

Not half past two, half past three

Intonation for old and new information

A



D2a We often use different intonation for old information and new information. Sometimes we repeat the old information with the same words but different intonation. Listen.

A: What time are we meeting? Did you say half past two?

B: No, not half past ~~two~~, half past ~~three~~.

(*Two* is old information; *three* is new information.)

A: Edinburgh's one of my favourite places in England.

B: But Edinburgh isn't in ~~England~~, it's in ~~Scotland~~!

(*Edinburgh* and *England* are old information; *Scotland* is new information.)



B



D2b Sometimes we only say the old information. Listen.

A: Edinburgh's one of my favourite places in England.

B: But Edinburgh isn't in ~~England~~!

C



D2c Sometimes we say the old information in different words. Listen.

A: Look – that wine costs ~~£100~~!

B: Yes, it's ~~expensive~~, but ~~everything~~ in this shop's ~~expensive~~!

(*Expensive* is the same information as *costs £100*.)

D



D2d Sometimes we only talk about part of the old information. Listen.

A: I thought that film was really ~~good~~.

B: Well, I thought the ~~music~~ was good.

(The *music* is part of the *film*.)

Exercises

44.1 Listen and mark the intonation of the words in **bold**.

D3

- 1 A: How about meeting on Tuesday or Thursday at one o'clock?
B: I can come on **Tuesday**, but not before **two** o'clock.
- 2 A: Let's go to the beach and have a swim.
B: Well, I'll come to the **beach** with you, but I'll probably just do some **sunbathing**.
- 3 A: Which shop are you talking about? Is it on the corner?
B: Well, it isn't on the **corner**, exactly, but it's very **near** there.
- 4 A: When I was at school I was good at maths and physics.
B: I was good at **maths**, but my best subject was **music**.

Check with the Key. Then listen again and repeat.

44.2 Listen and mark the intonation of the words in **bold**.

D4

- 1 A: Maybe we could have dinner on Thursday or Friday?
B: Well, I'm free on **Thursday**.
- 2 A: Let's have a quick drink at the pub and then go somewhere to eat.
B: Well, I've got time to go to the **pub** for half an hour.
- 3 A: Are the shops open in the evenings and on Sundays?
B: Well, I know they're open in the **evenings**.
- 4 A: My favourite school subjects were history and geography.
B: Really? I liked **geography** ...

Check with the Key. Then listen again and repeat.

44.3 Listen and mark the intonation of the words in **bold**.

D5

- 1 A: It's freezing today!
B: It's pretty **cold**, yes, but it's good weather for walking, so let's go!
- 2 A: Did you go to university in Europe?
B: I didn't **study** there, no, I just travelled **around**.
- 3 A: Did you come on the ferry?
B: No, I like travelling by **sea**, but it takes too **long**.
- 4 A: We've got plenty of time – we're leaving at four.
B: That's the **departure** time, yes, but we have to be there by **three**.

Check with the Key. Then listen again and repeat.

44.4 Listen and mark the intonation of the words in **bold**.

D6

- 1 A: Are the shops open at the weekend?
B: I know they're open on **Saturdays**.
- 2 A: What did you think of the band?
B: The **singer** was good.
- 3 A: Have you been sightseeing yet?
B: We've been to the **castle** – that's all we had **time** for today.
- 4 A: Can I have something non-alcoholic?
B: We've got some **orange juice** ... or some **mineral water** ...

Check with the Key. Then listen again and repeat.