First Year (second Course)

Fifth Lecture

4.2 Final Sequences

(stop+/l/) (P. 72)

In the previous lectures, we talked about various types of final clusters including stop+ stop resulting in an oral release, and stop+ nasal resulting in a nasal release.

• Now, what kind of release we will have when the stop consonant is followed by the lateral sound /l/?

In the word "**muddle**" for example, we have the sound /**d**/ followed by the sound /**I**/ after deleting the **schwa** and we make the /**I**/ sound **syllabic**. Here we need to be careful with the pronunciation of the /d**I**/ cluster.

• What shall we do?

The sound /d/ is an alveolar stop, it means that we should raise the tongue to make it in **complete contact** with the alveolar ridge. While we are still keeping the tongue-tip in contact with the ridge for a moment, we **lower** the sides of the tongue and let the air explode through the sides in **a lateral release**.

The same is true in words such as "battel", where we have alveolar stop /t/ followed by the lateral /l/. What about words such as "**bottled**" the past tense of the verb "**bottle**". Here we well have a cluster of /tld/, and the /l/ here is also syllabic. The tongue tip will be in contact with the alveolar ridge for /t/, then only the sides of the tongue are lowered for /l/, later the sides are raised again to ensure the complete contact necessary for /d/. For more examples see page (73).

 Think of a word in which we have /Θ/ sound followed by plural /s/, and comment on the pronunciation of the cluster it has.