



Consonant to Vowel Linking with N, R, and T

Spoken English is not choppy.

Native...speakers...don't...talk...like...this...when...they...speak. Instead, spoken English sounds like one, long connected word. This is called linking - or the way sounds are connected within words and across word boundaries.

Linking is extremely common in spoken English - it occurs as often as it can - and it is important to learn how to link words together if you want to sound natural to a native speaker.

In this resource, I'll discuss the linking that occurs between consonants and vowels, when one word ends in an N, R, or T sound and the next word begins with a vowel.

Consonant to Vowel Linking with N, R, and T

Let's practice consonant to vowel linking using the N, R, and T sounds. The trick is to make sure that your **vocal cords are vibrating the entire time** as you transition from one word to the next - there is no break in vibration. Put your hand on your throat so you can feel the vibration, and make sure there are **no pauses** between the words.

Linking with N

Phrase	Linking	Pronunciation
an area	an a area	an a area
can of peas	can o f peas	can o f peas
bin is full	bin i s full	bin i s full

Linking with R

Phrase	Linking	Pronunciation
more of that	more o f that	more o f that
sure is nice	sure i s nice	sure i s nice
bar of chocolate	bar o f chocolate	bar o f chocolate



Linking with T

When linking with T, native speakers will use a flap /r/ for the T sound. This allows their speech to sound more fluid, without any clear stops or breaks. Use a flap /r/ for the **t**.

Phrase	Linking	Pronunciation (use a flap)
put it	put it	put it /pʊrɪt/
put it on	put it on (2 flaps)	put iton /pʊrɪrɒn/ (2 flaps)
part of	part of	part of /pɑːrɒv/

Thanks for reading! Make sure you watch the video that goes along with this resource ([Linking in Connected Speech](#)) and contact me if you have any questions! Happy studying!

Julie

julie@sandiegovoiceandaccent.com

530-713-3211