n ɪt bɪfə:
			They'd left home early.	ðeɪd left həʊm ɜ:lɪ

		əd (elsewhere)	The men had gone home.	ðə men əd gɒn həʊm
			The night had been fine.	ðə naɪt əd bi:n faɪn
When <i>has, have</i> and <i>had</i> are full verbs they should always be pronounced hæz, hæd, hæv			I have two brothers.	aɪ hæv tu: brʌðəz
can	kæn	kən	How can I help?	haʊ kən aɪ help ju:
could	kʊd	kəd	How could he do it?	ʔaʊ kəd ɪ du: ɪt.
shall	ʃæl	ʃəl/ʃl	We shall need to run.	wɪ ʃl ni:d tə rʌn
should	ʃʊd	ʃəd	Why should he care for anybody?	wai ʃəd ɪ keə fə enɪbɒdɪ
must	mʌst	məs (before consonants)	You must try your best.	jʊ məs traɪ jɔ: best
		məst (before vowels)	He must eat well.	hi məst i:t wel
will	wɪl	l (after consonants except /l/, and also after I, he, she, we, you, they – personal pronouns)	This watch'll do.	ðɪs wɒtʃl du:
			They'll give it away.	ðeɪl gɪv ɪt əweɪ
			This'll teach him.	ðɪsl ti:tʃ hɪm
		əl (after vowels and /l/)	The girl'll win.	ðə gɜ:l əl wɪn
			The boy'll lose.	ðə bɔɪ əl lu:z
would	wʊd	wəd (sentence initially)	Would you come for a walk?	wəd ju kʌm fə ə wɔ:k
		d (after I, he, she, we, you, they)	He'd be happy.	hi:d bi hæpi
		əd (elsewhere)	All would agree.	ɔ:l əd əgri:
Conjunctions				
and	ænd	ən (generally everywhere)	Come and sit down.	kʌm ən sɪt daʊn
			black and white	blæk ən waɪt
		n (occasionally after /t, d, s, z, ʃ/)	Wash and wear	wɒʃ n weə
			Bread and butter	bred n bʌtə
as	æz	əz	This is as good as gold.	ðɪs ɪz əz gʊd əz gəʊld
			Come as soon as possible.	kʌm əz su:n əz pɒsəbl
Initial <i>as</i> is likely to be accented - æz		As a father he was a failure		æz ə fa:ðə ɪ wəz ə feɪljə.
		As for him, it is not possible to say anything.		æz fər ɪm ɪts nɒt pɒsəbl tə seɪ enɪθɪŋ
than	ðæn	ðæn/ðn	better than ever	bətə ðæn evə
			This is better than that.	ðɪs ɪz betə ðæn ðæt
that	ðæt	ðæt	He said that he was coming.	hi sed ðæt ɪ wəz kʌmɪŋ
			This is the method that works.	ðɪs ɪz ðə meθəd ðæt wɜ:ks.
			I admit that I did it.	aɪ ədmɪt ðæt aɪ dɪd ɪt

The word that in phrases like <i>that man</i> , and <i>that's good</i> is always pronounced ðæt and never weakened.				
but	bʌt	bət	But, why not today	bət waɪ nɒt tədeɪ
Pronouns				
he	hi:	hɪ (initially in a sentence)	He likes it.	hɪ laɪks ɪt
		ɪ (elsewhere)	Did he win?	dɪd ɪ wɪn
him	hɪm	ɪm	Give him two.	ɡɪv ɪm tuː
his	hɪz	hɪz (initially in a sentence)	His name was mentioned.	hɪz neɪm wəz menʃnd
		ɪz (elsewhere)	They all liked his tie	ðeɪ ɔːl laɪkt ɪz taɪ
she	ʃi:	ʃɪ	Where does she live?	weə dəz ʃɪ lɪv
her	hɜː (before consonants)	hə (initially in a sentence)	Her face is red.	hə feɪs ɪz red
		ə (elsewhere)	Take her home	teɪk ə həʊm
	hɜːr (before vowels)	hɜːr (initially in a sentence)	Her eyes are black.	hɜːr aɪz ə blæk
		ər (elsewhere)	Give her a book.	ɡɪv ər ə bʊk
me	mi:	mi	Bring me a chair.	bɪŋ mi ə tʃeə
we	wi:	wɪ	We came here yesterday.	wɪ keɪm hɪə jɛstədəɪ
them	ðem	ðəm/ ðm	Send them by post	send ðəm baɪ pəʊst
who	hu:	hʊ (initially in a sentence)	Who do you want?	hʊ də ju wɒnt
		uː (occasionally as a relative pronoun)	The man who is standing there is a thief.	ðə mæn uːz stændɪŋ ðeəz ə θɪ:f
you	ju:	jʊ	I'll tell you everything.	aɪl tel ju evrɪθɪŋ
Prepositions				
at	æt	ət	He'll come at nine.	hi:l kʌm ət naɪn
for	fɔ:	fə (before consonants)	Come for coffee	kʌm fə kɒfi
		fər (before vowels)	Come for a game of chess.	kʌm fər ə geɪm ɒv tʃes
from	fɾɒm	fɾəm	I've come from Delhi.	aɪv kʌm fɾəm delɪ
of	ɒv	əv	He's a friend of my father.	hɪz
to	tu:	tʊ (before vowels)	Try to ask him over.	traɪ tʊ æsk ɪm əʊvə
		tə (before consonants)	He's gone to take a test.	hɪz ɡɒn tə teɪk ə test
Articles				
a	eɪ	ə	I want a pen	aɪ wɒnt ə pen
an	æn	ən	Buy me an apple.	baɪ mi ən æpl
the	ði:	ðə (before consonants)	The thief's escaped Shut the door	ðə θɪ:fz ɪskeɪpt ʃʌt ðə dɔː
		ði (before vowels)	The apples are rotten Wait for the end	ði æplz ə rɒtn weɪt fə ðɪ end

some	sʌm	səm/sm	I want some tea	aɪ wɒnt səm ti:
Miscellaneous words				
be	bi:	bɪ	Don't be rude.	dəʊnt bɪ ru:d
been	bi:n	bɪn	He hasn't been invited	hɪ hæznt bɪn ɪnvɑ:ɪtɪd
Sir	sɜ:	sə (before consonants)	Sir William	sə wɪljəm
	sɜ:r	sər (before vowels)	Sir Anthony	sər æntəni

- All the words with initial / h / (he, his, him, her, who, had, has, have) commonly lose their / h / when they occur unaccented within a sentence. But they retain / h / when they occur initially in a sentence or when they are accented.
- In almost all the cases, weakening is effected by the replacement of a vowel phoneme by either / ə /, / ɪ / or / ʊ / according to the following pattern.



- is** and **has** follow the rules for formation of the plural morpheme.