

A12. Prosodic features of the English language

Aim: revise stress, rhythm, pitch, tempo, pause, and intonation in English speech.

Activity 1. Sentence stress and meaning.

Sentence	Word stressed	Meaning / emphasis
I didn't say he stole the money.		
I didn't say he stole the money.		
I didn't say he stole the money.		
I didn't say he stole the money.		

Activity 2. Mark intonation.

Utterance	Rising / Falling / Fall-rising	Reason
Are you ready?		
Where are you going?		
Really?		
I am sure.		
Would you like tea or coffee?		

Activity 3. Word stress sorting.

Word	Stress pattern
PHOtograph	
phoTOGraphy	
ecoNOmic	
ECONomy	
preSENT / PREsent	

Activity 4. Prosody performance.

Read the short dialogue twice: first without stress/intonation, then naturally. Note how stress, rhythm, pauses, and pitch help meaning. Write your observations.
