

INTERMEDIATE UNIT 1

1.1

1A **1.1** **SILENT LETTERS** Listen to the paragraph. What mistake did the speaker make about the exam?

On Wednesday I studied all night for my science exam. I knew I would be able to answer all the questions and I was feeling confident. The next day, as I sat down to write the final, three-hour paper, something strange happened. The paper in front of me said 'Psychology – Final Exam'. Not only was I in the wrong room; I'd missed my exam by one day. I guess I'm not as smart as I thought.

B How many silent letters can you find in the paragraph?

6 = OK; 8 = good; 10 = very good; 12 = excellent

C **1.2** Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat the words.

2A **INTONATION: wh- questions** Read the questions. Which use a rising intonation? Which use a falling intonation?

- 1 Where's your family from?
- 2 Who was your favourite teacher?
- 3 What's your mother tongue?
- 4 Do you like learning languages?
- 5 Did you learn other languages at school?
- 6 When did you first speak English?
- 7 Why are you studying here?
- 8 Do you know the other students?

B **1.3** Listen and check. Then listen again and repeat the questions using the same intonation.

1.2

3 **1.4** **WORD STRESS** Underline the word that has a different stress pattern to the others. Listen and check.

- 1 mentor godmother in-laws nephew
- 2 ex-husband uncle team-mate partner
- 3 classmate pupil girlfriend boss
- 4 stepfather godfather employee grandparents
- 5 teenager customer native speaker relative
- 6 stepdaughter sister-in-law grandfather ancestor

4A **STRESS SHIFT IN NOUNS THAT BECOME VERBS** Read the Pronunciation tip and do the task.

speakout PRONUNCIATION TIP

Some two-syllable words can be nouns and verbs. They are spelt the same, but the stress shifts. When the words below are nouns, the stress is on the first syllable. When they are verbs, the stress is on the second syllable. Try saying them as nouns and then verbs.

Nouns (Oo): object export transport present protest record

Verbs (oO): object export transport present protest record

B **1.5** Complete the sentences with words from the Pronunciation tip box. Use the same word for both sentences in each pair. Underline the stressed syllable in the words you chose. Then listen and check.

- 1 a) Thanks for the birthday _____.
- b) Tomorrow my company will _____ our new product.
- 2 a) I'm out tonight, but I'll _____ the programme.
- b) My team has broken another _____!
- 3 a) The bicycle is my favourite form of _____.
- b) We need to _____ the goods by ship.
- 4 a) UFO stands for Unidentified Flying _____.
- b) Would anyone _____ if I opened the window?

1.3

5A **STRESS IN PHRASES** The phrases in the box have two or three main stresses. Underline the stressed syllables.

dress smartly speak clearly answer briefly
shake hands firmly send references arrive on time
avoid eye contact be prepared do some research
show enthusiasm

B **1.6** Listen and check. Then listen and repeat.

6A **1.7** **INTONATION: sounding polite** Listen to two passengers on a flight from London to Los Angeles. Does the man sound polite (P) or impolite (I)? Circle P or I.

- 1 That's right. P I
- 2 I understand. P I
- 3 Please continue. P I
- 4 Yes, definitely. P I
- 5 You're welcome. P I
- 6 Of course. P I
- 7 Go ahead. P I
- 8 No problem. P I

B **1.8** Now listen to the woman and say responses 1–8 using polite intonation.