

CHAPTER - IV

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4.1 General comments

From the detailed study and the statistical measures which are given in the tables included in the Appendices, we can make the following observations :

i) It is evident that the Indian speakers of English are unaware of the use of weak forms. The seven speakers that we have studied are not aware of the use of weak forms. None of them has used even the 50% of the required weak forms. The T.V. Newsreader uses 38.19 % necessary weak forms and all the others less than that.

ii) T.V. News reader is a trained user of language. It is likely that the newsreaders, being professional are aware of the supra - segmental features. We may, therefore, place him 'No.1' in using the language among the seven randomly selected speakers. In the text No. V 'Face to Face Conversation', the speakers use weak forms. The speaker - A : uses 33.94% and speaker -B : uses 34.78%. In the category of 'Telephonic Conversation' the speakers have used weak forms. The percentage of the speaker - A is 22.67% and speaker - B 27.36% and in the Text II- T.V. Talk the speaker uses 21.93% weak forms. To our surprise in the 'Lecture' category, which is on English language, there is the

least use of weak forms. The percentage of use of weak forms by this user is only 17.94%. As it is a lecture, the lecturer gives stress on each and every word to reinforce the word, consequently ~~so~~ the words are made 'stressy' and never weakened.

iii) The table No.2 in the appendix also shows the percentage of every weak form used by the speakers. Some weak forms are frequently used by the speakers, some weak forms are rarely used and some weak forms are never used.

a) Frequently used weak forms are : a, the, some, but, them, us, be, must, does (All above 50%)

b) Rarely used weak form are : and, that, than, he, his, her, at, for, of, to, from, am, is, was, do, has, have, had, would, can.

c) Never used weak forms are : an, as, him, shall, will.

4.2 Some Common Features Shared by the 7 Speakers.

- i) 'A' is generally used as /ə/ ,and sometimes /ə/ never strong form /eɪ/.
- ii) 'And' is generally pronounced as /ɪn/ or /ɪnd/.
- iii) 'Are' is generally pronounced as /ɑː/ or /ɑːr/
- iv) 'For' is generally pronounced as /fɔː/ .
- v) 'From' is generally pronounced as /frɒm/.
- vi) 'Of' is generally pronounced as /ɒf/ or /ɒv/.
- vii) 'To' is generally pronounced as /tʊ/ in all positions .
- viii) 'As' is always pronounced as /ɪz/.
- ix) 'The' is generally pronounced as /ðə/ .
- x) 'That' is generally pronounced as /ðæt/ .

- xi) 'He' is generally pronounced as /hɪ/ not /i:/ the weak form, and not /hi:/ the strong form.
- xii) 'Has' has been pronounced as /hæz/ or /həz/ and never /ɔz/, /z/ or /s/.
- xiii) 'Have' has been pronounced as /hæv/ or /həv/ never /əv/ or /v/.
- xiv) 'Will' is never pronounced as /əl/ or /l/. It is always pronounced as /wɪl/.
- xv) Most of the times 'do' has been pronounced as /dʌ/ neither /du:/, the strong form, nor /də/, weak form.

4.3 Indian Variants in Place of R.P. Weak Forms

Words	R.P. Weak Forms	R.P. Strong Forms	Indian Variants
(a) 'a'	/ ə /	/ eɪ /	/ e /
(b) 'he'	/ i: /	/ hi: /	/ hɪ /
(c) 'do'	/ də /	/ du: /	/ dʌ /
(d) 'has'	/ əz, z /	/ hɪz /	/ hæz /
(e) 'have'	/ əv, v /	/ hæv /	/ həv /
(f) 'had'	/ əd, d /	/ hɪd /	/ həd /
(g) 'of'	/ əv /	/ ɒf /	/ ɒv /
(h) 'to'	/ tə /	/ tu: /	/ tə /

In this way we have studied five texts and seven speakers arrived at and made the above mentioned conclusion.