

A Individual words have a stress pattern, that is a pattern of strong and weak syllables. Sentences also have a stress pattern, and this is **sentence stress**. Sometimes a word and a sentence have the same stress pattern. Listen to the following examples:

[https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK\\_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/09\\_B9.wma](https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/09_B9.wma)

Ooo		oOo		ooO	
word	sentence	word	sentence	word	sentence
photograph	Answer me	September	Excuse me.	afternoon	Do you <b>smoke</b> ?
Canada	<b>Doesn't</b> he?	tomorrow	I <b>think</b> so.	Japanese	One of <b>these</b> ?
cabbages	<b>Copy</b> it!	remember	He <b>told</b> her.	Portuguese	He's <b>arrived</b> .

B Short sentence in English have some typical stress patterns. Listen to the examples:

[https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK\\_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/10\\_B10.wma](https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/10_B10.wma)

OoO	OoOo	oOoO	OooO	ooOo
What's the <b>time</b> ?	See you <b>later</b> !	A <b>piece</b> of <b>cake</b> .	What do you <b>do</b> ?	Are you <b>coming</b> ?
<b>Yes</b> , of <b>course</b> .	<b>Pleased</b> to <b>meet</b> you!	The <b>shop</b> was <b>closed</b> .	<b>Where</b> do you <b>live</b> ?	Do you <b>like</b> it?
<b>Thanks</b> a <b>lot</b> .	<b>Can't</b> you <b>hear</b> me?	It's <b>time</b> to <b>go</b> .	<b>Give</b> me a <b>call</b> .	Is he <b>happy</b> ?

C There is normally a space between stressed syllables in a sentence. Unstressed syllables can be put in that space. The space stays more or less the same length whether one or more unstressed syllables are pushed into it. So for example, these three sentences take about the same length of time to say. Listen:

[https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK\\_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/11\\_B11.wma](https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/11_B11.wma)

**OOO** Don't tell **Mike**.  
**OoOoOo** Go and **speak** to **Mary**.  
**OooOooOoo** **Hurry** and **give** it to **Jonathan**.

D Stress pattern can help you hear the difference between similar sentences. For example, verbs with negative endings **-n't** are always stressed. This helps us to hear the difference between **can** and **can't** in the following sentence, because the two sentences have different stress patterns:

ooO He can **talk**.                      oOO He **can't** **talk**.

Listen and underline the sentence which does not have the same stress pattern as the word at the beginning of the line:

[https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK\\_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/12\\_B12.wma](https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/12_B12.wma)

- |        |           |                 |                |                |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Ooo | Cinema    | Wasn't it?      | Hasn't she?    | Don't you?     |
| 2. oOo | tomato    | Close the door. | He told me.    | I like it.     |
| 3. ooO | afternoon | Does he drive?  | Were you cold? | What happened? |
| 4. oOo | December  | It's open.      | They arrived.  | They listened. |

23.2. Write these sentences in the correct column. Then listen, check and repeat:

1. The bus was late. 2. Come and look. 3. Close the window. 4. What do you want. 5. The water's cold. 6. Give me a call. 7. What did she say? 8. Phone and tell me. 9. Nice to see you. 10. Where's the car? 11. It's cold and wet. 12. What's the time?

[https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK\\_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/13\\_B13.wma](https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/13_B13.wma)

OooO	oOoO	OoO	OoOo

23.3 Listen and write the sentence with the patterns below:

[https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK\\_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/14\\_B14.wma](https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/14_B14.wma)

OOO  
 OoOoOo  
 OooOooOoo

23.4 Listen and underline the sentence you hear, A or B:

[https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK\\_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/15\\_B15.wma](https://is.muni.cz/auth/el/1441/jaro2008/ZS1BK_AF2B/um/5356076/5358362/15_B15.wma)

1. I can swin/I can't swim. 2. Are you coming?/Aren't you coming? 3. We were tired./We weren't tired.  
 4. She can help you/ She can't help you. 5. Can you see?/Can't you see? 6. They were talking./They weren't talking.