

**Sentence Stress in English**

You have already learned that word stress is a major feature of English. Stress patterns go beyond the word level. Just as it sounds awkward to stress the syllables in a word incorrectly or to stress them all equally, it sounds unnatural to stress all the words in a sentence equally or improperly. Effective use of strong and weak emphasis in phrases and sentences will help you achieve your goal of sounding like a native English speaker.