

“INTONATION INSIGHTS”

SEPTEMBER 2024

SPEAKING SPACE COMMUNITY

WORKBOOK





CONTENTS

- 02 INTRODUCTION
- 03 RECAP OF LESSON
- 04 PRACTICE EXERCISES
- 11 PRACTICE PLANNER

WELCOME!

Welcome to the Speaking Space Community! I am glad you are here.

To get started, make sure to watch this month's teaching video, It can be accessed here:

[Teaching](#)

Once you are done watching the teaching, come back this workbook. You will find a recap of the main points along with some practical exercises you can do to learn and master this aspect of learning and speaking English.

One more thing: don't forget to attend an RPF session. You will find the link in your membership space. Come ready to ask questions and practice with other community members.

As always, feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

I'm happy to help!

Lori

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REMINDER!

Join our FaceBook group where you can interact with others in our community.

SPEAKING SPACE COMMUNITY

Pronunciation: Intonation Mastery

Lesson Recap

■ Intonation in speech includes pitch, emphasis, syllable stress, speech rate and duration of sounds.

■ Pitch is the highness and lowness of the sound of our speech.

■ Pitch can change within a word. It is highest on the primary stressed syllable.

■ In our message, our pitch fluctuates in patterns connected to intent of what we say.

■ Our pitch is low when we begin speaking and is highest on the most important word of our message.

■ Statements and wh-type questions end with a falling pitch.

■ Most questions end with a rising pitch.

■ We indicate doubt and surprise with rising pitch in varying degrees.

■ We convey our emotions and confidence with our pitch.

■ We let our listener know when we are finished or if we will continue speaking with our pitch.

■ We convey choices as being closed or open-ended by what we do with our pitch.

■ The degree a speaker fluctuates their pitch varies among languages.



Listen and identify

LISTENING TASK

- Listen to these speaking samples.
- Identify what the pitch is doing at the end of the message.
- Identify which is the most important word of the message.
- Identify which syllable received the highest pitch in the key word.

notes:

Speaking Samples

Answer key



Listen for errors

LISTENING TASK

- Listen to these speaking samples.
- The pitch fluctuations don't match the intent of the message.
- First, listen to the pitch at the end of the message.
- Then determine based on the intent of the message, how would you change the pitch fluctuation to make it more appropriate.

notes:

Speaking Samples

Answer Key



Listen for emotions

LISTENING TASK

- Listen to these speaking samples.
- Decide what emotion the speaker is conveying: doubt, surprise, authority.

notes:

Speaking Samples

Answer Key



Imitate

SPEAKING TASK

- Listen to the speaking samples and imitate, trying to make your pitch match the model
- Each sample will convey one of the following:
 - Statement
 - wh-questions
 - questions
 - doubt
 - surprise
 - list with a closed set of choices
 - list with an open set of choices

notes:

Speaking Samples



Convey

SPEAKING TASK

- Read the following sentences and convey confidence, doubt or surprise. Some are listed twice. For those see if you can really distinguish your pitch so the listener knows what you mean.

Confidence:

- I'll be there at 5:30.
- I'm pleased to meet you.
- That was a great presentation.
- You need to go now.
- We'll leave in a minute.

Doubt:

- I'll be there at 5:30
- I'm not comfortable with it.
- Maybe it will work.
- Is there money?
- The results look good.

Surprise:

- You need to go now?
- What did you say?
- You are moving next month?
- The plant is closing operations?
- You told him that?



Dialogue

SPEAKING TASK

- Practice the dialogues in the attached links.
- Each is recorded twice.
 - The first time, you will listen to speaker A and read the part for speaker B.
 - The second time, you will read the part for speaker A and listen to speaker B.
- As you practice, try to apply the pitch concepts that you learned. Think about:
 - beginning at a low pitch
 - ending at the same low pitch if you are making a statement or asking a wh-question
 - fluctuating your pitch throughout the sentence with the highest pitch on the word you emphasize
 - Using a rising pitch of varying degrees if asking a question (non-wh), showing surprise or doubt.
 - Using a falling pitch if there is a closed set of options or a rising pitch if an open set of options.

notes:

[Dialogues Recording](#)
[Dialogues Document](#)



Planner

GENERALIZATION

- Whenever a student works with me on improving their speech and language skills, we make sure to focus on generalization.
- This is a critical piece of learning. You want to make the concepts come to life in your communication skills.
- The best way to do this is to plan for practice.
- On the next page you will find a monthly planner where you can write in practice dates and tasks.
- You may wish to put the title of each exercise in particular days of the month to be sure to do that practice activity.
- You may wish to repeat these activities and allocate them to a few days within the month.
- Or you may just want to pick a set number of days per week to do any or all of the practice exercises in this book.
- There is no one best way to approach generalization. However, scheduling practice is a great way to make sure you do it.
- I've put in a sample schedule that you can either follow or customize for yourself. Do what works best for you.
- Remember, you have to practice speaking in order for you to retain what you've learned.

MONTHLY *Planner*

MONTH September

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
						1
2	WATCH VIDEO TEACHING		LISTEN & IDENTIFY		LISTEN FOR ERRORS	
9	LISTEN FOR EMOTIONS		IMITATE		CONVEY	
16	DIALOGUE		READ SOMETHING ON-HAND AND APPLY THE PITCH CONCEPTS		CONNECT WITH A COMMUNITY MEMBER AND SCHEDULE SPEAKING PRACTICE	
23	PICK ONE SPEAKING TASK AT YOUR JOB AND APPLY THE SPEAKING CONCEPTS		REVIEW AN EXERCISE		REVIEW AN EXERCISE	
30	REVIEW AN EXERCISE		PRACTICE 5 MINUTES IN YOUR EVERYDAY SPEECH		CONNECT IN THE COMMUNITY	

TO DO:

- Join an RPF session
- Connect in our community

NOTES: