

STRESS IN TWO-SYLLABLE WORDS WITH THE SAME SPELLING

Exercise 1: Speaking Practice

1. I'd like to **present** you with this award.
2. Your **present** was very thoughtful.
3. The company will **contract** more workers next month.
4. They signed the **contract** yesterday.
5. Please **record** your answers on the sheet.
6. I listened to the new **record** last night.

Exercise 2: Stress and Meaning

1. They **produce** cars in that factory.
Their **produce** is always fresh.
2. We need to **increase** our speed.
There's been an **increase** in prices.
3. I will **record** a new song.
That's my favorite **record**.
4. Please **permit** me to explain.
You need a **permit** to build here.
5. They **contracted** a serious disease.
We just signed a new **contract**.

Exercise 3: Mini Quiz — Choose the Correct Stress Pattern

1. We must ('increase / in'crease) our efforts to succeed.
2. The ('increase / in'crease) in population is worrying.
3. They ('import / im'port) luxury cars from Japan.
4. The ('import / im'port) tax has gone up.
5. I don't want to ('insult / in'sult) anyone.
6. He took it as a serious ('insult / in'sult).
7. Their ('contest / con'test) was exciting to watch.
8. They plan to ('contest / con'test) the results of the election.