Pronunciation: final "ED"

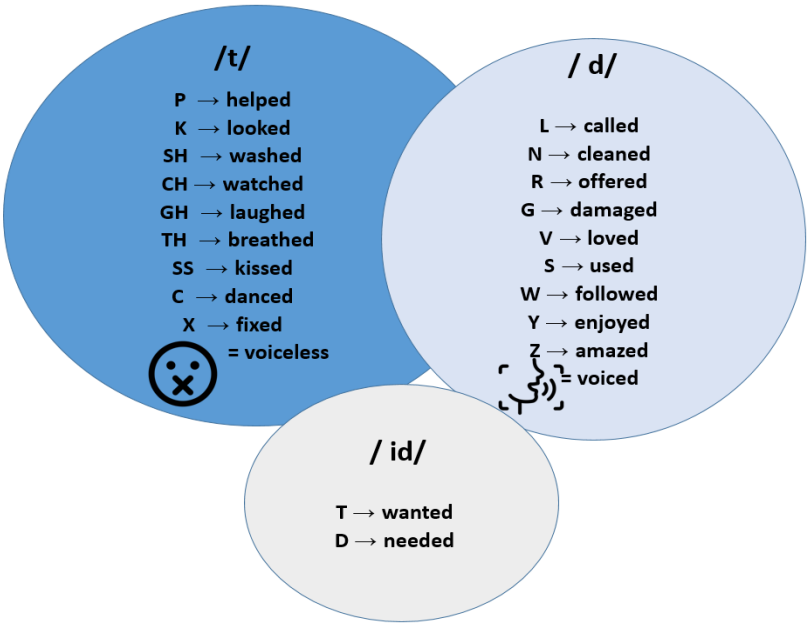
1. Read aloud

1° Sample 1
looked → look/t/
clapped → clap/t/
missed → miss/t/
watched → watch/t/
finished → finish/t/

2° Sample 2
smelled → smell/d/
saved → save/d/
cleaned → clean/d/
robbed → rob/d/
played → play/d/

3° Sample 3
decided → decide/ed/
needed → need/ed/
wanted → want/ed/
invited → invite/e

2. Theory: The final -ed ending has three different pronunciations:



1: Final -ed is pronounced /t/ after all voiceless sounds

Voiceless sounds are made by pushing air through your mouth; **no sound comes from your throat**.
Examples of voiceless sounds: "K", "P", "S", "Ch", "Sh", "F" - (/p/, /s/, /k/, /f/, / ʃ/, /tʃ/ or /θ/)

2: Final -ed is pronounced /d/ after voiced sounds

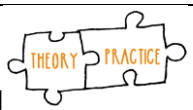
Voiced sounds come from your throat. Touch your neck when you make a voiced sound, you can feel **your voice box vibrate**. Examples of voiced sounds: /b/, /g/, /l/, /z/, /v/,/ ʤ/, / ð /, /m/, /n/, or / ŋ / - and all vowel sounds.

3: Final -ed is pronounced /id/ after "T", and "D" sounds

The sound /id/ adds a whole syllable to a word.
Example: Looked ◊ look/t/ = one syllable; Needed ◊ need/ed/ = two syllables

Exceptions: the following adjectives ending in –ed are always pronounced with /id/:
aged – blessed – crooked – dogged – naked – ragged – wicked – wretched

Pronunciation: Final "- S"



1. Read aloud

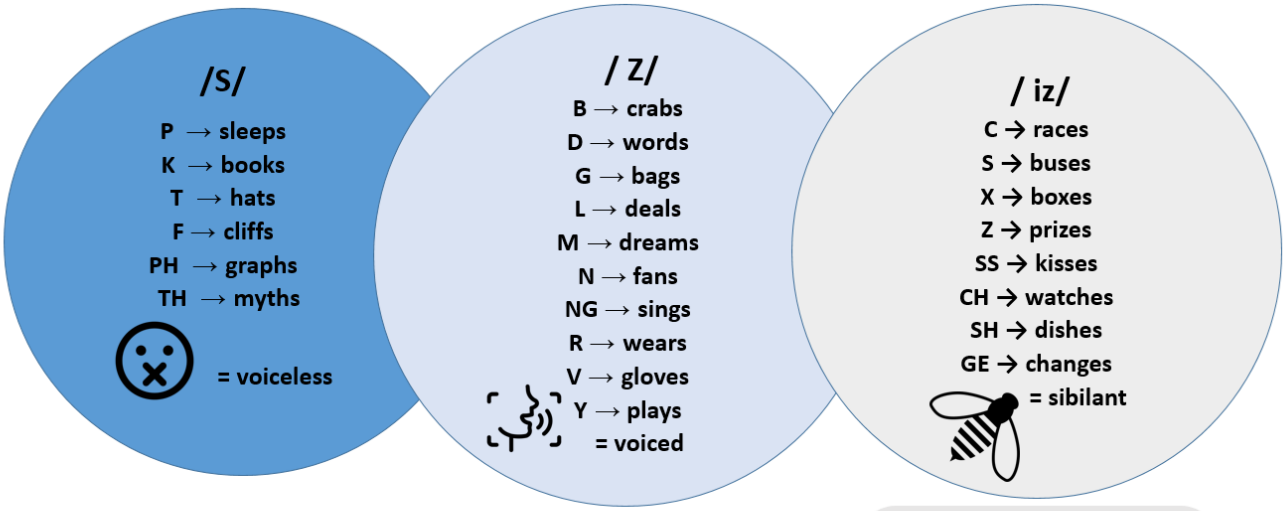
Rule 1:

seats → seat/s/
ropes → rope/s/
backs → back/s/

Rule 2:
seeds → seed/z/
robes → robe/z/
bags → bag/z/
sees → see/z/

Rule 3:
dishes → dish/ez/
catches → catch/ez/
kisses → kiss/ez/
mixes → mix/ez/
prizes → prize/ez/
edges → edge/ez/

2. Theory



Rule 1 : Final -s is pronounced **/S /**
→ after voiceless sounds (/p/,/t/,/k/,/f/, /θ/)

Rule 2: Final -s is pronounced **/Z/**
→ after voiced sounds, as in "D", "B", "G" and "EE - (/b/,/d/,/g/,/v/,/l/,/m/,/n/, /ð/, /ŋ/)

Rule 3: Final -s and -es are pronounced **/IZ/**
→ after "SH," "CH," "S," "Z," and "GE,", "DGE" - (/s/,/z/,/ʃ/, /tʃ/, or /dʒ/). The /ez/ ending adds a syllable.

Spelling: Final –s/-es

- Final –es is added to words ending with -SH, -CH, -S, -Z, and –X:
  - •wash → washes • watch → watches • class → classes • buzz → buzzes • box → boxes
- For words ending in -y:
  If -y is preceded by a vowel only -s is added:
  - • toy → toys; buy → buys

  If -y is preceded by a consonant, the -y is changed to -i and -es is added:
  - • baby → babies; cry → cries

Pronunciation: the letter /h/

1. Read aloud

Sample 1: Hat Hot Here Humor Hear	Hire Sample 2: Heir Honest Honor Hour	Sample 3: Rheumatism Thames Thomas Afghanistan Ghetto	Exhaust Sample 4: She INSULTED him SHE insulted him She insulted HIM

2. Theory

Rule 1: /h/ Basic pattern
Imagine you are steaming up a mirror /h/:
Examples: *Hat, hot, here, home, house, home, help, homework, hundred, happy, holiday.*
→Homophones: hare & hair, hear & here, hire & higher

Rule 2: Silent /h/ at the beginning of words
There are some - h words where the - h is silent: HONOUR, HOUR, HONEST, HEIR
→Homephones: heir& air, hour &our

Rule 3: Silent /h/ (gh, rh, xh,):

'Gh' – no H sound
Ghost
Ghastly
Ghetto
'Rh' no H sound
Rhythm
Rhinoceros
Rhyme
'Xh' – no H sound
Exhausted
Exhibition
Exhaust
Rhubarb

!! Thai, Thames, Thomas = /t/

Rule 4: Weak /h/ (unstressed /h/)
In the following words the /h/ drops when the word is NOT stressed: He / His / Him / Her

"Give it to him." → "Him" sounds like 'im, assuming the stress is on "give" and not on "him.

Tim's Pronunciation Workshop Podcast:
http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/pronunciation/tims-pronunciation-workshop-ep-27

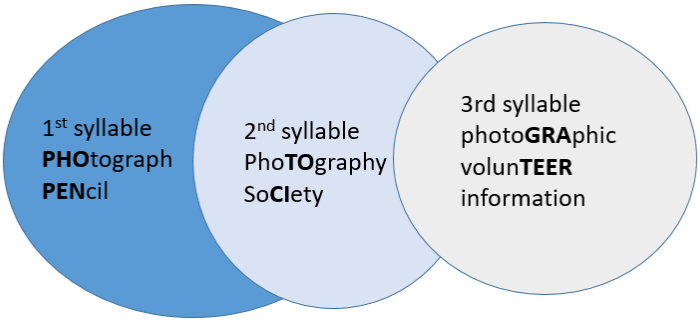
Word stress

1.Read aloud

Permit (noun) *To permit* *Hesitation*	*University* *Mathematics* *Geometric* *Vanish*	*Accelerate*

2. Theory

Emphasis is placed on a syllable by pronouncing it more loudly than those that surround it.



In the phonetic transcription, there is an apostrophy before the syllable that is stressed:

Nephew ['nefjUˇ] : the first syllable is stressed

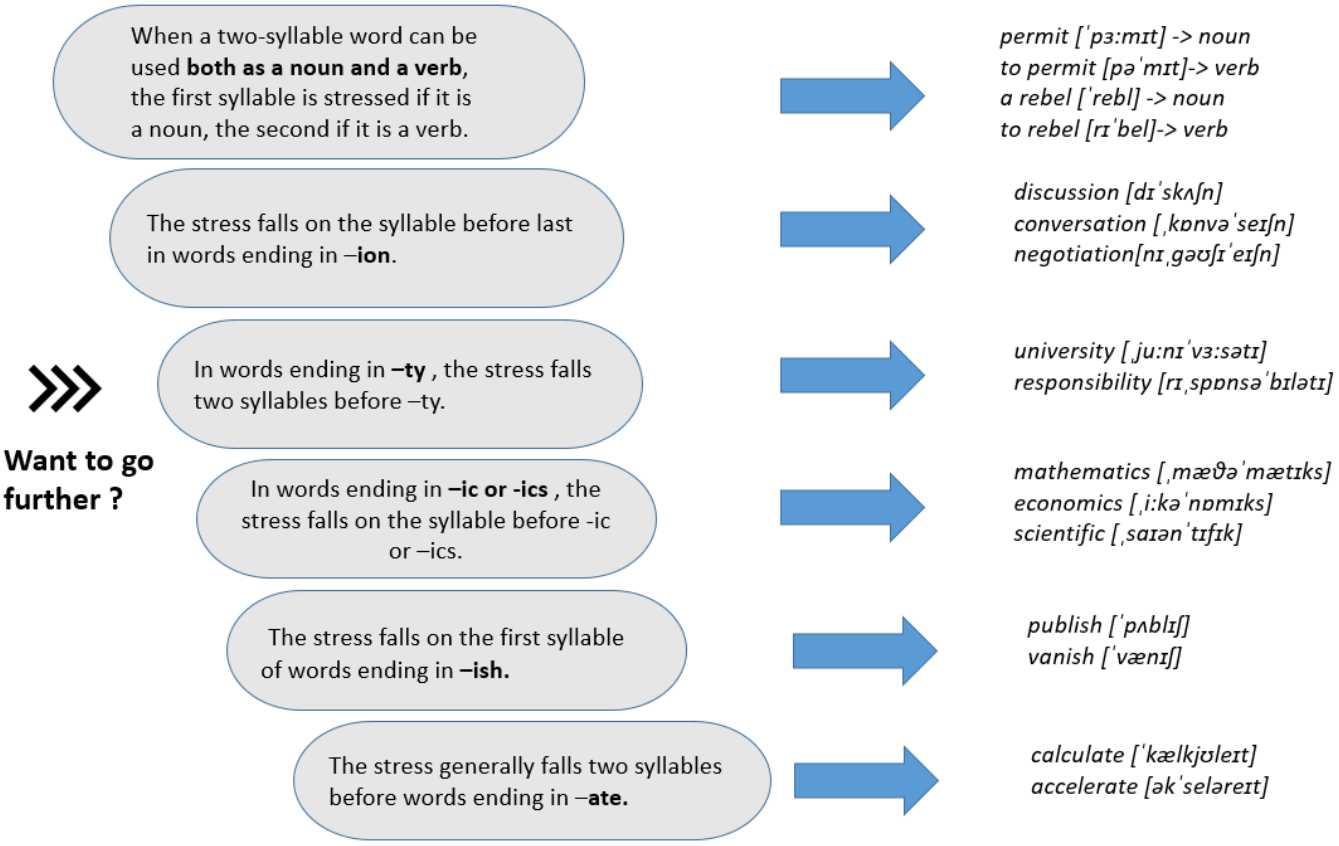
A**na**lysis [ˊ'nQlˊsIs] : the second syllable is stressed

Hesi**ta**tion [hezI'teISn] : the third syllable is stressed

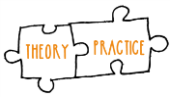
There are few rules to determine what syllable is stressed. Practice will gradually improve your ability to stress words properly.

1. **Stress the first syllable of:**
   - Most two-syllable nouns (examples: CLImate, KNOWledge)
   - Most two-syllable adjectives (examples: FLIPpant, SPAcious)
2. **Stress the last syllable of**:
   - Most two-syllable verbs (examples: reQUIRE, deCIDE)
3. **Stress the second-to-last syllable of:**
   - Words that end in -ic (examples: ecSTATic, geoGRAPHic)
   - Words ending in -sion and -tion (examples: exTENsion, retriBUtion)
4. **Stress the third-from-last syllable of:**
   - Words that end in -cy, -ty, -phy and -gy (examples: deMOCracy, unCERtainty, geOGraphy, radiOLogy)
   - Words that end in -al (examples: exCEPtional, CRItical)

Adapted from: https://www.toefl


When a two-syllable word can be used **both as a noun and a verb**, the first syllable is stressed if it is a noun, the second if it is a verb.
permit [ˈpɜ:mɪt] -> noun
to permit [pəˈmɪt]-> verb
a rebel [ˈrebl] -> noun
to rebel [rɪˈbel]-> verb
The stress falls on the syllable before last in words ending in –**ion**.
discussion [dɪˈskʌʃn]
conversation [ˌkɒnvəˈseɪʃn]
negotiation[nɪˌgəʊʃɪˈeɪʃn]
Want to go further ?
In words ending in **–ty** , the stress falls two syllables before –ty.
university [ˌju:nɪˈvɜ:sətɪ]
responsibility [rɪˌspɒnsəˈbɪlətɪ]
In words ending in **–ic or -ics** , the stress falls on the syllable before -ic or –ics.
mathematics [ˌmæθəˈmætɪks]
economics [ˌi:kəˈnɒmɪks]
scientific [ˌsaɪənˈtɪfɪk]
The stress falls on the first syllable of words ending in **–ish.**
publish [ˈpʌblɪʃ]
vanish [ˈvænɪʃ]
The stress generally falls two syllables before words ending in –**ate.**
calculate [ˈkælkjʊleɪt]
accelerate [əkˈseləreɪt]

Sentence stress



1. Read aloud

Sentences	Meanings
I said she might consider a new haircut.	It was my idea!
I **said** she might consider a new haircut.	Don't you understand me?
I said **she** might consider a new haircut.	Not another person.
I said she **might** consider a new haircut.	It's a possibility
I said she might **consider** a new haircut.	She should think about it. It's a good idea.
I said she might consider a **new** haircut.	Not just a haircut.
I said she might consider a new **haircut.**	Nothing else.

2. Theory

English spends more time on specific stressed words while quickly gliding over the other, less important, words. Example: 'She bought a new car' probably has main stress on 'car' and secondary stress on 'bought'. Normally this emphasis is on words that carry important information, although this can change significantly, depending on the specific meaning the speaker wants to communicate.

Example:
Helen: Have you **seen** that **new film** with **Tom Cruise**?
John: **No**, but I saw the **last one** he was in. It was **terrible**!

Most stressed words are CONTENT WORDS, such as:
Nouns: kitchen, Peter
Adjectives: beautiful, interesting
Lexical verbs: visit, construct
Adverbs: often, carefully

Most non – stressed words are FUNCTION WORDS, such as:
Determiners: the, a, some
Prepositions: before, next to, opposite
Pronouns: they, she, us
Auxiliary verbs: am, can, were
Conjunctions: while, as

Emphatic stress: function words can be stressed too. A sentence can have many meanings based on the word you stress.