

1. **Rhythm** (suprasegmental stress patterns) (time)
 - a. The relationship between stressed and unstressed syllables
 - b. Patterns of combination of stressed and unstressed syllables
 - c. The liaison or other phonological structures (assimilation, deletion, etc.)
2. **Intonation** (suprasegmental melody) (time + **space**)
 - a. Pitch contours; break indexes (time)
 - b. The intonation units; the pitch accent (time + **space**)
3. **Declination** (suprasegmental melody) (time + **space**)
 - a. Declination of statements (time + **space**)
 - b. Down-step slopes (time + **space**)

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1. Stress & rhythm
2. Intonation units
3. Pitch accents
(The invariable quality of the stressed syllable/sound)
4. The break index
5. Mismatched patterns
(The relations between the adjacent syllables)
6. Declination



Stressed sounds vs. Unstressed sounds

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1. **English speakers** focus very much on stressed vowels and usually “blur” unstressed vowels in their speech.
Mandarin speakers focus more on the tone than on the stress.
2. **English speakers** focus very much on the relationship between the local stress and the global stress in an utterance.
Mandarin speakers focus more on each individual “word.”

Read the following expressions (containing different number of syllables) in about the same length of time

1. broad view
broad review
broader review

4. quick call
quick recall
quickly recall

2. strong taste
stronger taste
stronger distaste

5. new vice
new device
newest device

3. slow turn
slowly turn
slowly return

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Read the following expressions (containing different number of syllables) in about the same length of time

1. fire kitchen
fire in kitchen
fire in the kitchen
a fire in the kitchen
It's a fire in the kitchen

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2 snow expected Friday
snow is expected Friday
snow is expected on Friday
some snow is expected on Friday