



Word Stress

By: Paola Álvarez

Practice your listening skills

In this activity, **you will learn to recognize the stressed syllable** (or word stress) in common English words. You will listen carefully to each word to identify which syllable is pronounced with greater emphasis and length.

It is the part of the word that we pronounce with more force.

Example: in 'teacher', the stressed syllable is 'TEA'.

In English, **word stress** is key for clear speech. Not all syllables carry the same weight; one stands out through changes in pitch, force, and length. Mastering this helps you sound more natural.

Concept	Definition and example
Stressed Syllable	It's the part of the word we say with more force. Example: in 'teacher', the stressed syllable is 'TEA'.

Listening Identification Practice

Instructions: Listen to the audio and choose the correct option where the UPPERCASE letters show the strongest syllable.

- communication**
 - comMUniCation
 - commuNlication
 - comMUniCation
- photographer**
 - PHOtographer
 - phoTOgrapher
 - photoGRapher
- information**
 - inforMAtion

- b) INformation
- c) inFORMation
- 4. **education**
 - a) eduCAtion
 - b) EDUcation
 - c) educaTION
- 5. **development**
 - a) deVELOpment
 - b) DEVELOpment
 - c) developMENT
- 6. **important**
 - a) imPORtant
 - b) IMportant
 - c) imporTANT
- 7. **culture**
 - a) CULTure
 - b) culTURE
 - c) culTUre
- 8. **economy**
 - a) ecoNOMy
 - b) EConomy
 - c) econoMY
- 9. **decision**
 - a) deCIStion
 - b) DEcision
 - c) deciSION
- 10. **international**
 - a) interNAtional
 - b) INternational
 - c) internatioNAL

Important tip



Stress is key to sounding natural when speaking English. Pay attention to how rhythm changes the meaning and flow of your sentences.