

26

STRESS DOMINOES

Aim

To raise awareness of and practise word stress

Language

Words to do with work and their pronunciation

Skills

Speaking

Lesson link

Use after Lesson 26 or at any point thereafter

Materials

1 copy of *Stress dominoes*, cut up, per group

Answers

Oo evening coffee lunchtime
colleague office deadline
business normal profit problem
oO weekend control revise exam
advice reply

Ooo salary holiday interesting
conference
oOo arrangement computer
ooO understand underline

Oooo socializing complicated
oOoo priority relationship
ooOo workaholic presentation

Pre-activity (5 minutes)

- Before the lesson starts, write the following words onto the board:

desk	interesting	control	office	normal
evening	job	colleague	exam	underline
weekend	boss	conference	presentation	profit
salary	coffee	priority	deadline	problem
holiday	socializing	relationship	business	computer
work	arrangement	understand	complicated	reply
workaholic	lunchtime	revise	advice	
- Ask the students to look at the words and suggest a topic which links them all, i.e. work. Ask the students to work in pairs to sort out the words into groups with the same number of syllables.

Answers

- desk work job boss
- evening weekend coffee lunchtime control colleague revise office exam
deadline business advice normal profit problem reply
- salary holiday interesting arrangement conference understand underline
computer
- workaholic socializing priority relationship presentation complicated

- After checking, choose a few words from the two-syllable group and elicit the stress patterns of the words, marking them on the board. Ask the students to decide whether the remaining words have the Oo pattern or the oO pattern. It may be useful to drill the students in the pronunciation of the words before they do this.
- After checking, ask the students to practise saying the words in pairs, paying particular attention to stress.
- Ask the students to look at the three-syllable words and elicit the stress patterns of the words.
- Again, the students should practise the words. Repeat the procedure for the four-syllable words.

Procedure (10 minutes)

- Divide the class into groups of three or four.
- Give a set of cards to each group, ask them to shuffle the cards and deal them all out.
- The group should choose a student to begin. That student should lay down one card. Play then passes to the player on the left. The students play dominoes with their cards, lying cards together so that words with the same stress pattern match, e.g. the following is possible because *business* and *normal* have the same stress pattern:

weekend	business	normal	understand
---------	----------	--------	------------

If a player cannot lay a card, play passes to the next person. The winner is either the first person to get rid of all their cards or to have the fewest cards if play cannot continue.

26

STRESS DOMINOES

computer	reply	weekend	colleague
advice	relationship	lunchtime	work
priority	job	desk	coffee
boss	socializing	evening	presentation
complicated	problem	workaholic	arrangement
profit	understand	work	reply
underline	normal	office	interesting
business	interesting	evening	job
conference	deadline	salary	exam
office	exam	control	problem
revise	holiday	business	revise
difficult	control	underline	understand