

Excerpt from Accent Reduction 101: Speaking English Closer to the American Cultural And Business Style (2017, 2011, 2008) Elizabeth Peterson, M.A.CCC-SLP www.SpeechAndVoice.com

- In the second example, the rise in pitch is on the first syllable of “very.” The phrase “She is” stays at the same pitch. As soon as there is a rise in pitch, there is a drop on *every syllable* for the rest of the statement.
- Notice the same pitch style in the other two examples.

Note: As a reminder, a syllable is an individual sound segment or beat in a word, which is usually a consonant and vowel combination. For example, “cat” is a one-syllable word, “pizza” is a two-syllable word and “computer” is a three-syllable word.

The next time you watch the news pay close attention to the broadcasters. You will be able to identify pitch changes and hear the “speech stairs” intonation in their statements. A good activity for improving your understanding of the speech stairs is to repeat lines from news broadcasters. Mute the television and try to say the line you just heard in the same spoken style.

Thank you for your interest in our “Look Inside” article for Accent Reduction 101. I hope you have a sense on how helpful the book can be for reducing your accent and speaking with better speech clarity. We offer a wide variety of ways to reduce your accent. Please review the website for further information at www.SpeechAndVoice.com Training opportunities we offer include:

1. Work with a speech coach privately or online
2. Accent Reduction 4 Week Class in Denver or online
3. Self Study
 - a. Book and choice of auditory support
 - b. Book, auditory support and watch our recorded-live Accent Reduction Seminar