

STRESS AND INTONATION

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English is stress-timed language i.e., stressed syllables appear at a roughly steady tempo, where as non-stressed syllables are shortened. In spoken language, grammatical words like helping verbs, prepositions, pronouns, articles do not receive any stress. Lexical words like nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs must have atleast one stressed syllable.

The symbol [ˈ] in front of a syllable indicates that the syllable is stressed.

Intonation deals with stress of words to make a certain emphasis. Intonation is the variation of the pitch while speaking. Intonation and stress are two main elements of linguistic prosody. Intonation is the rise and fall of pitch in our voice. It plays a crucial role in how we express meaning. A sentence can be spoken differently depending on the speaker's intention.