- There are many longer word endings where the last letter is –y. In words with these endings, the stress is placed on the syllable which is two from the end. Listen and notice the difference.

pub	lic		
pub	**lic**	i	ty

na	tion	al		
na	tio	**nal**	i	ty

pho	to	graph	
pho	**tog**	raph	y

de	mo	crat		
de	**mo**	cra	cy	

per	son			
per	son	al	i	ty

tech	nic	al	
tech	**no**	lo	gy

[22] Many words for school and university subjects have either the –y endings or the ending –ics.

Listen to the names of subjects in this text.

At school, I hated science subjects like physics, chemistry and biology, you know, and ... erm ... I wasn't very good at mathematics and things. I really liked subjects like history and geography. Anyway, when I went to university, I wanted to do economics, but I couldn't 'cause I was no good at maths, so in the end I did philosophy!



PRACTICE

4.1 Write the words from the box in the correct part of the table according to their stress pattern.

~~population~~ telecommunication nation identification relation communication pronunciation scientific clinic romantic pessimistic investigation public discussion

●•	
•●•	
••●•	population
•••●•	
••••●•	
•••••●•	

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4.2 **Combine each word below with one of the endings listed, and write the stress pattern of your new word. You may need to change, add or remove other letters to the first word.**

		-ion	-ic	-ity	
EXAMPLE	*inform*		*infor'mation*	*author*	*au'thority*

1.	introduce	_____	13.	person	_____
2.	base	_____	14.	universe	_____
3.	economy	_____	15.	public	_____
4.	describe	_____	16.	major	_____
5.	romance	_____	17.	nation	_____
6.	compete	_____	18.	real	_____
7.	optimist	_____	19.	able	_____
8.	celebrate	_____	20.	electric	_____
9.	diplomat	_____			
10.	operate	_____			
11.	explain	_____			
12.	decide	_____			

4.3 **[23] Mark the stress of these words. Then listen and check your answer.**

Verb	Noun	Adjective
ap'ply	appli'cation	ap'plicable
activate	activity	active
inform	information	informative
–	probability	probable
socialize	society	social
experiment	experiment	experimental
equal	equality	equal
unite	union	united
transfer	transfer	transferable

NOTE You may also notice differences in the vowel or consonant sounds. For example, in *social* /səʊʃl/ and *society* /səsaɪəti:/, the first vowel sound is different in each word.

Even when the word stress does not change, there may be differences in pronunciation of the basic form.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4.4 24 **Study the groups of sentences below. Complete the gaps and mark the stress of the words that you write in the gaps.**

1. We need to 'analyze the data.

   Statistical ___a'nalysis___ of the data provided some unexpected results.

   You need good ___ana'lytical___ skills for this kind of work.

2. The stomach pro'duces acids, which help to digest food.

   The new model should be in _____ in November.

   If the factory does not become more _____, it faces closure.

   The _____ was withdrawn from sale after a number of defects were identified.

3. Four alternative 'methods of payment are offered.

   She takes a very _____ approach to her work.

   They have been developing a new _____ for research in this area.

4. The president stated that eco'nomic development was the main priority.

   The chancellor is concerned that the _____ is overheating.

   She is studying _____ at Lancaster University.

5. Wages tend to be higher in the 'private sector.

   This law is intended to protect people's _____.

   The water services industry was _____ in the 1980s.

6. The heights of plants 'varied from 8 cm to 15 cm.

   A wide _____ of fruit is grown on the island.

   Regional _____ in the unemployment rate are significant.

   A number of _____, such as wind speed and direction, humidity and air pressure, need to be considered.

7. Both approaches yielded 'similar results.

   There are many _____ between the two religions.

   The firefighters resorted to industrial action to settle the dispute. _____, railway workers are threatening to strike because of changes in working practices.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

[25] ***Listen and fill in the gaps. Practice reading these sentences with correct word stress.***

1. Most of the course modules are compulsory, but there are two _____ modules.
2. The committee has not yet taken a _____ whether or not to award funding for the project.
3. It is important to start with a _____ of the term 'sustainable development', as it clearly means different things to different people.
4. Although solar power provides a _____ answer to some of the world's energy needs, at the moment the technology is quite expensive.
5. Have we really found a _____ to the problem?
6. It is hoped that the development of _____ intelligence will mean that computers will be able to think in the way humans do.
7. There is a lot of confusion, so it is essential to _____ the situation.
8. The stadium was built by an international _____ of construction companies.
9. There is a _____ for a laboratory technician, so the post will be advertised next week.
10. James Watson's _____ of Margaret Thatcher was published last month.
11. The organization plans to publish a new _____, with three issues a year.
12. Would you like me to bring anything _____ to dinner next week?
13. We will need to _____ the design of the equipment after a number of weaknesses were discovered in the testing process.
14. Professor Jones is a leading _____ on 17th-century Italian literature.
15. The _____ areas of the new town will be located well away from the industrial and commercial zones.

LIVEWORKSHEETS