**/Focus Words Practice**

Each thought group in English usually has one focus word (generally a content word), which is emphasized more than the other words in the thought group. Focus words are stressed; they sound *longer*, *louder*, and *clearer*.

Follow along with the transcript, and mark the thought groups. Then, listen a second time and mark the focus words.

“You don't actually know what your future self wants” - Shankar Vendantam

<https://ed.ted.com/lessons/you-don-t-actually-know-what-your-future-self-wants-shankar-vendantam>

when I was twelve years **old**/ I **fractured** my foot playing soccer/ I didn’t **tell** my parents when I got home that night/ because the **next** **day**/ my dad was taking me to see a **movie**/ a **soccer** movie /I worried that/ if I told my parents about the **foot** /they would take me to see a **doctor**/ I didn’t want to see a **doctor**/ I wanted to see the **movie** /the next morning my **dad** goes /it’s **nice** out /why don’t we **walk** to the theater/ it was **a mile** away /as we go he **says** /why are you **limping**/ I tell him I have something in my **shoe**/ the movie was **spectacular** /it told a story of some of soccer’s greatest stars great **Brazilian** players /I was **ecstatic** /at the end of the movie /I told my dad about the **foot** /he took me to see an **orthopedic** doctor /who put my foot in a **cast** for three weeks/ I tell you this story **today** because /**four** decades later/ I don’t really consider myself a **soccer** fan anymore /today my /sports fandom is tuned **to another** kind of football/ now my twelve-year-old self /wouldn’t just find this **incomprehensible** /my twelve-year-old self /would see this /as a **betrayal**