

STRESS ON COMPLEX WORDS

WHAT IS STRESS?

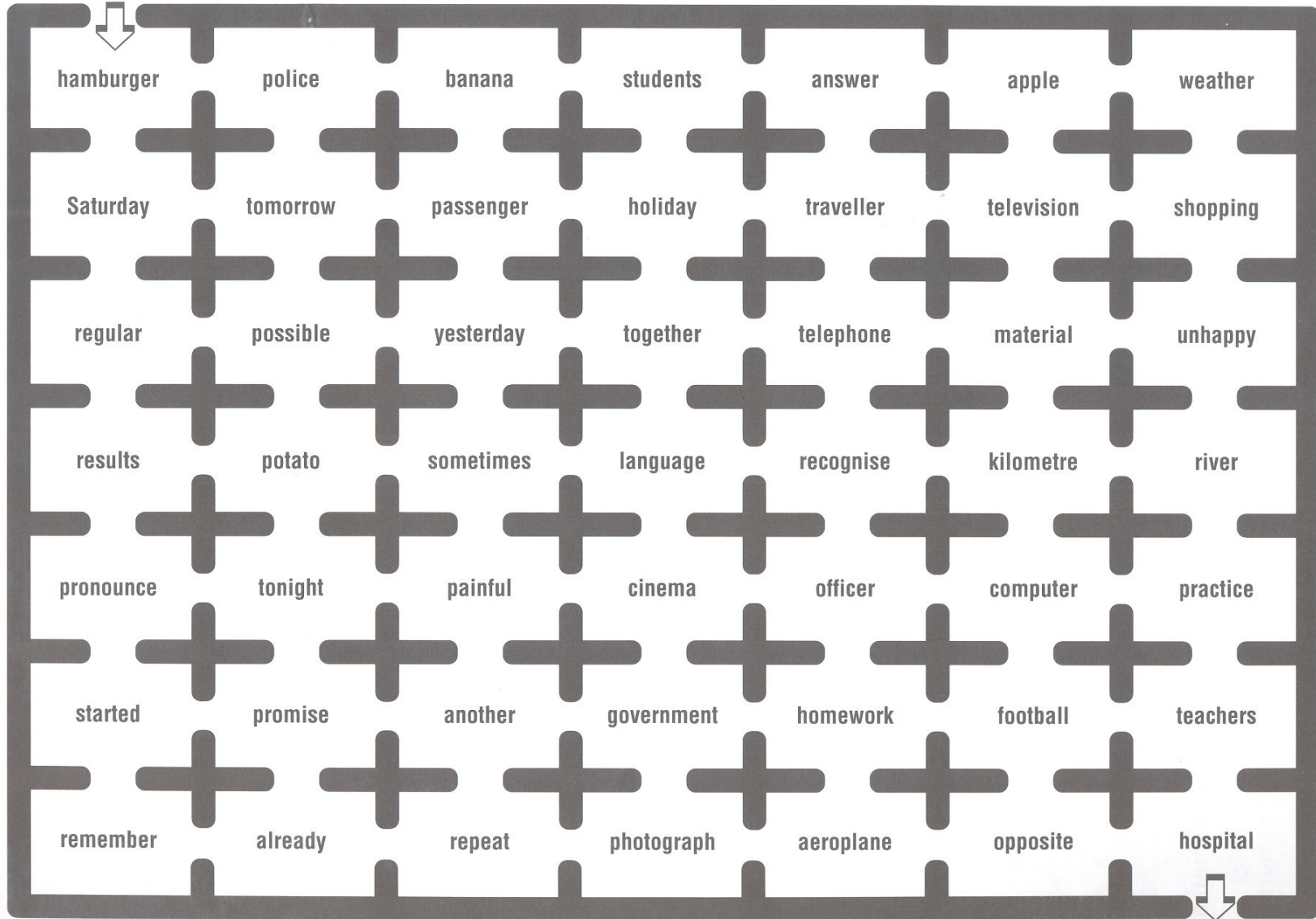
- Production: speaker's use of a more muscular energy used than in unstressed syllable.
- Perception: Stressed syllable are more prominence than unstressed one(s), typically characterized as having:
 - Louder sound
 - Longer sound
 - Higher pitch
 - Different quality

LEVEL OF STRESS

- ◉ Unstressed: having no recognizable amount of prominence.
- ◉ Primary stress (‘): Stress which has the most prominence.
- ◉ Secondary stress (,): Stronger than unstressed but weaker than the primary stress.
- ◉ Identify three of them on the following words:

Pronunciation Photographic

STRESS MAZE



PLACEMENT OF STRESS

- ◉ Which syllables do we stress?
- ◉ Generally, stress rules can depend on:
 - ◉ The grammatical category
(abstract, conduct, export, present)
 - ◉ The number of syllables
 - ◉ The phonological structure
 - ◉ Whether it's a simple or complex word

THE PHONOLOGICAL STRUCTURE

- **Strong syllable**

A rhyme which either has a syllable nucleus which is a long vowel or diphthong, or a vowel followed by more than one coda. A strong syllable is stressed.

- **Weak syllable**

A rhyme which has a syllable nucleus which is a short vowel and no coda or the syllable nucleus is the schwa vowel.

A weak syllable is not stressed.

- **Exception:**

Honest, Perfect.

WHAT IS COMPLEX WORDS?

- ◉ Words composed more than one grammatical unit
- ◉ Example: care~~less~~ness
- ◉ Two types of complex words:
 - a. words made by basic words (stem)
by adding affixes (prefix or suffix)
(prefix) un + (stem) pleasant
(stem) good + (suffix) ness
 - b. compound words

AFFIX

- ◉ receiving primary stress
semicircle, personality.
- ◉ stress on the stem
untidy, market**ing**
- ◉ stress shifted to different syllable
magnet > magnet**ic**

SUFFIXES CARRYING STRESS

- -ee : refugee, evacuee
- -eer: mountainer, volunteer
- -ese: Portugese, journalese, Japanese.

SUFFIXES NOT AFFECTING STRESS PLACEMENT

- -able: comfort**able**
- -age: anchor**age**
- -al: refus**al**
- -ful: wonder**ful**
- -like: bird**like**
- -less: power**less**
- -ly: hurried**ly**
- -ness: happi**ness**
- -ous: poison**ous**
- -fy: glor**ify**

SUFFIXES THAT INFLUENCE STRESS IN STEM

- -ous : advantag**eous**
- -graphy: phot**ography**
- -ial: proverb**ial**
- -ic: climat**ic**
- -ion: perfect**ion**
- -ty: tranq**uility**
- -ive: reflex**ive**

COMPOUND WORDS

- ◉ Words that are characterized as having two independent words. Armchair, open-minded, desk lamp.
- ◉ Normally on the first word:
typewriter, sunrise, car ferry, suitcase, teacup.
- ◉ Adjectival first element:
bad-tempered, ugly-looking, half-timbered, heavy-handed. (with secondary stress being the first word)
- ◉ First element as number:
second-class, three-wheeler, five-finger.
- ◉ Functioning as adverbs:
down stream, head first, North-East.
- ◉ Functioning as verbs:
downgrade, ill-treat, back-pedal.

VARIABLE STRESS

- Not all stress pattern is fixed, either because of other words occurring next to the word in question or because not all speakers agree on the placement of stress.
- A final stressed compounds tend to move to the preceding syllables:
bad-tempered and a bad-tempered person
heavy-handed and a heavy-handed sentence
- Disagreement among speakers:
Controversy, ice cream, kilometer,
formidable.

THE ODD ONE OUT?

- ◉ English, Short, Sleep, Observe.
- ◉ Permit, Subject, Eject, Contrast.
- ◉ Otherwise, Chinese, Refugee, Volunteer.
- ◉ Controversy, kilometer, formidable, language.
- ◉ Tranquility, perfection, advantageous, poisonous.
- ◉ Cost-effective, suitcase, teacup, Ill-tempered.