



Balance Languages

Balancing Grammar and Fluency

Pronunciation: How to say HOW ARE YOU like a native

Jordi: Hello, Teacher!

Ella: Hey Jordi! /haʊ ə ju/

Jordi: I'm good, thank you. How are you?

Ella: Jordi, if you want to sound more natural when you say "how are you," you can link the words "how" and "are."

Jordi: Sorry?

Ella: Add a W sound to the word "are" so the word "are" becomes (w)ɑːr, and "how are you" becomes /haʊ (w)ɑːr ju/.

Jordi: /haʊ (w)ɑːr ju/.

Ella: Good, Jordi! The word "are", can be strong or weak. When we don't want to stress the word "are", we say /əːr/.

Jordi: /əːr/

Ella: Yes, that's right, /əːr/. And when we link the weak are to "how," it becomes (w)əːr. When we do want to stress "are," we say /ɑːr/.

Jordi: /ɑːr/

Ella: Yes, that's right. When we ask how a person is, we can either stress the word "are" /haʊ (w)ɑːr ju/, or we can stress the word "you" /haʊ (w)əːr ju/.

Jordi: /haʊ (w)ɑːr ju/ ... /haʊ (w)əːr ju/.

Ella: Okay, excellent, Jordi