PHONOLOGICAL PROCESSES
Part 1.

1. Assimilation
   a. Consonant assimilates vowel features
      e.g. Russian:
      PALATALIZATION OF CONSONANTS
      BEFORE FRONT VOWELS.

   Nupe (a West African language):
PALATALIZATION OF CONSONANTS BEFORE FRONT VOWELS; LABIALIZATION BEFORE ROUNDED VOWELS.

English:

HISTORICAL PALATALIZATION (FOLLOWED BY A SHIFT IN PLACE OF ARTICULATION)

(ii) **Vowel assimilates consonant features**
    e.g. English:

**VOWELS ARE NASALIZED WHEN ADJACENT TO A NASAL CONSONANT IN THE SAME SYLLABLE.**

Chatino (spoken in Mexico):

**UNSTRESSED VOWELS ARE VOICELESS BETWEEN VOICELESS CONSONANTS.**

(iii) **Consonant assimilates consonant features**
    e.g. English:

**THE ENDINGS FOR THE PLURAL, THIRD PERSON SINGULAR, AND THE PAST TENSE AGREE IN VOICING WITH A PRECEDING CONSONANT.**

Yoruba (spoken in West Africa); English:

**THE NASAL CONSONANT BECOMES HOMORGANIC WITH A FOLLOWING CONSONANT.**

(iv) **Vowel assimilates vowel features**
e.g. Turkish:

**VOWEL HARMONY: VOWELS AGREE IN CERTAIN FEATURES** (Turkish: backness and roundness)

German:

**UMLAUT: BACK VOWELS ARE FRONTED BEFORE CERTAIN SUFFIXES CONTAINING A FRONT VOWEL**

Umlaut was a productive rule in Old English:

*foot/feet*

*goose/geese*

*mouse/mice*

Assimilation may be

(i) **progressive** (left-to-right)

  e.g.  plot [l]  

(ii) **regressive** (right-to-left)

  e.g.  bean [i]

b. **DISSIMILATION**

A process in which two segments become less similar to each other.

e.g. English:
Latin → English

2. **SYLLABLE STRUCTURE PROCESSES**

Result in the preferred syllable structure: CV

a. **Deletion**

   **Consonant deletion**

   e.g. French

   A WORD-FINAL CONSONANT IS DROPPED IF THE FOLLOWING WORD BEGINS WITH A CONSONANT.

   **Vowel deletion**

   e.g. French

   THE VOWEL OF THE DEFINITE ARTICLE IS DELETED IF THE FOLLOWING WORD STARTS WITH A VOWEL.

b. **epenthesis** (segment insertion)

   **Consonant insertion:**

   e.g. Hanunoo (spoken in the Philippines):

   THE CONSONANT \( h \) IS INSERTED TO BREAK UP A VOWEL CLUSTER.

   In some dialects of English:

   The *idea* came
   But: the *idea-r-is* good.

   r-INSERTION
Vowel insertion

e.g. Latin:

THE VOWEL $\epsilon$ IS INSERTED TO BREAK UP CONSONANT CLUSTERS WORD-FINALLY.

English:

A SCHWA IS INSERTED TO BREAK UP FINAL CONSONANT CLUSTERS.