Common Word Stress Patterns

The following chart shows examples of eight common word stress patterns of words from one-to-four syllables. The words in each line across the chart have the same stressed vowel sound. Practice vowel sounds by reading across the chart. Practice word stress by reading down the list of words under each pattern. Notice how the strongly stressed syllable and intonation are the same in each list.

There is a less common word stress pattern for four-syllable words. The stress is on the first syllable. **Examples** TELivision KINdegarten Alterning EXercising EScalator

Common Word Stress Patterns

	Vowel symbol		J	<u>"</u>	J	<u></u>	<u>·</u>	; ≤	VII	VIII
	1.	įγ	NEED	TEACHer	sucCEED	MEDium	rePEATed	disaGREE	imMEdiate	undeFEATed
	2.	I	PR IN T	MIDdle	disMISS	PHYSical	staTIStics	uneQUIPPED	parTiCular	poliTician
	3.	eΫ	FAME	LATEIy	toDAY	MAINtenance	toMAto	underPAID	uRAnium	repuTAtion
	4.	3	MEND	BETter	aHEAD	ENergy	DeCEMber	personNEL	conVENtional	confiDENtial
į [5.	æ	CAT	MAgic	atTACK	ANimal	fanTAStic	underSTAND	eVAPorate	manuFACture
A TROOP O	6.	3r	GIRL	JUry	preFER	GERmany	asSERtion	DOUGlas FIR†	inJURious	she is EARly†
	7.	٨	LUNCH	MOney	inSULT	NUMbering	asSUMPtion	interRUPT	inDUStrial	introDUCtion
G . Almod	8.	α	JOB	FOLlow	forGOT	POSsible	disHONest	underSTOCKED	psyCHOlogy	horiZONta1
	9.	u ^w *	SOUP	MOvie	apPROVE	MOVable	apPROva1	afterNOON	aLUminum	albsoLUtely
	10.	υ	воок	COOKie	unHOOK	BULletin	good-LOOKing	underSTOOD	it's BULLetproof†	overLOOKing
	11.	ow	SOAP	MOtor	aLONE	TOtally	enCLOsure	underSOLD	neGOtiate	macaROni
	12.	Э	TAUGHT	AUthor	apPLAUSE	ALternate	inSTALLment	after ALL	inAUgurate	aeroNAUtics
Copy agent of the contract of the copy agent of	13.	a ^y	FIGHT	ICing	JuLY	DYNamite	surPRISing	unasSIGNED	adVISable	undiVIded
	14.	aw	HOW	OUTer	aROUND	MOUNtainous	AlLOWance	It's alLOWED†	alLOWable	unacCOUNTed
	15.	Эу	BOY	NOIsy	emPLOY	NOISity	aVOIDance	геарРО І МТ	emPLOYable	unemPLOYment

^{*} This vowel has two pronunciations. Many common English words have a y sound before the uw vowel.

Examples: huge community confuse

[†] This phrase has the same stress and intonation as the words in this pattern.