# 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.

across after again along although awful

because birthday evening invite perfect quickly

**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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