

FLM: Oral Presentations for Multilingual (ESL) Learners

In-Class Activity *Online Implementation*

You will now have an opportunity to practice pronouncing key words from one of your past or upcoming presentations. Please mute yourself and think about the last oral presentation you had to give, or the next one, if you have an assignment coming up. What was/is your topic?

Choose five key words of two or more syllables about your topic that you need to use in the presentation. These can be content words or proper nouns, like authors' names, if they are new to you. Write the key terms in a word-processing program on your computer. For each word, look up the number of syllables and the stress pattern of the word. You can use these online dictionaries to find out a word's stress pattern and to hear its pronunciation:

<https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/>

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/>

Note: If you cannot find a particular word's pronunciation, you can message your instructor privately on Zoom and ask them to pronounce the word out loud. You can then use our stress pattern notation to jot down the syllables and stress.

Next, write your words 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.

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

More examples (from the video):

feminism 4:1

college 2:1

socioeconomic	7:6
identity	4:2
Patricia Park	4:2

Finally, practice saying each word aloud (while still muted), so that you are sure you are stressing the correct syllable.

Optional: Your instructor may also put you in a break-out room at this point. If working in a break-out room, each person will share their screen with their group mates to show everyone the words they have chosen and their stress features. Finally, each student will read their words out loud, and the other students will practice pronouncing these words as well.

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.