# Pronunciation activities: Part 10 by Adrian Tennant



### Stress matters: Who's my partner?

Level: All

Target age: Adults and teenagers

**Time needed:** 10–15 minutes for each activity

**Summary:** This lesson focuses on word stress.

#### Note

- These activities can be done one after the other or separately, depending on how much time you want to spend on word stress within one lesson and whether or not you want to stick to one set of words.
- The activity ideas on this worksheet are adaptable, so the vocabulary here is just a suggestion. You can replace the vocabulary with words which are more relevant to your students.
- I've chosen word sets for exercises 1 and 3, but there is no reason why all the words need to be linked to a particular topic.

#### Exercise 1

- 1. On the board write up the words *cherry* and *apricot*.
- Say the two words and ask the students to tell you where the stress is. Alternatively, write up two alternative stress patterns and ask the students to choose the correct one:

cherry ● • apricot ● • •

- Explain to the students that you will play a recording with different words. The students should listen and choose the correct stress pattern for each word.
- 4. Hand out the worksheet and play the recording.
- Put the students in pairs and ask them to check together.
- 6. Play the recording again, if necessary.
- 7. Check as a class.

#### Key:

- 5. banana b) ● ; 6. broccoli a) ●
- 7. supermarket a) 

   • •;
- 8. ingredients b)  $\bullet$   $\bullet$   $\bullet$ ; 9. avocado c)  $\bullet$   $\bullet$

#### Exercise 2

- 1. On the board write up the words *computer* and *telephone*.
- Say the words and ask the students if they have the same (or different) stress patterns.
   computer ● telephone ● ●
- 3. Explain to the students that you will play a recording

with different words. The students should listen and put the words in the correct column depending on the stress pattern.

- 4. Hand out the worksheet and play the recording.
- 5. Put the students in pairs and ask them to check together.
- 6. Play the recording again, if necessary.
- 7. Check as a class.

#### Key:

	•	• •	•••
friend girl	answer happy	become correct	beautiful oranges
• • •	••••	• • • •	••••
departure romantic	exercises fascinating	ability intelligent	optimistic population

#### Exercise 3

- Make a copy of the cards and cut them up. You
  will need one card per student. If you have a class
  of 16 students, remove one word card and the
  corresponding stress card. If you have a class with
  more than 18 students then make another set
  of cards, so you have one for each student. Add
  new words if you want.
- 2. On the board write the word *monkey* and the following two stress patterns: 

   / •
- 3. Ask your students which of the stress patterns is correct for the word *monkey* ( •).
- 4. Explain that some students will have a word card, and some will have a stress card. The students walk around the room; the students with a word card saying their words and the students with the stress cards listening to find their partner.
- 5. Hand out the cards and ask the students to stand up, walk around and try and find their partner.
- 6. Monitor and help where necessary.
- 7. When the students find their partner they should sit down together.

Note: This is a good activity for making new pairs.

#### Key:



#### Exercise 4

- 1. On the board write up the words *photograph* and *photographer*.
- 2. Say the words and ask the students if they have the



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same (or different) stress patterns. Then ask for a volunteer to come up to the board and <u>underline</u> the stressed syllable:

<u>pho</u>tograph pho<u>tog</u>rapher

- 3. Explain to the students that sometimes words that have the same root don't have the same syllable stressed. Tell the students you will play a recording with different words and they should mark the syllable that is stressed in each one.
- 4. Hand out the worksheet and play the recording.
- 5. Put the students in pairs and ask them to check together.
- 6. Play the recording again, if necessary.
- 7. Check as a class.

#### Key:

national nationality
 participate participation
 equal equality
 person personality
 electric electrician



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### Worksheet

#### **Exercise 1**



Listen to the words and choose the correct stress patterns.

- 1. breakfast
- b)

- 2. shallot

- 3. lemon
- b)

- 4. recipe

- 5. banana 6. broccoli

- 7. supermarket

8. ingredients

9. avocado

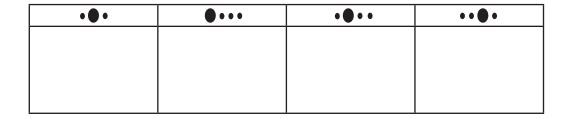
**Exercise 2** 



Listen to the words and put each one in the correct column.

ability answer beautiful become departure exercises fascinating correct friend girl intelligent optimistic oranges population romantic happy

••	• •	•••





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Exercise 3					
goat		zebra	••		
giraffe	••	octopus	•••		
koala	•••	kangaroo	•••		
caterpillar	•••	rhinoceros	•••		
hippopotamus	••••				

#### **Exercise 4**



Listen to the words and  $\underline{underline}$  the stressed syllable.

Example: photograph photographer

1. national nationality

2. participate participation

3. equal equality

4. person personality

5. electric electrician