



Innovative Techniques to Teach Stress and Intonation

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1




Rule #1 - Compound Nouns

Stress first part of word

classroom	car keys
telephone number	midterm
cell phone	e-mail
laptop	backpack
parking lot	mailbox

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2




Activities

- Supermarket circulars, e.g., Trader Joe's
- Restaurant/take-out menus
- Campus directories
- Hospital or hotel maps
- Personal vocabulary lists
- Magazines, newspapers
- Stories embedded with compound nouns

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3




Compound Nouns

Mary Ellen's due date for her first baby was over the weekend. However, when she went for a check-up with her OB/GYN during regular office hours, she was told that she was already dilated two centimeters and was directed to go to the medical center immediately. Mary Ellen's sister-in-law drove her in the family minivan. While Mary Ellen waited to be admitted as an inpatient, she took out her insurance card and looked around the waiting room. She was asked to sit in a wheelchair and was taken to the maternity ward. The charge nurse took her vital signs and checked the fetal heartbeat with the fetal monitor. Mary Ellen's blood pressure was normal. The baby's position was observed by ultrasound. The attending physician reviewed her medical records and ordered some blood tests.

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Rule #2 - Adjective + Noun

Stress the noun

good morning	good evening
new home	difficult test
old building	final exam
nice job	great class
beautiful city	delicious food

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5




Activities

- Contrast compound nouns vs. adjective + noun pairs, e.g., **White** House vs. white **house**
 - Reading sentences
 - Ask and answer questions


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6

Rule # 3 - Proper Nouns
 Stress second (or last) part of word 


Tulane University	Baltimore Ravens
Adelphi Road	New Orleans
The Washington Post	Johns Hopkins
Chesapeake Bay Bridge	Red River County
Mississippi River	Eastern Shore

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Activities 


- Introduction scripts
- Travel brochures
- Transit maps
- Stories embedded with proper nouns

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Proper Nouns 


Yinning Song and Ji Zhou are post-doctoral research fellows. Presently, they are working at Columbia Presbyterian and Mt. Sinai Hospitals, respectively. Their joint paper was just accepted at the upcoming International Scholar's Conference. The host venue is New York City this year. A significant number of attendees are expected from the New York metropolitan area. This would include Staten Island, Long Island, and New Jersey. Others from New England, including Rhode Island and New Hampshire, are expected to register in large numbers. Even worse than usual traffic jams are expected at the George Washington Bridge, Lincoln Tunnel, and other approaches to Manhattan.

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Rule # 4 - Acronyms/Initializations
 Stress last letter of initializations
 Say the acronyms* as a word 

DMV	ELL
MBA	IBM
PC	Ph.D.
USA	ATM
ESL	TESOL *


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Activities 

- Develop personal lists
 - Professional occupations
 - TV /radio stations
 - Transit
 - Organizations/clubs
- Stories embedded with acronyms/initializations



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Acronyms/Initializations 

B.J. Singleton is the CFO for a very busy rehabilitation center in the L.A., CA area. The center is associated with Wilson General Hospital, commonly referred to as WGH, and its satellite LTC and CCRC facilities. The center provides skilled outpatient PT, OT, and speech services under the medical direction of Dr. A.J. Klein, a renowned physiatrist in the community. B.J. directs her own small billing staff which is responsible for invoicing and processing all of the insurance claims from the HMOs and PPOs in the area. Kaiser Permanente and BC/BS are the primary insurance carriers for many of the patients in this practice.

NOTE: Sometimes names that use initials are pronounced like a compound noun, e.g., BJ, AJ.

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Rule # 5 - Numbers

Counting

- ▶ Stress the first syllable in "teen" numbers

thirteen, fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen, nineteen

- ▶ Stress the second number for numbers above twenty

twenty-one, twenty-two, twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five,
twenty-six, twenty-seven, twenty-eight, twenty-nine

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Numbers

When stating numbers, as in time, money, or amounts, stress the last part of the "teen" numbers:

thirteen	fourteen	fifteen	sixteen
8:15	2:14	\$15	\$17

When counting or referring to the "ten" numbers, stress the first syllable:

twenty	thirty	forty	fifty
--------	--------	-------	-------

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Activities

- Calendars and appointments
- Restaurant and carry-out menus
- Train/bus schedules
- Number embedded stories

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Numbers

Steven Rivera went off to school at 7:30 a.m. this morning feeling fine. At 9:15 a.m., the school nurse called Mrs. Rivera's cell phone, 752-444-9753, to leave a message. She said Steven had a temperature of 101.1 and asked Mrs. Rivera to come and pick him up. Mrs. Rivera took the #66 bus from her home to the school which was 1.75 miles away. The school nurse needed to know Steven's weight to determine the medicine dosage. Steven knew he was 48 inches tall, but didn't know his weight.

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Rule # 6 - Linking

Words link together for fluency

a lot_of	went_to
look_up	watch_out
good_news	eat_dinner
go_out	bus_stop
sit_down	fit_together

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Rule # 7 - Syllable Stress Rules

1. Give primary stress to the syllable immediately before the following suffixes:
-tic/ic, -ical, -ify, -is, -sis, -omy, -ogy, -edy, -istry, -metry, -ment, -ive, -ity, -tion, -ion, -ious, -ily, -eous, -able, -ible, -ophy, -graphy, -ogist, -cian, -ity.

Note: This is not a complete list of commonly used suffixes.

Exceptions: comfortable, vegetable, irritable, formidable, competitive, consecutive, manipulative, executive

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Syllable Stress

-tic/-ic	-omy	-istry/-etry	-ment
do <u>M</u> estic	e <u>C</u> onomy	<u>C</u> HEMistry	em <u>P</u> loyment
spe <u>C</u> ific	au <u>T</u> onomy	te <u>L</u> etry	con <u>T</u> ainment
-ical	-ogy	-ity	-edy
<u>C</u> HEMical	bi <u>Q</u> logy	a <u>B</u> ility	<u>C</u> OMedy
ana <u>T</u> omical	psy <u>C</u> Hology	cau <u>S</u> ality	<u>T</u> RAgedy

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Syllable Stress

-ify	-ive	-tion /-cion	
<u>S</u> PECify	ob <u>J</u> ective	cre <u>A</u> tion	sus <u>P</u> icion
<u>Q</u> UANTify	con <u>S</u> TRUCTive	mu <u>T</u> ation	exha <u>L</u> ation
-eous /-ious	-able /-ible	-ily	-is/-sis
cou <u>R</u> ageous	de <u>P</u> ENDable	tempo <u>R</u> ARily	derma <u>T</u> itis
advan <u>T</u> ageous	<u>T</u> ANGible	moment <u>A</u> Rily	rhi <u>N</u> itis

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Syllable Stress

-ogist	-cian /-sion	-graphy
psy <u>C</u> Hologist	cli <u>N</u> ician	son <u>Q</u> graphy
endocrin <u>Q</u> logist	in <u>C</u> Lusion	mamm <u>Q</u> graphy

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Syllable Stress

2. Give primary stress to the syllable that is TWO syllables before the following suffixes: **-ate**, **-ary** (for three syllable words), and **-ize**. We do not typically stress the **-ate** suffix. However, when the word becomes a noun and ends in **-tion**, the stress is shifted to one syllable before the new suffix.

MEDicate ⇌ mediCation

When you have FOUR or MORE syllables, stress ONE syllable before the **-ary** suffix (elementary, exemplary, rudimentary).

NOTE: Suffixes may have more than one syllable.

App <u>R</u> opriate	Estimate	re <u>F</u> rigerate
App <u>P</u> reciate	ma <u>N</u> ipulate	<u>C</u> alcul <u>a</u> te

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Rule # 8 - Sentence Level Stress

- Tend to stress the last important word in a sentence that carries new information.

*We'll discuss it at the **meeting**.*

*We'll discuss it at the **Director's** meeting.*
- Usually stress nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs (always, never, sometimes, another, so, very, etc.) and negatives

*She **always** arrives on time.*

*I **don't** think I'll finish it.*

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More Sentence Level Stress

- Rarely stress pronouns or prepositions unless contrastive stress is needed for emphasis
- Stress a word by saying it with a higher pitch, louder volume, and a longer key vowel sound
- Speed up on words that are *not* stressed
- Stress at least one word in a thought group

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More Sentence Level Stress

- Extremes of stress affect clarity and effectiveness of message
 - Minimal use of stress will sound boring, flat, and disinterested
 - Excess use of stress will sound unnatural and awkward
- Don't** stress two words next to each other
"It is very **late**", or "It is **very late**,"
but not, "It is **very late**."

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Activities

- Contrastive stress
- Paired activities
 - "The book is on the table."
Is the book **under** the table?
Is the **cup** on the table?
Is the book on the **chair**?

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Rule # 9 - Heteronyms

Two Syllable Words

- For a noun, the first syllable is stressed (higher, louder, longer)
project
- For a verb, the second syllable is stressed
project

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Heteronyms-Word Pairs

Two Syllables:

—	↙
.	.
Noun/Adj	Verb
contest	contest

He won the contest.

They will contest the will.

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Heteronyms

Three syllable words

- Both nouns and verbs stress the first syllable
- Verbs have primary stress on the first syllable, secondary stress on the third syllable and weak stress on the second syllable
graduate
- Nouns or adjectives have primary stress on the first syllable; short, unstressed second and third syllables, often changing the pronunciation of the last syllable
grad-u-it

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More Heteronyms

Three Syllables:

—	—
.	.
.	—
Noun	Verb
advocate	advocate He's a patient advocate .
	I will advocate for the child.
duplicate	duplicate Let's make a duplicate .
	She will duplicate the results.

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Rule # 10 - Reflexive Pronouns

Stress the suffix **-self** or **-selves**

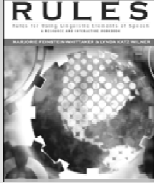
my self	him self
her self	it self
them selves	our selves
your self	your selves

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Resources

RULES: Rules for Using Linguistic Elements of Speech

- Pronunciation
- Stress and Intonation
- Linking words
- Grammar



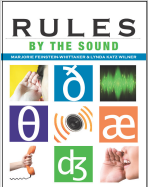
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Carryover Activities

RULES by the Sound Stories

Target:

- Pronunciation
- Stress patterns
- Linking
- Rate
- Vocabulary Development
- Cultural Awareness



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