

Pronunciation & intonation: practice

Where is the stress in the following words?

-ENCE	-ATE	-ISE/IZE	-BLE
negligence	relate	compromise	horrible
preference	negate	legalise	legible
reference	equate	exercise	flexible
difference	debate	analyse	possible
conference	indicate	summarise	probable
	celebrate	centralize	capable
	cultivate	urbanise	sensible
	regulate		sociable
	hesitate		

In words ending with **-ENCE**, the stress usually comes on the syllable.

In words ending with **-ATE**, the stress usually comes on the syllable if there are two and on the syllable if there are three syllables.

In words ending with **-ISE/IZE**, the stress usually comes on the syllable.

In words ending with **-BLE**, the stress usually comes on the syllable.

Multiple consonants: CRISPS – MONTHS – DEPTHS – CLOTHES – TWELFTHS – LENGTHS – MATHS - THISTLES

Now say these sentences:

1. She acts as our contact during conflicts but our boss often contradicts her.
2. How supple are you? Can you do the splits?
3. It's fun to splash pedestrians when you drive in the rain.
4. Let's do some maths. What are five twelfths of 144?
5. What are your strengths?

Transparent words

Beware of the pronunciation of words that look very similar in French for example:

catastrophe, maintenance, example, syllable

Read these sentences aloud.

1. Live dangerously. Do your show live.
2. The hobbit Frodo gave a low bow.
3. We had a row while we were dividing the table up into columns and rows.
4. Tear free onion goggles. Tear here to open.
5. My idea is to read out the article I read to you earlier.
6. The leader Sean looked at the sea and his heart felt like lead as he put his ear to his leather bear. He then speared some pears.
7. The bandage was wound around the wound.
8. The farm was used to produce produce.
9. The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
10. We must polish the Polish furniture.
11. He could lead the experiment if he could only get the lead out.
12. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
13. Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present.
14. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
15. I did not object to the object.
16. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.