

2 Pronunciation.

Word Stress for Important Information

When we are trying to make a point or persuade someone our argument is correct, we often stress or emphasise the words that we think are most important.

Listen to the example from debate.

*'We believe that **governments** are responsible for stopping global warming.'*

The word government is stressed because the speaker is arguing that governments are responsible for stopping global warming, so the word '*governments*' is important.

1 Listen to the extracts 1-4 from the debate below.

Underline the word that the speaker emphasises in each sentence.

- 1 In our opinion, individuals are responsible for stopping global warming.
- 2 I understand, but money is not as important as saving the planet.
- 3 However, we do not believe people will change their lifestyles unless governments change laws and policies.
- 4 If we want to reduce global warming, we all have to change our habits.

2 Practise saying each sentence and emphasising the word you underlined.