



Help with pronunciation Unit 11 and 12

Stress patterns in short phrases

As we have seen in previous work, stress patterns can occur in syllables or short phrases. Sometimes the stress pattern can be different from expected, if part of the message is given special emphasis for some reason.

For example, in the short radio telephony phrase 'Say your endurance' look how the emphasis changes in the following stress patterns:

'**S**ay your endurance' i.e.: do not whisper it or shout it

'Say **y**our endurance' i.e.: the endurance of your aircraft rather than someone else's

'Say your **e**ndurance' i.e.: not your flight level or other information

Although it may be argued that the stress patterns above are too contrived for relevance on frequency, the point remains that stress can be used for emphasis in a short phrase.

Task 1

Write down some short phrases that you know from your work on frequency. The phrases should not contain more than four words. Consider where the stress occurs in the syllables in the phrases and then in the words. How do you think the emphasis would change if you shifted the word stress?

Task 2

Play the game 'Find the plane on the wrong track'