

Waitress: (*writing down the order*) One roast beef sandwich... two cheese sandwiches... two teas... one coffee.

INTONATION

Questions with *or* Alternative questions (questions with *or*) have a rising tone on the first choice (before the *or*) and a falling tone on the last choice. The parts of words that are in bolder type are stronger, or stressed.

Would you like **coffee** or **tea**?

Would you like **beef** or **veal**?

Would you like **coffee** or **tea** or **soda**?

Now practice with somebody, using this menu (on page 6).

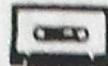
Example:

Student A: Would you like bean soup or pea soup?

Student B: Pea soup, please.

- Ed: Yes. Very. I spent everything I had.
Jenny: Don't you have any money left?
Ed: Yes, Jenny. Ten cents!

INTONATION



Statements usually have a *falling* tone at the end.

Wh-questions (Who? What? Why? When? Where? How?) also usually have a *falling* tone at the end.

Yes/No questions (questions you can answer with "yes" or "no") usually have a *rising* tone at the end.

Examples:

- Wh-question: How did you spend your vacation?
Statement: I went to Venice.
Yes/No question: Was it expensive?
Statement: Yes. Very.

Mr. Gray: Hm! So the train isn't late. I'm late.

INTONATION

Surprise

- A: Mr. Gray takes the train to Plainview at 8:18 every day.
- B: At 8:18?
- C: To Plainview?
- D: Mr. Gray?
- E: Every day?

than Sunny's.

Janet: Oh, shut up, Russ.

Russ: But honey, I think you're wonderful. There's nothing . . .

Janet: Oh, SHUT UP!

INTONATION

Making a List Listen and repeat:

He bought a cup and some nuts.

He bought a cup, some nuts, and some honey.

He bought a cup, some nuts, some honey, and a brush.

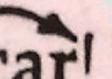
Everybody: Starwash is so popular!

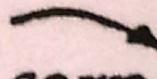
Voice C: Next time you shop, pick up a bottle

INTONATION

Listen and repeat:

What a **hard**  job!

What a **fast**  car!

What a wonderful  carpet!

STRESS AND INTONATION

Listen and repeat:

A: George played baseball in Boston.

B: Really? I thought George played football in Boston.

A: George played football in New York.

B: Really? I thought George played football in Boston.

A: Paul played football in Boston.

B: Really? I thought George played football in Boston.

In these conversations, B is surprised by something that A says. In B's responses, the main stress and intonation change is on the information that is *different* from what A said.

CONVERSATION

B is surprised by something A says. B should be sure to put the main stress and intonation change in the right place. Work in pairs. Then change roles.

- Herb Turner: She and . . . er . . . that other nurse, Pearl, weren't at work on Thursday, were they?
- Colonel Sherman: No, they weren't.
- Herb Turner: Gertrude is the worst nurse in the ward, isn't she?
- Colonel Sherman: No – she's the worst nurse in the world!

INTONATION

Tag Questions Tag questions have a falling tone when a person is making a comment or giving an opinion and expects the other person to agree.

Listen and repeat:

were they? were we? were you?

They weren't at work, were they?

We weren't early, were we?

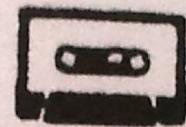
Fred:

Photographer:

Fred:

Will the photograph be ready the first
Yes. Phone my office in five days.
Fine.

INTONATION



Listen and repeat:

If Fred laughs, he looks funny.

If Grandfather flies, he gets frightened.

Wendy: Yes. Farther away from the highway it was very quiet and there were birds and squirrels everywhere. We counted over twenty squirrels.

Vera: It sounds wonderful. Did you take lunch with you?

Wendy: Yes. We brought veal sandwiches. We stopped around twelve, and we ate and watched the squirrels, but it was too windy to sit long. It was a very nice walk, anyway.

INTONATION

Statements and wh-questions end with a falling tone. Make sure your voice rises on the last stressed syllable and then falls.

Listen and repeat:

Who went for a walk?

Where was it quiet?

When did Wendy see Victor?

Wendy and Victor.

In the woods.

On Wednesday.

JUMBLED ANSWERS

Ask and answer questions. Work in pairs. Person A should cover person B's column with a piece of paper, and B should cover A's column.

A

B

Note: The sound h is often dropped in unstressed words like *he* (at the beginning of a sentence).

INTONATION

Listen and repeat:

Oh, no!

How horrible!

How awful!

How terrible!

CONVERSATION