

JUNCTURE

Juncture is a pause or a delay in a continuous flow of speech. It enables learners (listeners) to distinguish between utterances which are identical in pronunciation and different in meaning.

Example:

Ice cream/ I scream

Might rain/ My train

Types of juncture

1. Close juncture

It is a transition from one sound to another within the same word. This movement is continuous and constant, and it has no intervening pauses or delay between sounds.

Examples:

Train, might, blame, merry, bright, bloom.

2. Open juncture

It is a transition or movement that occurs at word boundaries among words. It is continuous; there is a pause or stoppage of the last sound till it blends with the next. We consider the length (short/ long) of the sound and aspiration. Stress position is also important to identify the juncture.

Examples:

Ice cream/ I scream

Might rain/ My train

A name/ an aim

Night rate/ nitrate

Its wings/ it swings

My turn/ might turn