Everyday English Stress and intonation

Degrees of enthusiasm

- 1 10.11 Listen to three people A, B and C responding to the same question. Who is the most enthusiastic? Who is the least? Who is not sure?
- 2 10.11 Listen again and practise them with a partner.
- 3 10.12 A couple are discussing a film they've just seen. Sometimes the woman (W) agrees with the man (M), sometimes she doesn't. Listen to the way she says *Mmm* ... Write a, b, c or d next to lines 1–8.

a I'm not so sure.

b lagree.

c lagree strongly.

d I disagree strongly.

What did you think of the movie?

- M Well, I thought that movie was great.
- **W** ¹Mmm ...
- M I was on the edge of my seat from start to finish.
- W ²Mmm ...
- M Well, the ending was a complete surprise.
- **W** ³ Mmm ...
- M What about the special effects? Weren't they amazing?
- W ⁴Mmm ...
- M And Julia Jones wasn't she just perfect as the love interest?
- **W** 5 Mmm ...
- M I wouldn't mind seeing it again.
- **W** ⁶ Mmm ...
- M I'm going to recommend it to Rob and Fran. They'll love it.
- **W** ⁷Mmm ...
- M Come on! Let's go for a drink.



4 10.13 With your partner, decide what you think the woman goes on to say. Listen and compare.



Stress in sentences

5 10.14 Listen to the short dialogues and mark the main stressed word in **B**'s answers. Why does the stress shift in each reply? Practise them with your partner.

Who is John?

- 1 A Is John the man with the short, fair hair?
 - **B** No, John's the man with the short, <u>dark</u> hair.
- 2 A Is John the boy with the short, dark hair?
 - B No, John's the man with the short dark hair.
- 3 A Is John the man with the short, dark beard?
 - B No, John's the man with the short dark hair.
- 4 A Is John the man with the long, dark hair?
 - B No, John's the man with the short, dark hair.
- 5 A Is Tom the man with the short dark hair.
 - **B** No, John's the man with the short dark hair.
- 6 Read the short conversations with your partner. <u>Underline</u> the main stress in **B**'s replies and practise them.
 - 1 A You look tired.
 - **B** I am tired.
 - 2 A That's Sylvie over there. She's French.
 - **B** I thought she was French.
 - 3 A I had such a good idea about mum's birthday present.
 - **B** I thought of it first!
 - 4 A I sold my old computer to Barry.
 - **B** I thought you'd given it to him.
 - 5 A Do you work for Carl?
 - B No, Carl works for me.
 - 6 A I've never met Eva before.
 - **B** You must have met her. She knew your name.

10.15 Listen and check. Practise again.

Go online for more speaking practice