#### ESLDO Word Stress Exercise

**LEARNING GOALS:** use appropriately a variety of pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation patterns of spoken English to communicate meaning accurately.

English words have different stress patterns. This exercise looks at two syllable words that have the stress on the first syllable, second syllable, or variable stress.

Variable stress means that these words have stress on the first syllable as a noun, and stress on the second syllable as a verb.

answer attempt comfort conduct control convict decay defeat	display favour gossip honour increase mistake parade picture	present produce question rebel record regard regret shower	subject support suspect transport treasure visit
<ol> <li>Stress on t first syllab</li> </ol>		ess on the ond syllable	3. Variable stress
'an-swer	at-'te	empt '	con-duct/con-'duct

## Word Stress Answer Key

I usually get the students to try and determine the stress of these words together, and then we take up the answers/ discuss. I also have them make some practice sentences. After that, I work on the subject-verb agreement exercises for pronouns such as much, some, none, etc. Then both the word stress and use of subject-verb agreement are incorporated into a dialogue that they write with a partner, as indicated below.

<u>First</u> syllable stress	Second syllable stress	<u>Variable</u> stress
answer	attempt	conduct
comfort	control	convict
favour	decay	increase
gossip	defeat	present
honour	display	produce
picture	mistake	rebel
question	parade	record
shower	regard	subject
treasure	regret	suspect
visit	support	transport

SUBJECT/VERB AGREEMENT & INDEFINITE PRONOUNS The following pronouns and adjectives can be used as the subject of a sentence. Which words are always singular, always plural, or either, depending on the situation? Beside each word, write singular, plural, or either. Also, write an example sentence using the word as the subject.

1. *both-* <u>plural</u> e.g. Both of my parents are teachers.

2. *some-* <u>either</u> e.g. Some buildings are tall. Some of the information is private.

3. *much-* singular e.g. Much time is needed to do the assignment.

4. none \_\_\_\_\_\_

5. nothing
6. all
7. most
8. each
9. a lot
10. several
11. either
12. anyone
13. one
14. neither
15. many

### Subject words that are singular, plural, or either

Fill in the words in the appropriate boxes below:


3. Some words are always singular. One (of my brothers) is a musician. Neither (of my parents) is living. Much (of my time) is spent in the library. Each (of my brothers) wants his own car. Either (of my sisters) is able to baby-sit for you tonight. Nothing ever happens in my life. Is anyone home? A few words are always plural. Both (of my parents) are teachers. Several (of the teachers) speak my language. Many (of my friends) work in the library. 5. A few words can be either singular or plural. In these cases, you must refer to the noun in the prepositional phrase. Some (of the money) was missing. (singular) Some (of the students) were missing. (plural) All (of my time) is spent in the library. (singular) All (of my brothers) are singers. (plural) Most (of the ice) was melted. (singular) Most (of the ice cubes) were melted. (plural) A lot (of the work) was too easy. (singular) A lot (of the people) were angry. (plural) None (of the fruit) is fresh. (singular) None (of the apples) are fresh. (plural)

## Answer Keys

both <u>plural</u>
 some <u>either</u>
 much <u>singular</u>
 none <u>either</u>
 nothing <u>singular</u>
 all <u>either</u>
 all <u>either</u>
 most <u>either</u>
 each <u>singular</u>
 a lot <u>either</u>
 several <u>plural</u>
 several <u>plural</u>
 either <u>singular</u>
 anyone <u>singular</u>
 one <u>singular</u>
 neither <u>singular</u>
 many <u>plural</u>

Subject words that are singular, plural, or either Fill in the words in the appropriate boxes below:					
singular	plural	either			
much	both	some			
nothing	several	none			
each	many	all			
either		most			
anyone		a lot			
one					
neither					

#### **Exercise : Subject and Verb Agreement Exercise**

Choose the correct form of the verb that agrees with the subject.

- 1. Education make/makes people more successful.
- 2. Either my mother or my father (is, are) coming to the meeting.
- 3. Either my shoes or your coat (is, are) always on the floor.
- 4. George and Tamara (doesn't, don't) want to see that movie.
- 5. Benito (doesn't, don't) know the answer.
- 6. One of my sisters (is, are) going on a trip to France.
- 7. The man with all the birds (live, lives) on my street.
- 8. The movie, including all the previews, (take, takes) about two hours to watch.
- 9. Some of the book (is, are) boring.
- 10. Neither answer (is, are) acceptable.
- 11. Each of those books (appear, appears) interesting.
- 12. Nobody (know, knows) the trouble I've seen.
- 13. (Is, Are) the news on at five or six?
- 14. Most of the cities in Canada (has, have) good transit systems.
- 15. All of the scenery in Alberta (is, are) beautiful.
- 16. (Is, Are) the tweezers in this drawer?
- 17. Your pants (is, are) at the cleaner's.
- 18. There (was, were) fifteen candies in that bag. Now there (is, are) only one left!
- 19. The team (plays, play) three times per week.
- 20. A lot of vegetation (grow, grows) in rain forests.
- 21. All of the CDs, even the scratched one, (is, are) in this case.

#### Answers : Subject and Verb Agreement Exercise

- 1. Education /makes people more successful.
- 2. Either my mother or my father is coming to the meeting.
- 3. Either my shoes or your coat is always on the floor.
- 4. George and Tamara don't want to see that movie.
- 5. Benito doesn't know the answer.
- 6. One of my sisters is going on a trip to France.
- 7. The man with all the birds lives on my street.
- 8. The movie, including all the previews, takes about two hours to watch.
- 9. Some of the book (is) boring.
- 10. Neither answer is acceptable.
- 11. Each of those books appears interesting.
- 12. Nobody knows the trouble I've seen.
- 13. Is the news on at five or six?
- 14. Most of the cities in Canada have good transit systems.
- 15. All of the scenery in Alberta (is) beautiful.
- 16. Are the tweezers in this drawer?
- 17. Your pants are at the cleaner's.
- 18. There were fifteen candies in that bag. Now there is only one left!
- 19. The team (plays,) three times per week.
- 20. A lot of vegetation grows) in rain forests.
- 21. All of the CDs, even the scratched one, are in this case.

## ESLDO **Dialogue Presentation- Word Stress**

**LEARNING GOALS- (1)** demonstrate understanding of more complex spoken English on a variety of topics in interactive situations **(2)** engage in more complex spoken interactions on a variety of topics **(3)** present ideas and information orally for academic purposes in a variety of situations **(4)** use correctly the grammatical structures of spoken English **(5)** use appropriately a variety of pronunciation, stress, rhythm, and intonation patterns of spoken English to communicate meaning accurately **(6)** produce draft pieces of writing using a variety of strategies and models **(7)** revise, edit, and proofread drafts using a variety of strategies.

Date of Presentation:\_\_\_

You will write a dialogue (conversation) with a partner. Each student must speak at least 8 sentences. Write a rough draft with your partner and check it for errors. You will rewrite the dialogue and hand in the final copy to the teacher <u>before</u> your presentation. You will practice the presentation with your partner before you perform it in class. You will be required to do the presentation without reading. Please carefully read the <u>evaluation</u> on the back.

<u>Use the following words from the handout on word stress, and</u> <u>use the examples of subject-verb agreement:</u>

\*2 words with stress on the 1<sup>st</sup> syllable (1 for each person) \*2 words with stress on the 2<sup>nd</sup> syllable (1 for each person) \*4 words with variable stress (You can choose whether to use 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> syllable stress on these words) (2 for each person) \*4 examples of correct subject-verb agreement (2 for each person)

# You can choose any topic that you want. Each student must have an <u>equal amount of</u> <u>speaking</u> in the dialogue. It can be a true story or an imaginary story.

You must <u>not read</u> the dialogue.

-You must speak loudly and clearly. Do not speak too slowly or quickly (use good fluency).

-You must use appropriate body language and eye contact. Face your body toward the audience, but look at your partner.

-You must hand in the final copy of your dialogue to the teacher <u>before</u> your presentation.

Level	O Remedial- below 50%	Below Provincial Standard- 50-59%	2 Approaches Provincial Standard- 60-69%	<b>3</b> Meets Provincial Standard- 70-79%	4 Exceeds Provincial Standard- 80-100%	total <b>/40</b>
WRITING STRAND Revising & Editing- interesting, logical <u>dialogue</u> created through revision process (APPLICATION)	Unacceptable clarity and interest of dialogue	Clarity and interest of dialogue need improvement	Somewhat clear, interesting dialogue	Clear, interesting dialogue	Extremely clear, interesting dialogue	/10
SPEAKING STRAND Sound Patterns- use <u>4</u> <u>stressed words</u> appropriately to convey meaning(COMMUNICATION)	Unacceptable use of stress	Use of stress needs improvement	Fair use of stress	Good use of stress	Excellent use of stress	/10
Sound Patterns- speak clearly with correct pronunciation (COMMUNICATION)	Unacceptable clarity in pronunciation	Unclear pronunciation	Fairly clear pronunciation	Clear pronunciation	Extremely clear pronunciation	
SPEAKING STRAND Grammatical Structures- effective use of grammar including <u>2 examples of</u> <u>subject-verb agreement</u> with pronouns (COMMUNICATION)	Unacceptable use of grammar/ subject-verb agreement	Use of grammar/ subject-verb agreement needs improvement	Fair use of grammar/ subject- verb agreement	Effective use of grammar/ subject-verb agreement	Extremely effective use of grammar/ subject-verb agreement	/10
SPEAKING STRAND Speaking to Interact- <i>fluency:</i> speaks at a good pace without stopping, forgetting or using interjections(COMMUNICATION)	Unacceptable fluency in speaking	Poor fluency in speaking	Fair fluency in speaking	Good fluency in speaking	Excellent fluency in speaking	/10