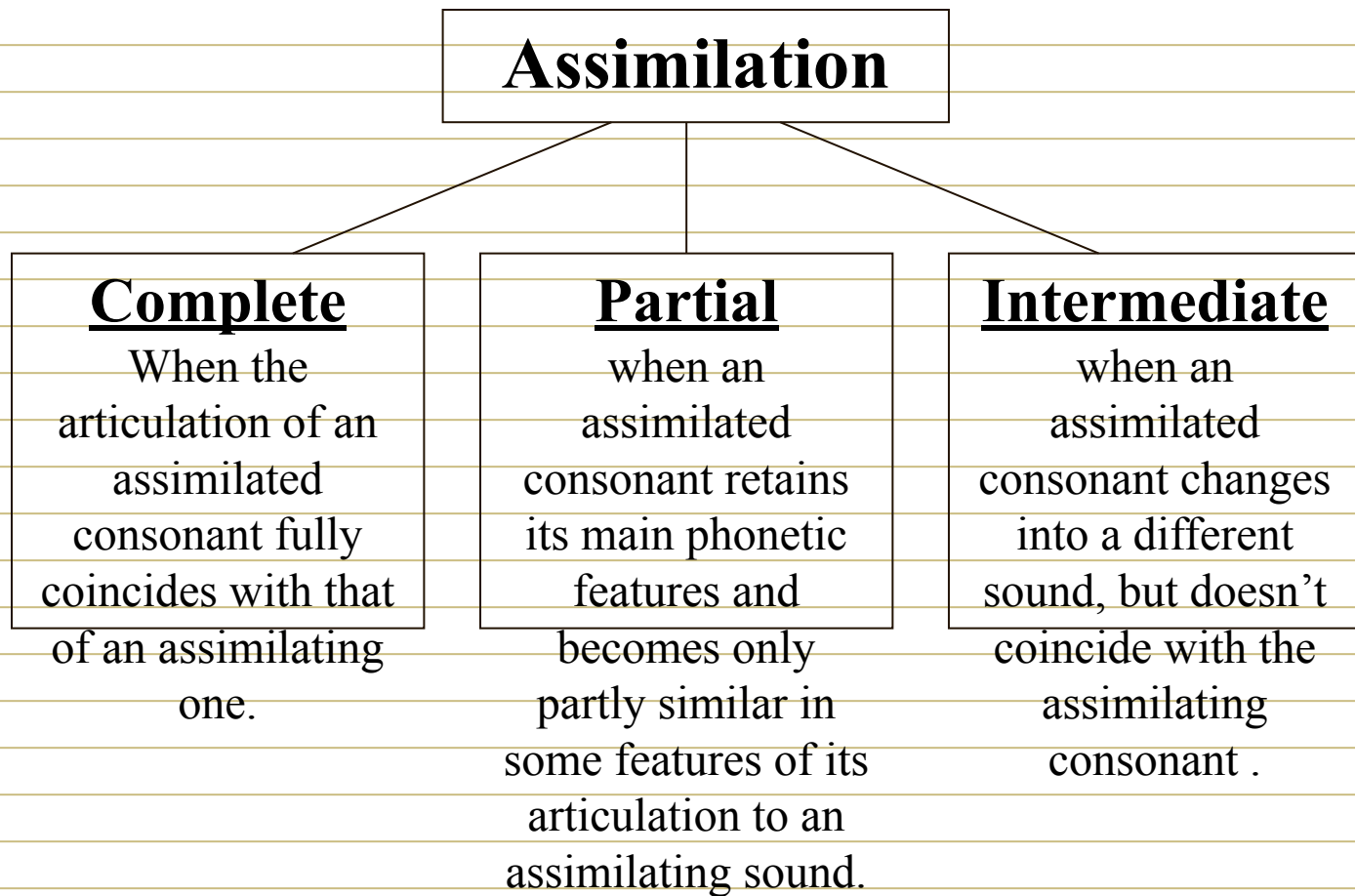


Assimilation is a phonetic process when two adjacent consonants within a word or at word boundaries influence each other in such a way that the articulation of one sound becomes similar or even identical with the articulation of the other one.

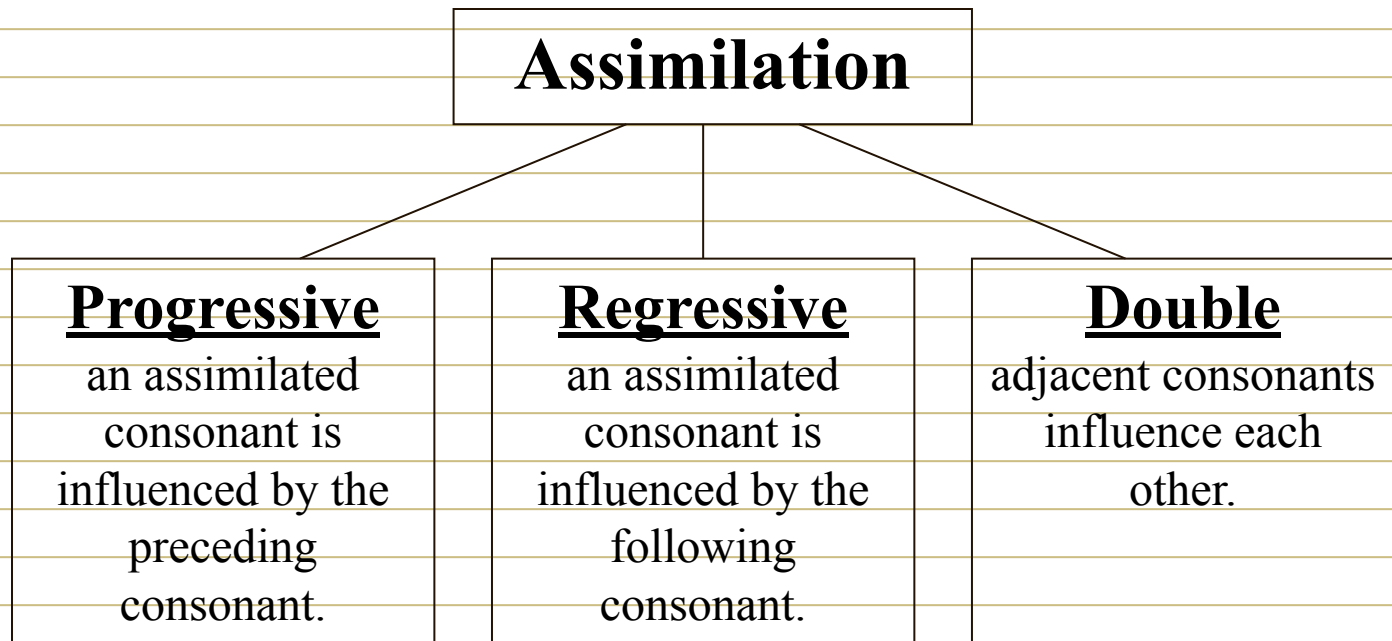
Assimilation may affect:

- the work of an active organ, e.g., *congress*;
- the point of articulation as in, e.g., *congratulate*;
- the manner of production of noise, e.g., in *let me* as ['lemɪ];
- the work of vocal cords, e.g., *goosegberry*;
- the lip position, e.g., *twenty*;
- the position of the soft palate, e.g., *sandwich*.

DEGREES OF ASSIMILATION



TYPES OF ASSIMILATION



When the articulation of a sound is changed under the influence of the neighbouring sound in the course of language development assimilation is **historical**.

Contextual assimilation takes place when the articulation of a sound changes under the influence of the neighbouring sounds in rapid colloquial speech or in the living language.

When a sound is influenced by an adjoining sound assimilation is called **contact**.

When a sound is influenced by a distant one assimilation is called **distant**. Such cases are not typical of Present-day English and Ukrainian Phonetics (*желізо – залізо*).

ACCOMMODATION

In accommodation the accommodated sound doesn't change its main phonemic features, and is pronounced as a principal variant of the same phoneme slightly modified under the influence of a neighbouring sound.

In rapid colloquial speech certain notional words may lose some of their sounds. This phenomenon is called **elision**. Elision can be historical and contemporary. The English language is full of “silent” letters; which bear weakness to historical elision: e. g., *walk*, *knee*, *knight*, *castle*, *корусчий*, *сонце*, *чесчий*. In rapid colloquial speech certain notional words may lose some of their sounds: e. g., *phonetics*.

The omission of certain syllables is called **haplology**, not registered in English, but spread in Ukrainian (*мінералологія - мінералогія, трагікокомедія - трагікомедія*)

Metathesis – the change of syllables / sounds within a word (*суворий, намисто, ведмідь, бондар*).

The phenomenon opposite to assimilation in which one of two similar phonemes is changed as a result of their interaction is called **dissimilation**, but the phenomenon of dissimilation is not typical of present-day English & Ukrainian Phonetics: cf., *Pluraris* – *Pluralis* (in Latin) and *Plural* (in English); *верблюд, длцар*.

Substitution results into the use of a sound typical of a particular language instead of the resembling sound of another language (*мезу – міф, архів*).

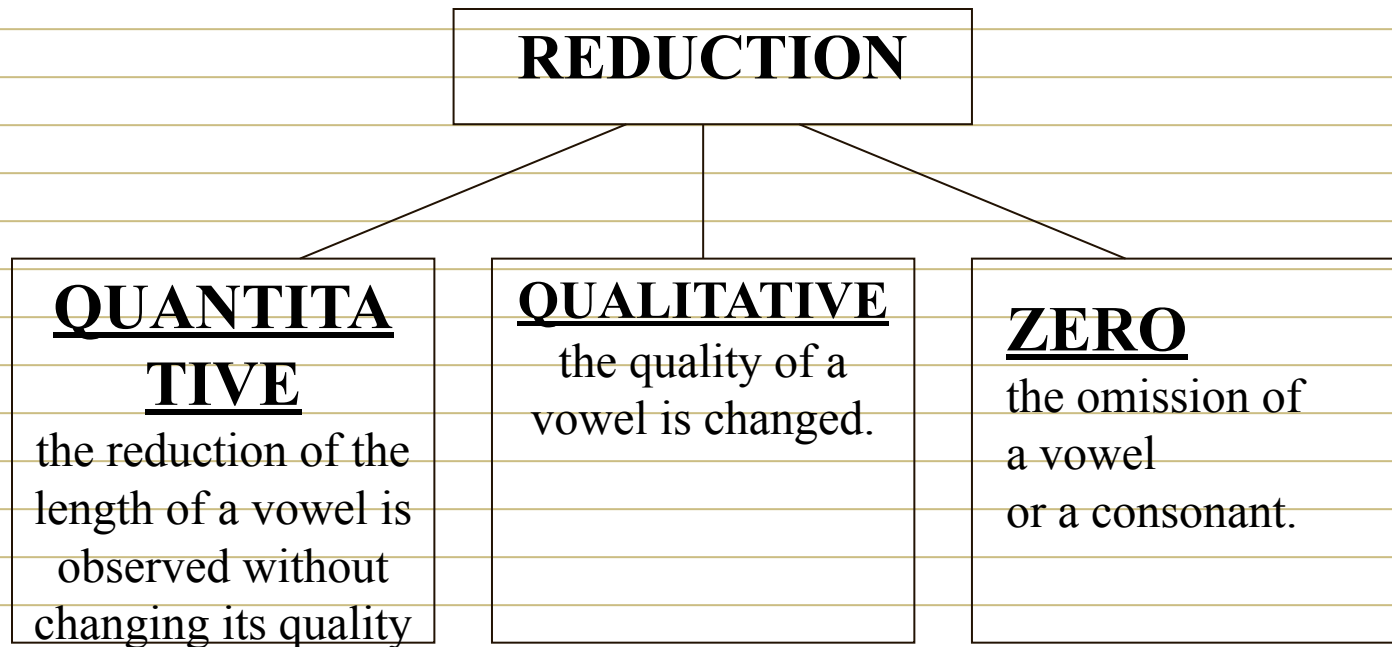
Epenthesis is the addition of an alien sound into the existing sound complex: e. g., the French word *advantage* is changed into the English word *advantage*; *ofn* > *ofen* > *oven*; *навук*, *Іспанія*.

Devoicing of the voiced consonants at the end of words. It is not typical of English though the sounds [b], [d], [g] may be seldom partly devoiced. This phenomenon is typical of Ukrainian (*дид*, *дуб*).

Prothesis is the introduction of an extra initial sound. Very rare in both languages (*bicim*; Latin *schola* > Spanish *escuela*).

Sounds in speech can be reduced, i.e. change their quality or even fall out when unstressed. This phenomenon is called **reduction**.

TYPES OF REDUCTION



TYPES OF SYLLABLE

Depends on the stress	Depends on the initial sound	Depends on the final sound
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Close
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unstressed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Uncovered	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Open

A SYLLABLE

- **OPEN**

open syllables (*are, ear, a-раб*);

open covered syllables (*we, play, му, два*).

The number of open syllables in English contains 27% & in Ukrainian – 66%;

- **CLOSE**

close syllables (*art, act, оць*).

The number of close syllables in English (73%) exceeds their number in Ukrainian (34%).

SYLLABLE FORMATION & SYLLABLE DIVISION (I)

- an unstressed short vowel, a long monophthong or a diphthong separated from a succeeding stressed vowel by a consonant sound, forms an uncovered open syllable: *ago, alike, elect, idea, oсiнь, aраб;*
- when 2 vowels are separated from each other by a cluster of consonant sounds the syllable boundary lies before the consonants: *agree, asleep. It isn't so in Ukrainian: *iн-ми, ох-кав*;*

SYLLABLE FORMATION & SYLLABLE DIVISION (II)

- an unstressed short vowel, a long monophthong or a diphthong used after a single consonant or a cluster of consonants and before the following syllabic consonant forms an open covered syllable: Ukraⁿe, toge^θer, turkey, houses;
- a short stressed vowel [ɒ, e, æ, ʌ, ʊ] separated from the following single syllabic consonant always occurs in a closed syllable. The boundary separating the syllable is within the consonant: *lit|tle, fat|ten*;