

Lesson Thirteen

You

Strong form: ju:; weak forms: ju, jə

The strong form is used contrastively, (e.g. ‘Will it be **you** or me?’) or emphatically, (e.g. ‘It was **you** that broke it’) / ju / is the weak form found before vowels and in final position: (e.g. ‘**You** ought’ /ju 'ɔ: t /); ‘Thank **you**’ / 'θæŋk ju /; ‘What do **you** think?’ / 'wɒt də ju 'θɪŋk /; ‘**You** like it, do **you**?’ / ju 'laɪk ɪt 'du: ju /). Sometimes when ‘you’ is weakly stressed and is preceded by a word normally ending in / d /, the two words are joined closely together as if they formed a single word with the affricate sound / dʒ / linking the two parts. Thus ‘did you’ is often pronounced / 'dɪdʒu /, and ‘behind you’ / bɪ'hɑɪndʒu /. Similarly when the preceding word normally ends in / t / (e.g. ‘hurt **you**’) it is sometimes pronounced / 'hɜ: tʃu / and ‘don’t **you** know’ as /,dəʊn tʃə 'nəʊ /.