

Oral Presentation for Multilingual (ESL) Learners Module

In-class Activity

Think about the last oral presentation you had to give, or the next one, if you have an assignment coming up. What is your topic?

Choose five key words of two or more syllables about your topic that you will need to use in the presentation.

1. _____ :__
2. _____ :__
3. _____ :__
4. _____ :__
5. _____ :__

For each word, look up the number of syllables and the stress pattern of the word and write it down using the pattern (2:1, etc.) explained in Video 3. For example, “intersectionality” has seven syllables, and the fifth syllable gets the stress. Write the stress pattern this way: 7:5.

More examples (from the video):

feminism	4:1
college	2:1
socioeconomic	7:6
identity	4:2
Patricia Park	4:2

Practice saying each word aloud so that you are sure you are stressing the correct syllable. Include authors’ names or other proper nouns on this list as well, if they are new to you; while you may not find these in a dictionary, you should be able to ask a native speaker of English (or your professor) how to pronounce these names, and then you can use our stress pattern notation to jot down the syllables and stress.

Stress Pattern notation adapted from Murphy, John M. “Attending to Word-Stress While Learning New Vocabulary.” *English for Specific Purposes Journal*, 23, 67-83. 2004.