

NEUTRALIZATION

Phonological distinctions are reduced in a particular environment. Segments that contrast in one environment, have the same representation in the environment of neutralization.

English:

bet	betting	[ɾ]
bed	bedding	[ɾ]

The opposition between /t/ and /d/ is neutralized intervocalically following a stressed vowel. (What is the phonological process?)

Russian:

górat	<i>town</i>	garada	(Plural)
glás	<i>eye</i>	glazá	(Plural)
óstraf	<i>island</i>	astrava	(Plural)

The opposition between /o/ and /a/ is neutralized in unstressed position. (What is the phonological process?)

English:

able	ability	[ə]
super	superior	[ə]
photograph	photography	[ə]

Vowel reduction: weakening of an unstressed vowel to schwa.

German:

Rat	[t]	<i>advice</i>	Räte	[t] (Plural)
Rad	[t]	<i>wheel</i>	Räder	[d] (Plural)
bunt	[t]	<i>colourful</i>	Bunte	[t] (Plural)
Bund	[t]	<i>bundle</i>	Bunde	[d] (Plural)

The opposition between /t/ and /d/ is neutralized word-finally. (What is the phonological process?)