

Session 3: Conversation Practice

Instructions: Practice these academic conversations. Use the model as a guide. Respond to the prompts and build on the ideas with your own voice.

Office Hours Visit:

Model: Hi Professor, I was reviewing the lecture notes and I had a question about the second example in slide 12. Could you walk me through it again?

Your Clarification: _____

Follow-up Question: _____

Extended Comment: _____

Group Presentation Planning:

Model: I think we should split the research into sections and assign each person one topic. That way we stay organized.

Your Clarification: _____

Follow-up Question: _____

Extended Comment: _____

Classroom Debate:

Model: While I respect your view, I think there are some limitations to that study that we should consider.

Your Clarification: _____

Follow-up Question: _____

Extended Comment: _____

Pitch & Intonation Practice

Instructions: Practice the sentence with the suggested intonation. Then, create your own version using the same prosody.

Sentence: I'm not entirely sure, but I believe the answer relates to cellular respiration.

Target Intonation: Rising on 'sure', falling at end

Your Sentence: _____

Sentence: To summarize, our team found that student engagement increased with feedback.

Target Intonation: Emphasis on 'summarize', falling pitch

Your Sentence: _____

Sentence: That's a valid point, and I see where you're coming from.

Target Intonation: Slight rise on 'point', flat tone for agreement

Your Sentence: _____

Sentence: However, when we look at the data more closely, the pattern changes.

Target Intonation: Stress on 'however' and 'data'

Your Sentence: _____

Word Stress Practice

Instructions: Mark the stressed syllables and use the word in a sentence.

interdisciplinary (in-ter-DIS-ci-pli-nar-y)

Your sentence: _____

interpretation (in-ter-pre-TA-tion)

Your sentence: _____

methodology (meth-o-DO-lo-gy)

Your sentence: _____

accountability (ac-count-a-BIL-i-ty)

Your sentence: _____

accessibility (ac-cess-i-BIL-i-ty)

Your sentence: _____

Emotion & Intonation in Academic Contexts

Instructions: Say each sentence with the right emotion. Then try making your own sentence that expresses the same feeling.

I'm really concerned about my exam performance. (Emotion: Concerned)

Your version: _____

I'm thrilled to share our results with the class! (Emotion: Excited)

Your version: _____

Unfortunately, the project deadline was moved up. (Emotion: Disappointed)

Your version: _____

That's a great insight you brought up in your presentation. (Emotion: Supportive)

Your version: _____

Could you clarify your last point a bit more? (Emotion: Inquisitive)

Your version: _____

Phonological Awareness for Academic Vocabulary

Instructions: Practice saying both versions of each word. Then use each in a sentence.

record (noun: RE-cord) vs. record (verb: re-CORD)

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

object (noun: OB-ject) vs. object (verb: ob-JECT)

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

present (noun: PRE-sent) vs. present (verb: pre-SENT)

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

conduct (noun: CON-duct) vs. conduct (verb: con-DUCT)

Sentence 1: _____

Sentence 2: _____

Academic Reading Practice with Prosody Focus

Instructions: Read the passage aloud. Emphasize academic transitions and key nouns and verbs.

This semester, our research group investigated how student motivation changed over time in hybrid learning environments. We collected weekly reflections, quiz scores, and feedback forms. Early data suggested a decline in motivation after week five, which correlated with rising workloads and fewer social interactions. One surprising finding was that motivation rebounded slightly after group projects were introduced. We believe the collaborative element provided social reinforcement and helped students feel more connected. Our recommendation is that universities incorporate more small group tasks into online and hybrid formats to support student engagement.

Tutor Feedback: _____

Self-Reflection: _____

Wrap-Up & Self-Reflection

Reflect on your learning experience.

3 New Academic Words I Learned:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3 Aspects of Speech I Want to Practice More:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Today I felt most confident when... _____

One challenge I noticed was... _____