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القسم او الفرع : اللغة الانكليزية

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اسم المادة باللغة العربية : الصوت

اسم المادة باللغة الإنكليزية : **Phonetics and Phonology: An Introduction**

اسم المحاضرة الثامنة باللغة العربية: العوامل المؤثرة على تشديد المقاطع

اسم المحاضرة الثامنة باللغة الإنكليزية : **What Makes a Syllable Prominent? Four**

**:Factors**

## What Makes a Syllable Prominent? Four Factors:

There are **four factors** that make a syllable **prominent**: **loudness**, **length**, **pitch** and **quality**.

1. **loudness**: Most people seem to feel that stressed syllables are louder than unstressed syllables; in other words, loudness is a component of prominence. In a sequence of identical syllables (e.g. ba:ba:ba:ba:), if one syllable is made louder than the others, it will be heard as stressed.
2. **Length**: If one of the syllables in our "nonsense word" ba:ba:ba:ba: is made longer than the others, there is quite a strong tendency for that syllable to be heard as stressed.
3. **Pitch**: pitch in speech is closely related to the frequency of vibration of the vocal folds. It refers to the rate of vibrations producing a sound; the degree of highness or lowness of a tone. If one syllable of our "nonsense word" is said with a pitch that is noticeably different from that of the others, this will have a strong tendency to produce the effect of prominence. For example, if all syllables are said with low pitch except for one said with high pitch, then the high-pitched syllable will be heard as stressed and the others as unstressed. To place some movement of pitch (e.g. rising or falling) on a syllable is even more effective in making it sound prominent.

4. **Quality**: A syllable will tend to be prominent if it contains a vowel that is different in quality from neighbouring vowels. If we change one of the vowels in our "nonsense word" (e.g. ba:bi:ba:ba:) the "odd" syllable bi: will tend to be heard as stressed.

Prominence, then, is produced by **four main factors**: (i) loudness, (ii) length, (iii) pitch and (iv) quality. Generally these four factors work together in combination, although syllables may sometimes be made prominent by means of only one or two of them. Experimental work has shown that these factors are not equally important; the strongest effect is produced by **pitch**, and **length** is also a powerful factor. Loudness and quality have much less effect.

## Levels of Stress

- There are 3 levels of stress in English: **primary**, **secondary**, and completely **unstressed** syllables.
- Some syllables are **louder** and **longer**, some syllables are **shorter** and **quieter**, and some syllables are **in-between**.
- 1. **Primary Stress**: The syllable with the Primary Stress is the **loudest** and **longest** syllable in a word. In one-syllable words, that one syllable gets **the primary stress**.

- Examples:
- “blue” = /BLUUU/
- “ten” = /TEHN/
- The only exceptions to this rule are a handful of function words like “the” which are usually **unstressed** or **reduced**.
- Primary stress is marked in IPA by putting a raised vertical line [ˈ] at the beginning of the syllable.
- **2. Secondary Stress:** These are the syllables that are **stressed**, but **not as much the primary stress**, so they are **loud** and **long** with a change in pitch, but not *as* loud or *as* long as the syllables that get the primary stress. The change in pitch on the vowel is not quite as noticeable.
- **Example:**
- “disappear” = /DIH-suh **PEEER**/ (syllable with secondary stress is underlined)
- Secondary stress is marked with a lowered vertical line [ˌ] at the beginning of the syllable.
- **3. The completely Unstressed Syllable:** These are the syllables that have **no stress at all** so we rush through them and **shorten** them so much that the vowel in the syllable is almost **completely gone**. The change in pitch on the vowel is barely noticeable, but it is there.
- **Example:**

- “prepare” = /pruh-PAIR/ (unstressed syllable is underlined)
- In English, almost all of these have schwa [ə] for their vowel, though [i] will also often be unstressed, like the [i] in *happy* ['hæpi]. (Very rarely, another non-schwa vowel might be unstressed, like the [o] of *potato* [pə'teɪto] for most speakers.)
- A good example of the difference between secondary stress and the complete absence of stress is the final syllable of *delegate*, used as a verb and used as a noun.
- [ˈdɛləˌɡet] verb: You have to delegate your responsibilities
- [ˈdɛləɡət] noun: We elected a delegate to the national committee.