Listening and Speaking:
Stress in Verb Phrases

1. In the Writing & Reading Center, go the section with computers for listening
2. Double click on ESL Applications
3. Double Click on American Speech Sounds
4. Click on “Listen & Choose”
5. Select “Stress: Drive IN (Verb Phrases)” under Exercises
6. Complete all 10 items
7. Record your score ____ % Correct.
8. Practice saying the words below using the stress pattern that is in bold. Then choose six words and write a sentence for each in the space provided. Use the language notes to distinguish the difference between a compound noun and a verb phrase.

Language Note:

Some verbs are made up of two words. These two-word verbs usually carry stress on the second syllable. Some nouns are made up two words. These types of nouns are called compound nouns and usually carry stress on the first syllable.

Student List:

a. PREsent  preSENT  d. CarryOUT  CARRYout
b. Export  exPORT  e. WORKout  verflo
c. conTRACT  CONtract  f. DRIVE in  drive IN
• EXAMPLE: Commuters on the freeway need to learn to slow DOWN.

9. Find an instructor or tutor. Say the item using the stress pattern in bold. Ask the instructor to listen and circle the stress he/she hears. Discuss any items where the professor heard a different stress than you intended. Then practice saying the sentences that you created. Ask the instructor or tutor to listen for the word stress in the compound nouns and verb phrases in the sentences.

Instructor List:

a. PREsent  preSENT  f. DRIVE in  drive IN
b. EXport  exPORT  g. OVERflow  overFLOW
c. conTRACT  CONtract  h. TURNaround  Turn AROUND
d. CarryOUT  CARRYout  i. BLACKout  BlackOUT
e. WORKout  workout  j. SLOWdown  slow DOWN