



Help with pronunciation Unit 3 and 4

Stress in words

Words ending *-ion*

All words, in English, of over two syllables have one syllable which is stressed more than the others. Putting stress on the correct syllable in the word is very important in English. If you get it wrong words can become difficult to understand. You can indicate this stress by making the syllable slightly longer, raising the intonation of your voice slightly or saying it slightly louder than the others.

In Aviation English, you will encounter many words that end with *-tion* or *-sion*. This ending is pronounced /ʃ(ə)n/ and /ʒ(ə)n/. You have already encountered the following words in your Student's Book before the end of Unit 4.

Consider:

Words ending in <i>-tion</i>				Words ending in <i>-sion</i>
Vowel in previous syllable =				
<i>a</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>u</i>	
communication	direction	position	instruction	incursion transmission collision
operation	protection		construction	
destination	prevention		disruption	
navigation	ingestion			
conversation	intersection			
separation				
pressurisation				
clarification				
investigation				
regulation				
privatisation				
administration				

In all these words, the stress falls on the syllable before the ending (-Oo).

Task 1

Order the words above into the following boxes according to their stressed syllable.

oOo	
ooOo	
oooOo	

All of the above nouns started as verbs to which the ending *-ion* has been added to make a noun. In some of the words when this happens the stress is not the same as it was in the original verb.



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Task 2

Tick the correct stress pattern for the verbs below:

	Oo	oO	Ooo	oOo	oOoo	ooOo
direct						
operate						
communicate						
transmit						
construct						
separate						
ingest						
administrate						
disrupt						
privatise						
collide						

Which ending changes the stressed syllable in the verb? _____

What do you notice about two syllable verbs? _____

Task 3

Write three sentences including one or more of the above words in noun or verb form.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Find the stress in all words of two or more syllables, using a dictionary or asking for help from your teacher. Practise saying the sentences, stressing the correct syllables. When you are confident, say your sentences to your partner to write down.