**HOW TO UNDERSTAND FAST ENGLISH SPEAKERS**

**( Seminar report with presentation )**

**Lazareva S. P.**

**a teacher of English**

**school 4**

**t. Bilhorod-Dnistrovskyi**

**Odesa region**

**”How to understand fast English speakers?”**

We get this question a lot from our students who complain of having hard time

understanding fast English speakers, especially when they are speaking too quickly.

As one of our tasks is to improve their listening skills, I’m going to give you some

ideas / tips on how to understand fast English speakers a little bit better and some

exercises that you can do to strengthen your students’ listening skills.

OK,

* Click 1 **The Solution**

First of all, I want you to do what native speakers do.

* Click 2 **Do what native speakers do**

And that is, they don’t listen to every word in a sentence.

* Click 3 **Don’t listen to every word**

Typically what they are doing they are listening to those stressed words in a sentence.

As you know, the rhythm of English is composed of stressed and unstressed words and syllables. So, they pay attention to listening for those stressed words and syllables in a sentence and that is what they are doing .

* Click 4 **Listen for the stressed words**

In order to understand this let’s do a little bit of review of sentence stress.

* Click 5 **Sentence Stress**

As you remember sentence stress is emphasizing important words in a sentence.

* Click 6 **Emphasize important words**

Those important words are longer, louder and with a slightly higher pitch.

* Click 7 **Longer, louder, higher pitch**

Some native speakers are really good at emphasizing and stressing these important

words and some are not. **But,** due to those speakers who do emphasize and stress

important words we can pick out those words and we can understand clearly what

they are trying to communicate.

Those stressed words in a sentence are a clue for your listener to pay attention.

* Click 8 **a clue for your listener**

So, when you are speaking and using the rhythm of English, you are to emphasize

and stress those key ideas and hand them to your listener by stressing them.

Now you may take this advice as you are listening and say:” OK, I’m going to listen for the stressed words and those stressed syllables in a sentence” and that’s what is going to help you to hear and really understand a lot better.

So, some examples of important words.

* Click 9 **Important words**

Typically, native speakers will stress and emphasize **names,**

**numbers,**

**time,**

**dates** and **addresses,**

and **negatives.**

I would advise you to pay attention to

**superlatives,**

**modals of necessity**

and **adverbs of frequency** as well.

As you follow this rule, you’ll be able to pick that out a little bit better.

OK, stressed words mean they’re important in the meaning.

* Click 10 **Stress = Important**

We have those curves of stressed and unstressed words and syllables in a sentence.

So, you’re looking for those stressed ones, those peaks in the English rhythm.

* Click 11 **Curves of stressed and unstressed words/syllables** (Picture)

And that’s really important, that’s what native speakers are saying.

Now, to do this you need a lot of practice.

* Click 12 **Practice Listening**

I’ve found a resource that is absolutely amazing - the website is called esl-lab.com

* Click 13 **esl-lab.com** (Picture)

and there you can listen to dozens of recorded conversations between native English

speakers and then you can do a listening quiz or a comprehension test. It’s an incredible resource and I hope that while listening it you’ll pay attention to those stressed words and syllables in a sentence and see if you can better pull them out.

All right, as a review.

* Click 14 **The Solution**

While listening do what native speakers do

* Click 15 **Do what native speakers do**

Don’t listen to every word

* Click 16 **Don’t listen to every word**

Listen for those stressed words in a sentence

* Click 17 **Listen for the stressed words**

I know that as you do this and practice these skills you’ll get better understanding

native English speakers and especially those who might be speaking a little bit too

fast. So, go practice, listen as much as possible and see you soon.