

# PRONUNCIATION word stress

## Stress in two-syllable words

Approximately 80% of two-syllable words are stressed on the first syllable.

Most two-syllable nouns, adjectives, and adverbs are stressed on the first syllable, e.g. mother, happy, madly. However, many two-syllable verbs and prepositions or connectors are stressed on the second syllable, e.g. arrive, behind, before.

**a** Select the stressed syllable in these words from the story.

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across    after    again    along    although    awful

because    birthday    evening    invite    perfect    quickly

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**b** Listen and check. Practise saying the words.

**c** Invent a sentence using two or more words from **a**.

 *After dinner, we walked home across the park.*

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