

There are a variety of dialects of English that differ in subtle ways. I've given some sample words from two such dialects below.

	British	American
pure	[pjuwə]	[pjuwɪ]
cute	[kjuwt]	[kjuwt]
tune	[tjuwn]	[tuwn]
abuse	[əbjuwz]	[əbjuwz]
dues	[djuwz]	[duwz]
argue	[agjuw]	[ɑɪgjuw]
muse	[mjuwz]	[mjuwz]
new	[njuw]	[nuw]
lewd	[ljuwd]	[luwd]
few	[fjuw]	[fjuw]
view	[vjuw]	[vjuw]
suit	[sjuwt]	[suwt]
hue	[hjuw]	[hjuw]

Notice that the British speakers have a [j] before the [uw] in many words in which the American speakers don't. Imagine that this is because there is a rule in the American dialect, which is absent in the British dialect, that deletes [j] in certain environments. That is, suppose that in the American dialect a word like [tuwn] is underlyingly [tjuwn], but that American dialect speakers have a "rule" that deletes the [j] in this word. Write this rule, making sure that it doesn't delete [j] in those places where it remains in the American dialect. So, your rule should look like this:

Delete [j] / ... \_\_\_\_\_ [uw]

Where "... " indicates the set of sounds after which [j] is deleted.

Look at the list of sounds that you've put in this rule and consider how each of them is articulated. Now list all the sounds after which [j] is not deleted, and compare them to the list after which [j] is deleted. There is something common to the articulation to all of the sounds that trigger the [j] Deletion rule that is found in none of the sounds which don't trigger this rule. What is this common property?

Consider the following list of imaginary words.

- a. [sk.rɛŋkijp]
- b. [kjuwspabt]
- c. [plədsblɪkt]
- d. [spwɔtk.iijn]

Only one of these is a possible word of English. The others cannot be syllabified in a way that obeys the phonotactic constraints of English. Give the syllable structure for each of these imaginary words and for the unsyllabifiable words, explain which phonotactic constraints prevent it from being syllabified. Be sure that for the unsyllabifiable words you consider all the ways in which they *might* be syllabifiable and show why each of these is blocked by a phonotactic constraint.