

# English intonation

Practice of Nuclear  
Tones



# Nuclear Tones in English

- Low Falling Tone
- Low Rising Tone
- High Falling Tone
- High Rising Tone
- Falling Rising Tone
- Rising Falling Tone

# Contour typology

- IC1 – Low fall
  - IC2- Low rise
  - IC3 – High fall
  - IC4- High rise
  - IC5- Fall rise
  - IC6- Rise fall
- I think I'll be free on Sunday.
  - Can you tell me the time?
  - I'd like to try it again.
  - Had a good holiday?
  - It'll be hard to prove.
  - I'd love to live in a house like that.
  - I quite agree with you.

# Low Falling Tone

- Assertive
- Final
- Categorical
- Reserved
- Cool
- Quiet
- Hostile

# Low Falling Tone only nucleous = 1 syllable

- ~~No.~~
- Do.
- Who?
- Why?
- Fine.
- Good.
- Right.

# Low Falling Tone Nucleous + Tail

- **Have** you?
- **Is** it?
- **Can't** you?
- **Does** he?
- **Wire** him.
- **Wait** for her.
- **Show** me one.

# Low Falling Tone

## Prehead +Nucleous+Tail

- She **had** to.
- I'd **like** to.
- Of **course** not.
- A **friend** of mine.
- She **wasn't** there.
- You must **tell** me.
- One can **feel** it.

# Low Falling Tone Head (one syllable) + Nucleous

- 'Come here.
- Sit down.
- Don't leave.
- Look out.
- Ask John.
- How strange.
- What for?
- Where to?



# Low Falling Tone

Prehead+Stepping head+ Nucleous+Tail

- She asked me to **go**.
- He doesn't speak much **English**.
- He is never very **punctual**.
- He left the room without a **word**.
- I saw her standing all **alone**.
- Then turn to the right at the end of the **street**  
.

# Low Rising Tone.

- Non final
- Encouraging
- Questioning
- Polite

# Low Rising Tone (Nucleous only)

- Yes.
- Mind.
- Run
- Now.
- Who?
- Why?
- Watch.
- Stop.
- Good.

# Low Rising Tone (Nucleous+Tail)

- Gently.
- Always.
- Is there?
- Can't you?
- Have one.
- That side.
- Hasn't she?
- Wait a bit.

## Low rising Tone (Prehead+Nucleous+Tail)

- Remember.
- They **couldn't**.
- Is he **happy**?
- You must **tell** me.
- He'd **wait** for us.
- There **wasn't** one.
- He's **done** with it.

## Low Rising Tone (Head+Nucleous)

- That's **good**.
- That's **all**.
- Never **mind**.
- I'll **see**.
- Not **yet**.
- Why **not**.
- How **soon**?
- Can you come to lunch **tomorrow**?
- Shall I answer the **door**?
- Have you heard the latest **news**?
- Can you tell me the shortest way to the **station**?

# Low Falling and Low Rising Tones (Comparison)

## Fall

- Yes.
- No.
- Stop.
- Does he?
- Aren't you?
- Wait for them.
- Wire him.

## Rise

- Yes.
- No.
- Stop?
- Does he?
- Aren't you?
- Wait for them?
- Wire him?

# High Falling Tone

## Nucleus only

- Yes.
- Fine.
- Wait.
- More.
- Pull.
- Let's.
- Fancy!

## Nucleus + tail

- Always.
- Really.
- **Can** you?
- **Stop** it.
- **Mightn't** they?
- **Wait** for them.
- Certainly.



# High Falling Tone

## *Prehead+Nucleous+Tail*

- Good **gracious!**
- How **lovely!**
- Good **morning.**
- It's **risky.**
- They **may** have.
- The **first** one.
- He'd wait for us.

## *Head+Nucleous*

- 'Why **not?**
- 'Well **done!**
- 'That's **that.**
- 'I **say!**
- 'How **strange.**
- 'Look **out!**
- 'Thank **you!**
- 'Bad **luck!**

# High Falling Tone

Prehead+Head+Nucleous+Tail

- I 'think you'd 'better 'ask the **others**.
- It's 'always 'better to **wait**.
- I 'couldn't say 'NO to **you**.
- In 'spring it 'rains a **lot**.
- 'Nobody 'told me 'what to **do** about it.
- 'Skiing is the 'sport for **you**.

# Low fall vs High Fall vs Low Rise

Tones for comparison

Low Fall	High Fall	Low Rise
<b>Run.</b>	<b>Run!</b>	<b>Run.</b>
<b>Good.</b>	<b>Good!</b>	<b>Good.</b>
<b>Does he?</b>	<b>Does he?</b>	<b>Does he?</b>
<b>Wait</b> for them.	<b>Wait</b> for them.	Wait for them.
Is <b>this</b> the one?	Is <b>this</b> the one?	Is <b>this</b> the one?
'Does she 'know the <b>way</b> ?	'Does she 'know the <b>way</b> ?	'Does she 'know the <b>way</b> ?

# High Rising Tone

- Echo question

# High Rising Tone

*Only Nucleous*

**Who?**

**Now?**

**Me?**

**What?**

**Where?**

*Nucleous + Tail*

**Really?**

**Badly?**

**Like it?**

**Suit me?**

**My fault?**

# High Rising Tone

*Prehead+ Nucleous+Tail*

You **like** him?

She **had** to?

You've **lost** it?

It's a **new** one?

It's an **extra**?

*Head+Nucleous*

'Ask **John**?

'Not **true**?

'Too **big**?

'Good **fit**?

'What **for**?

Hold tight?

No news?

# High Rising Tone

*Prehead+Head+Nucleous+Tail*

A'nother 'cup of **tea**?

You 'don't **reg**'ret it?

You 'want it '**back**?

It's 'not the 'one you **want**?

It 'won't incon **venience** you?

She 'married 'Mary's **brother**?

'Something the **matter**, Ann?

'Back al ready, Mr Grey?

'Don't **worry**, did you say?

# Tones for Comparison

Low fall	High fall	Low rise	High rise
Yes.	Yes!	Yes.	Yes?
No.	No!	No.	No?
Have you?	Have you?	Have you?	Have you?
Wait for them.	Wait for them.	Wait for them?	Wait for them?
Can't you?	Can't you ?	Can't you?	Can't you?
It's risky.	It's risky.	It's risky.	It's risky?
That's <b>good</b> .	That's <b>good!</b>	That's <b>good</b> .	That's <b>good?</b>
How <b>strange</b> .	How <b>strange!</b>	How <b>strange</b> .	How <b>strange?</b>
Next <b>week</b> .	Next <b>week</b> .	Next <b>week</b> .	Next <b>week</b> .



# Falling- Rising Tone

- Emphasizing
- Contradicting
- Implication

# Falling- Rising Tone

<i>One syllable</i>	<i>Two syllables</i>	<i>Three syllables</i>
Yes.	Always.	Be <b>careful</b> .
No.	Slowly.	It's <b>easy</b> .
Me	Quickly.	You <b>couldn't</b> .
More.	Often.	She <b>might be</b> .
True.	Thursday.	They <b>may have</b> .
Well.	Sorry.	He <b>asked</b> you.
Pull.	I did.	We broke it.
Run.	They can.	There 's <b>plenty</b> .
Tom's.	Have one.	Now re <b>member</b> .

# Falling- Rising Tone

## Prehead+Head+Nucleous

- You ‘said she **was**.
- We ‘don’t **like it**.
- He ‘can’t **hear me**.
- I’m ‘not **wanted**.
- You ‘can’t go without a **hat**.
- We ‘know where it **is**.

# Fall Rise divided

<i>Two syllables</i>	<i>One syllable in between</i>	<i>More syllables in between</i>
That's right.	Do be quick!	He <b>asked</b> me to <b>do</b> it.
All right. Yes, please.	Jolly good!	You <b>told</b> me to ask <b>her</b> .
Come on.	Here you are!	How <b>are</b> you, Mr. <b>Richards</b> ?
Hullo!	Many thanks!	Well, <b>what's</b> the <b>time</b> , please?
That's good!	We don't mind.	

# Tones for comparison

Low fall	High Fall	Low rise	High rise	Fall rise
Good.	Good.	Good.	Good?	Good.
Borrow one.	Borrow one.	Borrow one.	Borrow one.	Borrow one.
It's risky.	It's risky.	It's risky.	It's risky?	It's risky.

# Rising – Falling Tone

- Impressed
- Humorous
- Mocking
- Surprised

# Rising – Falling Tone

One-syllable type

Do.

Two.

Me.

Try.

Two – syllable type

Either.

Always.

Ask him.

Clearly.

Keep it.

## Rising -Falling Tone (three syllable type)

- Naturally.
- Gratitude.
- Positive.
- Probably.
- Perfectly.
- You can go.
- That was good.



## Rising -Falling Tone (prehead+ head+ nucleolus)

- Which **one**?
- Any time you **like**!
- I thought you **knew**.
- I simply **hated** it.
- How did you **manage** it?
- I'm much **obliged** to you all.