

# Ch. 15 Intonation 1

The word intonation is used to describe the tune of English speech , the way the voice moves up and down in a sentence . Intonation describes how the voice rises and falls in speech .

Pitch refers to the rate of vibration of the vocal cords . The quality of a sound governed by the rate of vibrations producing it ; the degree of highness or lowness of a tone :

Tone is the use of pitch in language or it refers to the rising and falling of voice pitch in speech .

An utterance is a continuous piece of speech beginning and ending with a clear pause .

Q1 Why do we study intonation ?

- 1- It shows the relationship of words within and between sentences .
- 2- It tells something about the feeling of the feeling of the speaker .

Q2 what are the Basic Intonation patterns or types ?

1- Rising Tone is normally used in the following types of sentences :

a. Yes / No questions

e.g

Is John in the school ?

Is today Monday ?

b. Polite requests

e.g

'Come here , Samir

2- Falling Tone is normally used in the following types of sentences .

a. Statements

e.g

Bill is a student

b. Commands

e.g

Don't close the door

c. Question – word questions (Wh – questions)

e.g \_\_\_\_\_

How old are you ?

- Q3 / What are the forms of intonation ?
- There are four forms of intonation = falling , rising , falling – rising and rising – falling
- Q4 / What are the three simple possibilities for the intonation used in pronouncing the one – word utterance "Yes" and "No" .
- These were : Level , fall and rise .
- Level – Yes – no
- Falling \ Yes \no
- Rising Yes /no
- Q5 / What are the types of complex Tones and pitch height ?
- The more complex tones that are used can be as follows : Fall – rise tone , Where the pitch descends and then rises again .
- Another complex tone is the rise – fall tone in which the pitch follows the opposite movement .

## Q6 / What are the forms of English tones ?

1- Fall \ yes \ no

This tone is regarded as more or less neutral if someone is asked a question and replies yes or no and it will be understood that more to be said . The fall could be said to give an impression of finality .

2- Rise / yes / no

This tone conveys an impression that something more is to follow .

a. ( wishing to attract B`s attention) = Excuse me .

b. / Yes

3- Fall – rise yes no

The fall – rise tone is used a lot in English and is described as limited agreement or response with reservation .

a. I`ve heard that it`s good school .

b. v Yes

4- Rise – fall ^ yes ^no

This tone is used to convey rather strong feelings of approval , disapproval or surprise . Examples :

a. Isn`t the view lovely !

b. ^Yes

5- Level - Yes – no

This tone is used to convey a feeling of saying something routine , uninteresting or boring . A teacher calling the names of students from a register will often do so using a level tone on each name , and the students are likely to respond with yes when their name is called .

# Ch. 16 The Tone – Unit (Intonation 2)

## ■ Q1 What is an intonational language ?

- It is a language in which substituting one distinctive tone for another on a particular word or morpheme can cause a change in the lexical dictionary meaning of that word .

## ■ Q2 What is a tone unit ?

- An utterance of one or more than one syllable . It has a tonic syllable and a tonic stress .

### **Q3 What is a tonic syllable ?**

A syllable that carries a tone

Is that / you

### **Q4 What is a tonic stress ?**

A stress carried by the tonic syllable

### **Q5 What is the structure of the tone – unit ?**

1- Simple one tonic syllable .

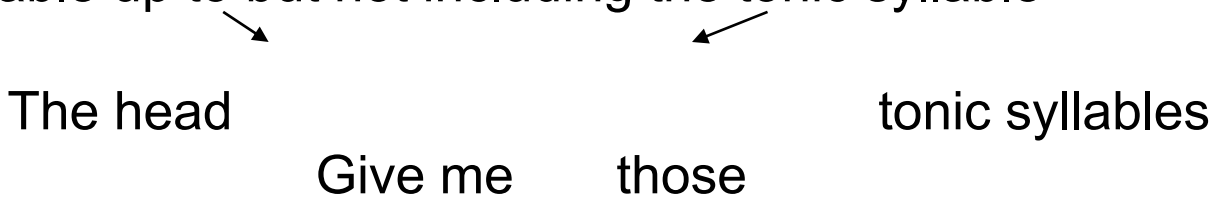
e.g Is it / you

2- Complex Two tonic syllables

e.g √ John is it / you

## Q6 What is the structure of intonation ?

- 1- The head
  - 2- The pre – head
  - 3- The tail
- 

- 1- The head is :
- All the part of the tone unit that extends from the first stressed syllable up to but not including the tonic syllable
- 

Give me      those
- 2- Pre – head
- All the unstressed syllables in a tone unit preceding the first stressed syllables

1- When there is no head

■ Pre – head                      tonic syllables  
■                                      In an \ hour

2- When there is a head

■ Pre-head                      head                      tonic syllable  
■                                      In a ' little ' less than an \ hour

3- The tail

■ Any syllable between the tonic syllable and the end of the tone-unit

■                      tonic syllable                      tail  
■                                      /what did you say

E can summarize the tone-unit structure as =

■                      (PH)                      (H)                      TS  
■                      (T)                      In a                      ' little '                      less than an                      \ hour                      I think



# Exercise

1-Where is the head

- ' Bill is \ here
- ' Sara ' called to ' give me \these

2-Where is the pre-head?

- On the ' black/table
- To the ' left \ hand there

3-Where is the tail

- \Both of them
- If it\rains outside

# True or False

- 1- A tonic syllable carries only the tone and not the tonic stress
- 2- The structure of the tone unit could be simple complex.
- 3- A head extends from the first stressed syllable and includes the tonic syllable.
- 4- The Pre-head all the unstressed syllables preceding the second stressed syllable.
- 5- A Per-head could precede a head or tonic syllable .
- 6- Syllable between the tonic syllable and the end the tone-unit.

# Pitch Possibilities in the simple tone-unit

- Two important things have to be known : tone is carried by the tonic syllable and intonation is carried by the tone-unit.

In one-syllable utterance, the single syllable must have one of the five tones that were presented in a previous chapter. In a tone-unit of more than one syllable, the tonic-syllable must have one of those tones. Here we can have two possibilities= the tonic-syllable is the final syllable and there are other syllables that follow the tonic syllable.

If the tonic-syllable is the final syllable then the tone does not sound much different from that of a corresponding one –syllable tone unit.

- Example :

/here

' shall we sit/here

The word "here" is said in the same way

- (with a rising pitch) in both examples.

# CH-18-19-Functions OF INTONATION

- There are four main function of intonation
  - 1- Attitudinal Function
  - 2- Accentual Function
  - 3- Grammatical Function
  - 4- Discourse Function

1-Attitudinal Function of intonation which enables the speaker to express emotions and attitudes which adds a special meaning to spoken language as a difference from its written counterpart .

- The same sentence can be said in different ways as " happy" , " angry" , " grateful" , etc.

- Here are some Examples=

1-Fall (Finality definiteness)

- Stop\ talking

2- Rise

- Listing / Red / brown / yellow or \ blue

3-Fall-Rise

- Uncerting You v may be right

3-Rise-fall

- Surprise You were ^first

# Q1/ What are the components of Intonation

1- Sequential

2- Prosodic

3- Paralinguistic

1-Sequential components never occur simultaneously

- They are : Per-head, head, tonic syllable, tail

- Pauses

- Tone-unit poundaries.

2-Prosodic components including width of pitch range/ key/ loudness / speed/ and voice quality.

- Paralinguistic components including facial expressions/ gestures / body language vocal effects/ laughs/ sobs.

# 2-Accentual Function

- It is derived from the word "accent" =stress  
Intonation helps to produce the effect of prominence on syllables that should be perceived as stressed while tonic stress on a particular syllable marks the word as the most important in the fone-unit.
- Example :
  - 1- It was 'very \ boring
  - 2- It was \ very boring
- The first is non-emphatic and the second is emphatic.

# 3-The grammatical Function of Intonation

The listener better recognizes grammar and what is being said by using the information contained in intonation : e,g Placement of boundaries between Phrases/ clauses and sentences, differences between questions and statements, use of grammatical subordination, etc.

- Sentences which when written are ambiguous and ambiguity can only be removed by different intonation: e.g.
- 'Those who s'old quickly made a profit (A profit was made by those who sold quickly)
- 'Those who sold quickly made a profit (A profit was quickly made by those who sold)



# 4-The discourse function of Intonation

- Intonation can signal to the hearer what is to be taken as "new information" within the act of speaking, when the speaker is indicating a contrast or link with the material from previous tone-units and it can also make the listener feel what kind of response is expected- Intonation regulates conversational behaviour. Falling tone is used to indicate new information. Rising tone indicates shared or given information. Example:

1- I've 'got to 'take the \dog a walk

2- I've 'got to 'take the 'dog to the \vet