

Practice Word Stress

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In Lesson 2, I reviewed key skills to help you improve your fluency when you speak English. As you continue to practice speaking English, I hope you will focus on these skills: **word and sentence stress, intonation, speed, volume** and **body language**. They are key to improving your English and helping you reach your goals!

There are Practice materials included here. You may also enjoy practicing on the website: rachelsenglish.com.

Word Stress Practice

A very important part of learning English is understanding stress and using it correctly. If you want to learn how to speak English well, you need to learn the basic rules of stress and then apply them in your speech.

What is stress? Stress falls on only one syllable of a word with two or more syllables. When we emphasize a syllable, it is usually louder, the vowel sound is longer, and the pitch (tone) is higher.

EXERCISE: Pronounce each word and mark the vowel of the syllable that receives stress. Use an [audio dictionary](#) to listen to pronunciation. Compare your answer to the stress marked in the dictionary.

1. pronounce
2. answer
3. mirror
4. confused
5. piano
6. finally
7. garbage
8. personality
9. relationship
10. Japanese
11. computer
12. technique

13. refrigerator

14. attention

15. unfortunately