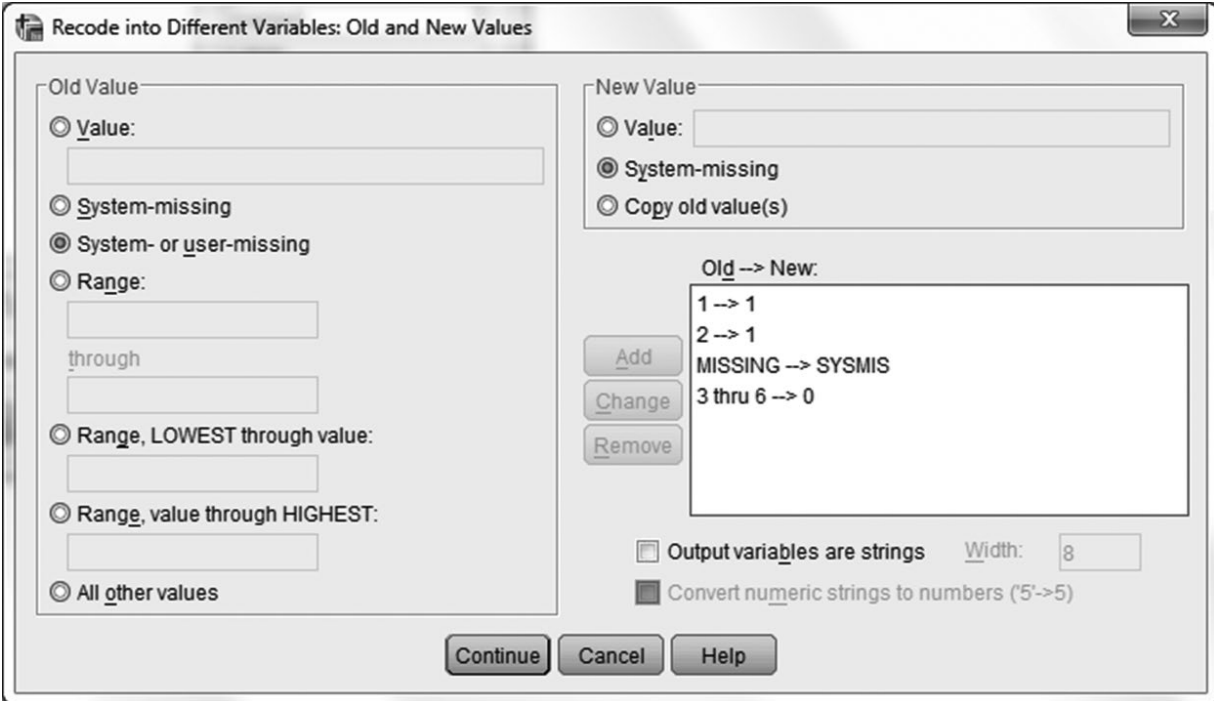


Figure 3-5 Collapsing a Categorical Variable into Fewer Categories



The image shows the 'Recode into Different Variables: Old and New Values' dialog box in SPSS. The 'Old Value' section on the left has several radio button options: 'Value:', 'System-missing', 'System- or user-missing' (which is selected), 'Range:', 'Range, LOWEST through value:', 'Range, value through HIGHEST:', and 'All other values'. The 'New Value' section on the right has radio button options: 'Value:', 'System-missing' (which is selected), and 'Copy old value(s)'. Below these is a list box titled 'Old -> New:' containing the following mappings: '1 -> 1', '2 -> 1', 'MISSING -> SYSMIS', and '3 thru 6 -> 0'. To the left of this list are three buttons: 'Add', 'Change', and 'Remove'. At the bottom right, there are two checkboxes: 'Output variables are strings' (unchecked) and 'Convert numeric strings to numbers (5'->5)' (checked). A 'Width:' field next to the first checkbox contains the number '8'. At the bottom center are three buttons: 'Continue', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

Recode into Different Variables: Old and New Values

Old Value

- ☐ Value:
- ☐ System-missing
- ☒ System- or user-missing
- ☐ Range:
- ☐ Range, LOWEST through value:
- ☐ Range, value through HIGHEST:
- ☐ All other values

New Value

- ☐ Value:
- ☒ System-missing
- ☐ Copy old value(s)

Old -> New:

- 1 -> 1
- 2 -> 1
- MISSING -> SYSMIS
- 3 thru 6 -> 0

☐ Output variables are strings Width: 8

☒ Convert numeric strings to numbers (5'->5)