

STRESS

**Tasks for
PRACTICE.**



Saturday September 13th

Introducing word stress

A If a word has more than one syllable, you give stress to one of the syllables. To give it stress, do one or more of these to the syllable:

- Make it longer. **S**aturday
- Make it louder. **Sat**urday
- Make it higher. **Sat**urday

We can show stress with circles: each circle is a syllable and the bigger circle shows which syllable has the stress. For example, *Saturday* is Ooo.

B5 Listen to the conversation and listen to the stress patterns of the words in bold type.

A: When do you **begin** your **holiday**?

o O O o o

B: On the **thirtieth** of **August**.

O o o O o

A: That's next **Saturday**!

O o o

B: We're leaving in the **afternoon**.

o o O

A: And when are you coming back?

B: Saturday **September** the **thirteenth**.

o O o o O

A: **Thirtieth**?

O o o

B: No, **thirteenth**!

o O



B **B6** Different words have different stress patterns (patterns of stressed and unstressed syllables). Listen to these two- and three-syllable words.

Oo April, **thirty**, morning, Sunday oOo September, tomorrow, eleventh
 oO July, midday, thirteen, today, thirteenth ooO afternoon, seventeen, twenty-one
 Ooo Saturday, thirtieth, yesterday, holiday, seventy

⚠ Note: The stress pattern of numbers with *-teen* is sometimes different when the word is in a sentence. For example, the normal stress pattern of *nineteen* is oO, but when it is followed by a noun, e.g. *the nineteen nineties*, *nineteen people*, the pattern is Oo.

⚠ Note: *January* and *February* may be pronounced with the stress patterns Ooo or Oooo.

C Stress patterns can help you hear the difference between similar words, for example, numbers ending in *-teen* or *-ty*. Listen to these examples.

B7 oO Oo
 thirteen thirty
 fourteen forty
 sixteen sixty
 eighteen eighty
 nineteen ninety

⚠ Note: You can find more about word stress in Units 28 to 31.

22.1 Write the full words in the correct column, according to their stress pattern.

Mon Tues Thu Sat today tomorrow Apr Jul Aug Sept Oct
 Nov holiday 2nd 11th 13 30 13th 30th 17 70 afternoon

Oo	oO	Ooo	oOo	ooO
Monday				

22.2 Write one word from 22.1 in each sentence below. The word must have the stress pattern shown. Then say the sentences.

- 1 I'm going to have a party on (Ooo).
- 2 My grandfather is (Ooo) years old.
- 3 I often sleep for an hour in the (ooO).
- 4 My birthday is on the (oOo) of March.
- 5 In Europe, the weather is warm in (oO).
- 6 I left school when I was (ooO).
- 7 Goodnight. See you (oOo).
- 8 How long is your summer (Ooo)?

22.3 Find a way from Start to Finish. You may pass a square only if the word has the stress pattern Ooo. You can move horizontally (↔) or vertically (↕) only.

START			
eightieth	twentieth	thirtieth	September
twenty-one	thousand	yesterday	October
November	sixtieth	seventy	eleventh
second	fortieth	thirteen	seventeen
vacation	holiday	tomorrow	afternoon
December	Saturday	ninetieth	fiftieth
FINISH			

22.4 Listen and circle the number you hear.

- B8**
- 1 100 dollars! It only cost 17 / 70 last year!
 - 2 He was the 14th / 40th President of my country.
 - 3 The maximum number of people is 15 / 50.
 - 4 She was born in 1916 / 1960.
 - 5 He was 13 / 30 on his last birthday.
 - 6 She'll be 18 / 80 in March.

Now go to Unit 42

Remember, he told her

Introducing sentence stress

A ^{B9} Individual words have a stress pattern, that is a pattern of strong and weak syllables. Sentences also have a stress pattern, and this is *sentence stress*. Sometimes a word and a sentence have the same stress pattern. Listen to these examples.

word	O o o sentence	word	o O o sentence	word	o o O sentence
photograph	Answer me!	September	Excuse me.	afternoon	Do you <i>smoke</i> ?
Canada	Doesn't he?	tomorrow	I <i>think</i> so.	Japanese	One of <i>these</i> ?
cabbages	Copy it!	remember	He <i>told</i> her.	Portuguese	He's <i>arrived</i> .

B ^{B10} Short sentences and phrases in English have some typical stress patterns. Listen to the examples.

- OoO What's the *time*? Yes, of *course*! Thanks a *lot*!
- OoOo See you *later*! *Pleased* to *meet* you! *Can't* you *hear* me?
- oOoO A *piece* of *cake*. The *shop* was *closed*. It's *time* to *go*.
- OooO What do you *do*? *Where* do you *live*? *Give* me a *call*.
- ooOo Are you *coming*? Do you *like* it? Is he *happy*?

! **Note:** For more examples, see Section D5: *Sentence stress phrasebook*.

C There is normally a space between stressed syllables in a sentence. Unstressed syllables can be put in that space. The space stays more or less the same length whether one or more unstressed syllables are pushed into it. So for example, these three sentences take about the same length of time to say. Listen.

- ^{B11} OOO Don't tell *Mike*.
- OoOoOo Go and *speak* to *Mary*.
- OooOooOoo Hurry and *give* it to *Jonathan*.

D Stress patterns can help you hear the difference between similar sentences. For example, verbs with the negative ending *-n't* are always stressed. This helps us to hear the difference between *can* and *can't* in the following two sentences, because the two sentences have different stress patterns.

- ooO He *can* talk.
- oOO He *can't* talk.



! **Note:** You can find more about sentence stress in Units 32 to 40.

Exercises

23.1 Listen and underline the sentence which does *not* have the same stress pattern as the word at the beginning of the line.

^{B12}

EXAMPLE

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Ooo cinema | Wasn't it? | Hasn't she? | <u>Don't you?</u> |
| 1 oOo tomato | Close the door. | He told me. | I like it. |
| 2 ooO afternoon | Does he drive? | Were you cold? | What happened? |
| 3 oOo December | It's open. | They arrived. | They listened. |

23.2 Write these sentences in the correct column. Then listen, check and repeat.

^{B13}

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| The bus was late. | Come and look. | Close the window. | What do you want? |
| The water's cold. | Give me a call. | What did she say? | Phone and tell me. |
| Nice to see you. | Where's the car? | It's cold and wet. | What's the time? |

OooO	oOoO	OoO	OoOo
	The bus was late.		

23.3 Combine phrases from the boxes A, B and C to make three sentences or phrases with these patterns: OOO OoOoOo OooOooOoo. Then listen, check and repeat.

^{B14}

EXAMPLE

A	B	C	OOO
Half a	bottle of	beer	OOO	<u>One cold beer.</u>
One	glass of	orange juice	OoOoOo	<u>Half a glass of water.</u>
Give me a	cold	water	OooOooOoo	<u>Give me a bottle of orange juice.</u>

A	B	C	OOO
Doesn't	Jennifer	listen	OOO
Can't you make	Pete	talk to you	OoOoOo
Can't	Oscar	drive	OooOooOoo

23.4 Listen and tick the sentence you hear, A or B.

^{B15}

	A	B
1	I can swim.	I can't swim.
2	Are you coming?	Aren't you coming?
3	We were tired.	We weren't tired.
4	She can help you.	She can't help you.
5	Can you see?	Can't you see?
6	They were talking.	They weren't talking.

Now go to Unit 43

REcord, reCORD

Stress in two-syllable words

A

Many two-syllable words come from a one-syllable word. For example, the word *artist* comes from the word *art*, and the word *remove* comes from the word *move*. In these two-syllable words, the stress is on the syllable of the original word:

artist = Oo (stress on the first syllable) remove = oO (stress on the second syllable)

Here are some more examples.

nouns and adjectives Oo	verbs oO
art - artist	move - remove
drive - driver	like - dislike
friend - friendly	build - rebuild
fame - famous	come - become

B

Most two-syllable **nouns and adjectives** have stress on the first syllable, even if they don't come from an original one-syllable word. For example, 'brother' doesn't come from the original word 'broth', but it still has the stress pattern Oo.

B36 Listen to this sentence: the nouns and adjectives all have the pattern Oo.

The artist's most famous picture shows some women and children in a lovely forest with a purple mountain behind.



⚠ Note: However, there are a number of **exceptions** to this general rule, for example *asleep*, *mistake*, *machine*, *alone*, which have stress on the second syllable.

C

Most two-syllable **verbs** have stress on the second syllable, even if they don't come from an original one-syllable word. For example, 'repeat' doesn't come from the original word 'peat', but it still has the stress pattern oO.

Listen to this sentence: the verbs all have the pattern oO.

B37 Escape to Scotland, forget about work, just relax and enjoy the scenery!

⚠ Note: There are a number of exceptions to this general rule, for example *cancel*, *copy* and two-syllable verbs ending in *-er* and *-en*, e.g. *answer*, *enter*, *offer*, *listen*, *happen*, *open*, which all have stress on the first syllable.

D

B38 Some words are both nouns and verbs. For example, *record* is a **noun** if you put stress on the first syllable, and a **verb** if you put stress on the second syllable. Listen to these examples. You will hear each word twice, first as a noun and then as a verb.

record contrast desert export object present produce protest rebel

⚠ Note: There is not always a change of stress in words that are both nouns and verbs. For example *answer*, *picture*, *promise*, *reply*, *travel*, *visit* always have stress on the same syllable.

⚠ Note: The stress stays in the same place when we make longer words from these two-syllable nouns, adjectives and verbs. For example, in both *happy* (Oo) and *unhappy* (oOo), the stress is on the syllable *happ*, and in both *depart* (oO) and *departure* (oOo), the stress is on the syllable *part*.

Exercises

D_{se}

28.1

B39

Make the word in (brackets) into a verb beginning with 'r' and a noun ending with 'r' and use the words to fill the gaps. Then say the sentences. Take care to use the correct stress patterns for the words in the gaps: Oo for the nouns and oO for the verbs. Listen and check.

EXAMPLE

(build)

I asked the builder to rebuild the wall.

1 (act)

How did you _____ when you saw the _____ coming in?

2 (write)

The _____ decided to _____ the whole book.

3 (paint)

The _____ tried to _____ this part of the picture.

4 (print)

We asked the _____ to _____ the whole document.

5 (view)

The _____ will be able to _____ this programme tomorrow.

6 (play)

They had to _____ the match after a _____ was hurt.

28.2

B40

Listen and circle the word with a different stress pattern from the others.

EXAMPLE money machine mountain message

- | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|----------|---------|----------|
| 1 answer | agree | allow | attract | 5 complete | common | careful | crazy |
| 2 middle | minute | mission | mistake | 6 pronounce | provide | promise | prefer |
| 3 compare | correct | copy | collect | 7 shampoo | shoulder | shower | shopping |
| 4 garden | granny | guitar | grammar | 8 reason | remove | receive | review |

28.3

B41

Read the sentences and decide what stress pattern the words in bold have. Then listen, check and repeat.

EXAMPLE I got my first **record** as a **present** when I was eleven.

record = Oo present = Oo

- You've **progressed** well this year, but I'd like to see even more **progress**.
progressed = _____ progress = _____
- We **import** too much petrol and the country's **export** figures are going down.
import = _____ export = _____
- It started as a student **protest**, but now the army has **rebelled** against the government.
protest = _____ rebelled = _____
- In the **desert**, there is a big **contrast** between temperatures in the day and at night.
desert = _____ contrast = _____
- These companies **produce** household **objects** such as fridges and washing machines.
produce = _____ objects = _____

Second hand, bookshop

Stress in compound words

A

Compound words are made from two smaller words put together, for example *book + shop = bookshop*. (They are not always written as one word, for example *shoe shop*.) In most compound words, the stress is on the first part. For example, the word *bookshop* has two syllables and the stress is on the first syllable. Listen to these examples.

- B42** Oo bookshop, bus stop, footpath, airport, shoe shop, road sign, car park, bedroom
 Ooo traffic light, bus station, sunglasses, boarding card, window seat, check-in desk
 Oooo travel agent, art gallery, supermarket, tape recorder, photocopy

! Note: If the first part of the compound word is an adjective, there may be stress on the second part too, for example OO *double room*.

! Note: There may be stress on the second part of a compound noun when:

- the object in the second part is made out of the material in the first, for example OO *glass jar*,
- the first part tells us where the second part is, for example OO *car door*.

B

If the compound word is *not* a noun, we often put stress on the second part too. Listen to these examples.

- B43** OO first class, half price, hand made
 OOo bad-tempered, old-fashioned, short-sighted
 OoO overnight, second hand

C

Sometimes a compound word looks the same as

- a normal adjective and noun,
- a normal noun and verb.

But the pronunciation is different. Compare:

Oo compound word	OO adjective and noun
We keep these plants in a greenhouse during the winter months.	Mr Olsen lives in a small, green house next to the river.
OO compound word	OO noun and verb
I saw her bus pass .	I saw her bus pass .



29.1 Listen. Write the words in bold in the correct columns.

B44

There's a good **shopping centre**. You can find almost **anything** there. There are **bookshops**, **shoe shops**, a **travel agent's**, a **post office**, a **hairstresser's**, a **supermarket**, **everything**... and there are a few **snack bars** if you want a **hamburger** or **something**. Oh, and there's a **sports centre** too, with a **swimming pool** and a **playground** for the kids. But be careful with your **handbag**; I had my **credit card** stolen there once!

Oo	Ooo	Oooo
bookshops	anything	shopping centre

Follow up: Record yourself saying the text. Make sure you put the stress in the correct place.

29.2 Listen. In each sentence, one of the compound words (in bold) has stress on the first part (Oo) and the other has stress on the second part too (OO). Circle the word if there is stress on the second part too.

B45

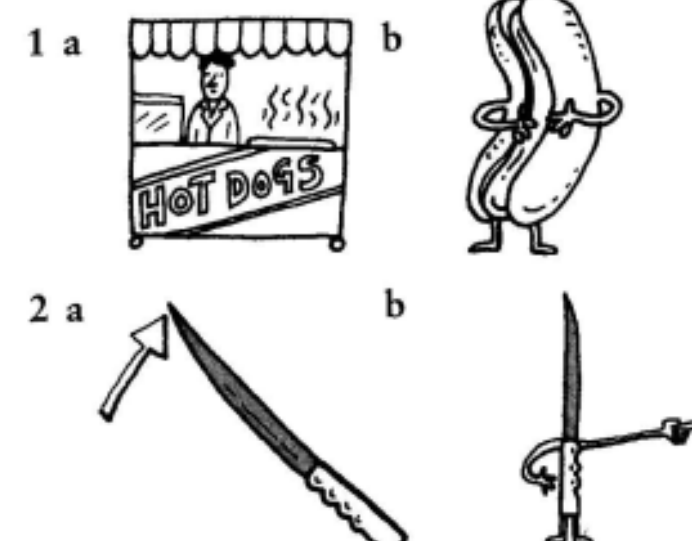
EXAMPLE They did the **photocopies** overnight.

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 I got this motorbike second hand. | 4 I'm short-sighted , like my grandmother. |
| 2 Using a typewriter is so old fashioned. | 5 All the sunglasses are half price. |
| 3 These earrings were hand made. | 6 The waiting room is for first class only. |

29.3 Listen. Which thing is the speaker asking about? Put a tick (✓) next to it and say Yes, I have or No, I haven't. Give a true answer!

B46

EXAMPLE Have you ever seen a ski jump?
 No, I haven't!



Unforgettable

Stress in longer words 1

A

We can build longer words by adding parts to the beginning or end of shorter words. Usually, this does not change the stress: it stays on the same syllable as in the original word. Look at the example below.

	for	get		
	for	get	ful	
	for	get	ful	ness
	for	gett	a	ble
un	for	gett	a	ble

Here are is a list of beginnings and endings which do not change the stress of the shorter word:

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| -able (drinkable) | in-/im- (impossible) | -ness (happiness) |
| -al (musical) | -ise (civilise) | -ship (friendship) |
| -er (player) | -ish (childish) | un- (unhappy) |
| -ful (helpful) | -less (childless) | under- (underpay) |
| -hood (childhood) | -ly (friendly) | |
| -ing (boring) | -ment (employment) | |

B

Some endings *do* change the stress in the shorter word. Look how the ending *-ion* changes the stress in the word *educate*.

ed	u	cate	
ed	u	ca	tion

When we add the endings *-ion* or *-ian*, the stress always moves to the syllable *before* these endings. Here are some more examples.

e	lec	tric	
e	lec	tri	cian

dec	o	rate	
dec	o	ra	tion

mu	sic	
mu	si	cian

co	mmu	ni	cate	
co	mmu	ni	ca	tion

Note: *-tion* and *-cian* are pronounced /ʃən/.

C

The ending *-ic* also moves the stress to the syllable before it. Listen to these examples.

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| scientist | scientific |
| economy | economic |
| atom | atomic |
| artist | artistic |

Note: When a syllable changes from unstressed to stressed, or stressed to unstressed, the vowel sound often changes. For example the letter *o* in *atom* is pronounced /ə/, but in *atomic*, it is pronounced /ɒ/; the *A* in *atom* is pronounced /æ/, but in *atomic* it is /ɑ/.

Note: The ending *-al* does not change the stress of the word (see A above), so, for example, the stress is on the same syllable in these two words: *economic* *economical*.

30.1 Use the beginnings and endings in A opposite to make longer words from the words below. Listen and check if you get the same words as on the recording. Then listen again and repeat.

B49

EXAMPLE child childhood, childish, childishness, childless

- 1 believe
- 2 enjoy
- 3 care

30.2 Write the words from the box in the correct part of the table according to the stress pattern.

population	telecommunication	nation	identification	relation
communication	pronunciation	scientific	clinic	romantic
pessimistic	investigation	public	discussion	

Oo	
oOo	
ooOo	population
oooOo	
ooooOo	
oooooOo	

30.3 Combine each word with one of the endings from the box, and give the stress pattern of your new word. You may need to change or add other letters to the first word. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.

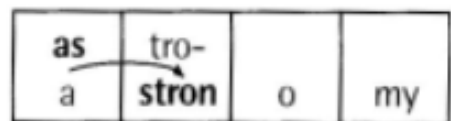
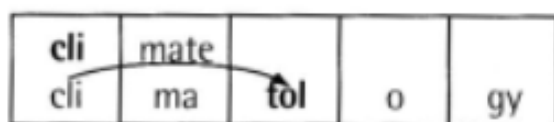
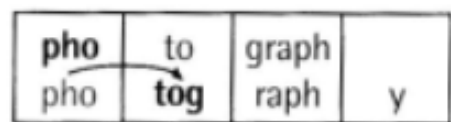
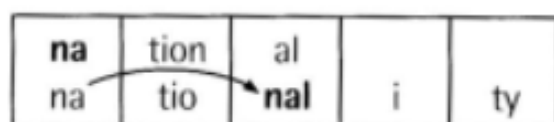
-ion	-ic
------	-----

- EXAMPLE inform information ooOo
- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 introduce | 7 optimist |
| 2 base | 8 celebrate |
| 3 economy | 9 diplomat |
| 4 describe | 10 operate |
| 5 romance | 11 explain |
| 6 compete | 12 decide |

Public, publicity

Stress in longer words 2

A **B50** There are many longer word endings where the last letter is -y. In words with these endings, the stress is placed on the syllable two from the end. Listen to these examples.



Note: If we add the ending *-ic* to a word, the stress goes on the syllable before *-ic*. (See Unit 30.) Notice the change of stress, for example:
photography photographic.

Note: In words for an expert in the subject, such as *photographer* or *climatologist*, the stress stays on the same syllable as in the word ending in *-y*:
photography photographer
climatology climatologist

B Many words for school and university subjects have one of the *-y* endings in this unit or the ending *-ics*. Listen to the names of subjects in this text.

B51 At school, I hated science subjects like *physics*, *chemistry* and *biology*, you know, and ehm... I wasn't very good at *mathematics* and things. I really liked subjects like *history*, *geography*, *economics*. Anyway, when I went to university, I wanted to do *geology*, but I couldn't 'cause I was no good at sciences, so in the end I did *philosophy*!



Note: Many English speakers do not pronounce the second syllable in *history*, so that it sounds like this: /'hɪstri/ Oo. The first part of the word *geography* may be pronounced as one or two syllables: /'dʒɒgrəfi/ Ooo or /dʒi:'nɒgrəfi/ oOoo. Many speakers do not pronounce the second syllable in *mathematics*, so it sounds like this: /mæθ'mætɪks/ oOo.

C **B52** If we combine the various endings in this unit and Unit 30, we can get 'families' of words with moving stress patterns. Listen to these examples.

photograph	photography	photographic	
economy	economics	economical	
national	nationality	nationalise	nationalisation
civil	civility	civilise	civilisation

31.1 Make a word ending in *-ity* from each of these words, and give the stress pattern. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.

EXAMPLE *author* *authority*

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| 1 person | 5 nation |
| 2 universe | 6 real |
| 3 public | 7 human |
| 4 major | 8 electric |

31.2 Write the words from the box in the correct column according to their stress pattern.

economics economy physics chemistry geography /'dʒɒgrəfi/
 mathematics /mæθ'mætɪks/ sociology history /'hɪstri/
 photography nation nationality geology

Oo	Ooo	oOoo	ooOoo	ooOo
				economics

31.3 Fill the gaps with a word from the box which has the stress pattern given. Then listen and check.

B53 biology mathematics history geography sociology chemistry

My favourite subjects at school were sciences, especially Ooo *chemistry* and oOoo I've always been good with numbers, so I was good at oOo I didn't really like the social science subjects like ooOoo and Oo, and that's strange because when I went to university I did Ooo

31.4 Write in the word which is missing from the family. Then listen, check and repeat.

B54 EXAMPLE society, *sociology* (ooOoo), sociological

- civil, civilise, (oooOo)
- (oOoo), biologist, biological
- personal, (ooOoo), personalise
- legal, legalise, (oooOo)
- (Oo), authority, authorise