
 12 Listen to the recording and identify which words are stressed in sentences 1–4. Underline the stressed words.

- 1 It's a piece of equipment.
- 2 The latest trend is for green technology.
- 3 Do you know the price of this?
- 4 We can't speak English fluently. Can you?

Note that we sometimes stress function words, for example when they are at the end of a sentence, when a contrast is being expressed, or when the word is being said on its own.


In the four sentences above, only one function word is stressed. What is it and why is it stressed?

 13 The schwa /ə/ is the most common vowel sound in weak forms. It is also the most common vowel sound in the English language, occurring in many unstressed syllables.


- 1 Listen to it being pronounced. To say it, relax your mouth.
- 2 Listen to Track 42 again. Pay attention to how the function words are pronounced. Which function words contain a schwa?

Record yourself saying the sentences. Make sure you stress the content words and do not stress the 'weak' function words. Keep trying until you feel comfortable using sentence stress. Can you hear the improvement in your pronunciation?

- 3 Listen to your recording of your answer to Part 2 on page 51. Choose four sentences and write them down. Underline all the stressed syllables. Re-record the sentences stressing those syllables without stressing the rest.

-  14
- 1 Play Track 39 again. Listen and try to hear the rhythms of the language, and the sentence stress.
 - 2 Listen to the first sentence, pause the CD and repeat the sentence (using the transcript if you need to). Do the same for every sentence.
 - 3 Then record yourself reading out the whole transcript until you feel confident in your use of sentence stress.

IELTS Speaking Exam: Part 3

 15 You are going to hear questions that are typical of Part 3 of the exam. Listen to each question and give your answer. Put into practice all you have learnt in this unit.

Now listen to the sample answers.

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