

Lecture No. 3 (Second Year)

Chapter Ten: Stress in Simple Words (pages-77-79)

Two-syllable Words

Placing stress on two-syllable words is a bit more difficult than giving stress to one-syllable words, as we have **two options** here. Either the **first** or the **second** syllable is to be stressed.

Important rules:

- 1. There is a tendency for nouns to be stressed nearer the beginning of the word (to the left side of the word).**
- 2. There is a tendency for verbs and adjectives to be stressed nearer the end of the word (to the right side of the word).**
- 3. We cannot give stress to both syllables. This means that only one of them is given primary stress.**

Verbs:

- To give stress to a verb of two syllables, we first look at the final syllable. If the final syllable is strong, we give it stress.
- If the final syllable is weak, we give stress to the first syllable.

Examples:

1. Apply /ə. 'plai/

- In this verb, the **final** syllable is **strong** with the diphthong /ai/, so we directly give it stress without even looking at the first syllable.

2. enter /'en.tə/

- In this verb, the final syllable is weak with schwa, so we go back to the first syllable and give stress.

For more examples on verbs, have a look at page 77.

Adjectives:

- Adjectives are stressed using the same rules of verbs.

Examples:

1. divine /di.vaɪn/

- The final syllable is stressed because it is strong with the diphthong /ai/.

2. even /i:.vən/

- The final syllable is weak with a schwa, so we go back to the first syllable and give it stress.