

Homework 7 Inflectional morphology; weak forms

A. Your Spanish friend thinks that *(they) breathed* is pronounced /'bri:ðɪd/. Explain why this is wrong. Your French friend pronounces *(he) breathes* as /'bri:ðɪz/. Explain why this is wrong, too.

B. Transcribe the following sentences. In each, discuss whether the boxed word is more likely to appear in its weak form or its strong form, and why.

1. Where does she come from?
2. That's not actually the one I was thinking of.
3. It's not a quarter to seven yet, only twenty to.
4. I was looking forward to seeing the photos — pity you couldn't find them.
5. I read the newspaper as I'm travelling to and from work.
6. What were you looking at just now?
7. They'll be able to do it sooner than I can.
8. Don't expect me to *believe* that!
9. David Lodge's new novel has already been asked for by Mrs Smith's niece.
10. I've just received a message from him.
11. This is a letter *from* Mrs Griffiths, not to her.
12. You might think that the butler murdered him, but actually he couldn't have.

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