

Pronunciation Review

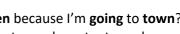
Sentence Stress

English is a non-syllabic language which means that there is a rhythm when it is spoken. To create stress, we must make our voice longer and louder, make the pitch higher, make the sound clearer and more enunciated and have more facial expression.

All parts of speech are separated into content and function words. Content words are stressed, and function words are not stressed.

Content	Function	
Stressed	Unstressed	
Noun	Personal Pronoun	
Possessive Pronoun	Relative Pronoun	
Main Verb	Affirmative Auxiliary Verb	
Negative Auxiliary Verb	Possessive Adjective	
Adjective	Demonstrative	
Adverb	Preposition	
Interrogative	Conjunction	
	Interjection	
	Article	

EXAMPLE



Will you watch the children because I'm going to town? The words in **bold** are stressed, content words.

	EXAMPLES	6
Whose cat is cute?	My cat is cute	
What is cute?	My cat is cute	
Your cat isn't cute Describe your cat	That's not true. M My cat is cute	iy cat is cute

EXCEPTIONS to the normal stress rules;

1) No Stress

Announcements on public transport and robots talking normally requires no sentence stress

2) Emphatic Stress

The stress is eliminated from one word and added to another. This is normally done with modifiers and intensifiers such as deeply, positively, fully, really, very much, totally, utterly, strongly, sincerely.

3) Contrastive Stress

The stress is changed to a new word to emphasise something or change the meaning. This is often done with demonstratives (this, that, these, those).

4) Poetry

English poetry has a variety of different meters, such as iamb, trochee, spondee, anapaest and dactyl. Each poem will have its own meter that doesn't follow the normal stress rules.

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