

Elements of English Intonation

There are five tones in English:

- The fall ↘
- The rise ↗
- The fall-rise ↘ ↗
- The rise-fall ↗ ↘
- level →

Examples of

- ↘ →

Classroom, daybreak, fireplace, football, hairbrush, horsepower, pigeonhole, teapot, midnight, makeup, staff-room, football player.

- → ↗ VERBS:
accent, conduct, contest, contract, contrast,
frequent, conflict, convict, digest, export, extract,
import, object.
- ↘ → NOUN or ADJECTIVE:
accent, conduct, contest, contract, contrast,
frequent, conflict, convict, digest, export, extract,
import, object.

Theory:

↘ appears in

- commands
(Open your book)

- statements
(I am reading a book)

- Statement questions

What is your name? $\bar{\rightarrow}$

Where is he?

Why, How, when, whose, which

Yes-no questions are usually spoken on Tune 2 (The rise \nearrow), but the answers to these questions, on Tune 1 (\searrow)

Do you have money? \nearrow

Yes. \searrow

Commands are normally spoken on Tune 1. When Spoken Tune 2, they sound like requests:

Come in $\bar{\rightarrow}$ \searrow Tune 1 command
 \longrightarrow \searrow

Come in Tune 2 request
 \longrightarrow \nearrow