

## Intonation Practice

Based on J.D. O'Connor & G.F. Arnold (1961): *Intonation of Colloquial English*, London: Longman

### O'Connor & Arnold's intonational transcription symbols

No regular Intonation Phrase (IP) exists without a *nuclear syllable* (= *tonic syllable*, *tonic*, *nucleus*). This bears the primary accent (i.e. it is not only stressed but also carries or begins a nuclear contour). May be followed by an optional *tail*. A stress within the tail can be indicated by a raised dot: 'x.

- (1) a. | \Look at it. |    b. | \Both of them were 'here. |    c. | 'What did you 'say? |
- 

Before the nucleus there may be a prehead and a head.

The *Head* is that part of an IP which extends from the first accented syllable up to, but not including, the nuclear syllable. This can be a High Head (also known as Stepping Head), as in (2), or a Low Head, as in (4). The symbol of the high head is 'x.

- (2) | They were 'practising their Hun'garian \diligently. |
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Before a FR nucleus, the High Head is realised as a Sliding Head (this has no different symbol because it is in complementary distribution with the Stepping Head):

- (3) | They were 'practising their Hun'garian ^diligently. |
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The head can also be a Low Head, symbol: ,x.

- (4) | They were ,practising their Hun,garian \diligently. |
- 

But with a Rising nuclear contour, or with a Low Falling nuclear contour, the Low Head remains low all the way through:

- (5) | Is ,that the ,end? |                      | The ,bus was \late. |
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Accented syllables in the head are said to bear secondary accent. These are not only stressed, but are associated with pitch change, however, unlike the nuclear syllable, they do not initiate nuclear tones.

Syllables before the first accent constitute the prehead. The *Prehead* is normally low or mid (these have no symbol, cf. (2), (3), (4), (5)), but it can be high as well, and then its symbol will be a raised circle: °x , as in (6)

(6) |° The \brute. |



Notes: 1. In the examples below, unless otherwise indicated, each response is one IP.  
2. In the examples below stresses in tails will not be indicated.

### **C1 = CONTOUR ONE: (Low prenuclear part)+Low Fall**

General attitudes: UNSYMPATHETIC, UNINTERESTED

Statements: cool, phlegmatic, uninterested, possibly even hostile:

|You've got \lipstick on your collar again. |

neutral on final item in a list: |You can have 'tea, |or 'coffee| or \milk. |

QWQs: cool, phlegmatic, uninterested, possibly even hostile:

(- Can you lend me some money?) | ,What do you \want it for? |

YNQs: cool, phlegmatic, detached:

(-We'll have to take a taxi.) |But ,can we af\ford it? |

neutral in a series of short Qs: |It is \red? |Is it \blue? |Is it \black? |

uninterested or even *hostile in short responses:*

(-I've just come back from Paris.) | \Have you? |

Commands: (usually without the low prenuclear part): cool, unemotional, calm:

| \Gently, you clumsy man. |

Interjections: cool, unemotional, calm (= unsurprised):

| \Nonsense. | | \Very nice. | | \Thank you. |

### PRACTICE:

1. (Can you come tomorrow?) \No. 2. (Whose book is this?) \Mine. 3. (You must ask for them now.) \Why? 4. (He simply must go.) \When? 5. (I'll send it to him.) \Do.

9. (What's your name?) \Johnson. 10. (Who's running the music club this year?) \Peter's going to run it. 11. (Someone's bound to have one.) \Who, exactly. 13. (He's forgotten to shut the gate.) \Isn't he stupid? 17. (Watch me juggle with these plates.) \Now look what you've done.

20. (What's your job?) I'm a \shop assistant. 21. (Where did you go to school?) Well I was at a \number of schools. 24. (I've got so many things to do.) Can \I help at all? 29. (I'm afraid I've got a cold.) No \wonder!

30. (What would you like for dinner?) I ,don't \know. 31. (What's that tray made of?) It's ,made of a ,sort of \plastic. 32. (Which road shall we take?) ,Which is the \quicker? 33. (I'm afraid I've lost your pen.) ,What are you ,going to \do about it? 34. (I don't feel like drinking beer.) Would you ,care for a \whisky, then? 35. (I don't know what to tell Jean.) ,Need we tell her \anything?

**C2 = CONTOUR TWO: High prenuclear part + Low Fall**

General attitudes: CONSIDERED, WEIGHTY, CATEGORIC

Statements: categoric, considered, serious, weighty, often impatient:*(-Are you sure?) |'Abso'lutely \certain. |**(- I'll fetch you in the car.) |°That \is good of you. |*QWQs: categoric, serious, searching, often impatient: *|'How on 'earth did you \manage it? |*YNQs: insistent, weighty; often used to keep the listener to the point: *|Well 'couldn't we \borrow some money? |*Commands: categoric, considered, serious, weighty, often impatient: *|'Come and have \dinner with us. |*Especially common with commands containing *do* and *please*: *|'Please be \quiet. |*Interjections:  *|What a 'lovely 'day for a \picnic! |***PRACTICE:**

1. (Isn't he very bright?) 'Mad as a \hatter. 2. (Is it easy?) 'Not so 'easy as you might \think. 3. (I'm afraid I can't do it.) 'Can't do \what? 4. (What's he saying?) 'How can I 'hear when you're 'making 'so much \noise? 5. (It'll be very exciting.) 'Will you 'stick to the \point? 6. (He's two hours late again.) 'Isn't he 'just the 'sort of 'person to 'drive you \mad?

11. (Why did he run away?) I haven't the 'slightest i\dea. 12. (Where's that book of mine?) I've 'put it a'way in the 'dining room \cupboard. 13. (Will you help?) How could I 'possibly re\fuse? 15. (It's quite an interesting idea,.) Would you 'say it's a 'practical propo\osition? 16. (We've both got the same answer.) No 'isn't 'that pe\cular? 20. (How shall I make my peace?) Give the girl the most ex'pensive 'meal you can a\ford. 22. (I haven't seen you for ages.) And i'magine us 'meeting \here of all places.

23. (I'll fetch you in the car.) °That \is good of you. 24. (You won't do it that way.) °Well \how, then? 25. (What did you say the address was?) °How many \more times d'you want telling? 26. (Well he says he needs it.) °Yes but \does he, in all honesty? 27. (We can't leave yet. It's raining.) °Now \isn't that infuriating? 29. (He just shouted me down.) °The \brute.

**C3 = CONTOUR THREE: (Low prenuclear part) + High Fall**

General attitudes: INTERESTED, LIVELY, SURPRISED

Statements: personal concern, involvement, active interest:

(- How did you lose it?) | I \haven't lost it. |

with a Low Head: querulous or disgruntled protest:

(- Haven't you brought the car?) | You \didn't \ask me to. |

QWQs: lively, interested:

(- I saw the Queen yesterday.) | \Where? |

with a Low Head: surprised: | \Why did you do \that? |

YNOs: with the High Fall on the Aux in short responses: mildly surprised:

(- I like it here.) | \Do you? | (I thought you'd hate it.)

with the High Fall following the Aux: the Q is offered as a subject for discussion rather than a request for information, sometimes impatient:

(- I can't do it today.) | Well \can you \do it to\morrow, then? |

Commands: "this is obvious, it ought to have occurred to you":

(- What on earth shall I do?) | \Try it a\gain. |

Interjections: lively, emotional: | Good \morning, Fred. |

with a Low Head: surprised:

(- John isn't coming.) | What an ex\traordinary \thing! |

**PRACTICE:**

1. (Do you know Basil Fish?) \No. | I \don't. 2. (Why didn't you buy the picture?) \Much too expensive. 3. (I saw the Queen yesterday.) \Where? 4. (Let's paint one of the walls pink.) \Which of them, do you think? 5. (You're too late.) \Am I? 9. (I love salted almonds.) \Take a couple of handfuls. 10. (The paper's too big for the envelope.) \Fold it then, you helpless man. 11. (Will you have a drink?) \Thank you. | I'd \love one.

17. (They both passed the exam.) Oh \did they? 19. (Pat's being very obstinate.) Then \you be obstinate, | \too. 20. (May I use your phone?) By \all means. 21. (I owe you an apology.) I should \think so, indeed.!

22. (Peter came early.) Well \so did \I. 23. (Why didn't you say you'd won?) I \didn't \know I \had. | I'm \just as sur\prised as \you are. 24. (I told him he was a fool.) \What did you \say \that for? 25. (I'm going to emigrate.) \When did you de\cide to do \that? 27. (You're not very good at it, are you?) Have I \ever pre\ttended \otherwise? 29. (I don't want to go alone.) \Come a\long with \us, then. 30. (I've lost my invitation.) Well \write and \ask them to \send you a\nother one. 31. (Look. It works.) \So it \does. | How \very \odd! 32. (You're a bit grumpy today.) \Not in the \least!

**C4 = CONTOUR FOUR: High prenuclear part + High Fall**

General attitudes: NEUTRAL, FRIENDLY

Statements: neutral, friendly:(- *How did the game go?*) | *'Very \well.* |QWQs: neutral: | *'Where on 'earth have you \been all this time?* |YNQs: when Q offered as a subject for discussion rather than as a request for information, neutral:(- *John says he has an alibi.*) | *'Can he \prove it?* |Commands: neutral:(- *This tea's too hot.*) | *'Put some more \milk in it.* |Interjections: Mildly surprised:(- *We've sold our house.*) | *'What an ex'traordinary thing to \do.* |**PRACTICE:**

1. (What's the time please?) I 'don't \know. | I sup'pose it's about \twelve.
2. (Here. Use my pen.) 'Thank you very \much. | 'Mine seems to be 'out of \ink.
3. (I've just seen that new musical.) 'What's it \called?
4. (Underneath the Arches.) 'What did you \think of it?
5. (What was that you said?) 'Where did you 'go for your 'summer \holiday?
6. (John says he has an alibi.) 'Can he \prove it?
7. (I can't help being right, can I?) But must you 'always 'be so \smug about it?
9. (I can't think what to say.) Don't say 'anything at \all. | Leave it en'tirely to \me.
10. (What shall I do with this?) 'Put it in the waste \paper basket.
12. (I was sorry to have to vote against you.) A 'fine 'friend \you turned out to be!
13. (Was it easy?) °Sur\prisingly so.
14. (It's no use asking Philip.) °Well \who, then?
15. (Well it looks like mine.) °But \is it yours in fact?
16. (Shall I ask him to tea?) °By \all means ask him.
17. (Looking for me, Terry?) °Oh \there you are, Peter!

**C5 = CONTOUR FIVE: (High prenuclear part) + Rise-Fall**

General attitudes: IMPRESSED, CHALLENGING, SHRUGGING OFF  
RESPONSIBILITY

Statements: impressed (awed): (- *She's got two cars.*) | ^Two!|

complacent, self-satisfied:

(-He's failed his driving test.) |I'm 'not sur^prised.|

intensifying (similar to the use of *even*):

(- *It doesn't need an expert.*) | ^I could do it.|

disclaiming responsibility: (-*May I take this chair?*) | ^Certainly.|

QWQs: challenging:

(-*I'm worried about the situation.*) |But 'what's it 'got to 'do with ^you?|

disclaiming responsibility:

(- *Where's Jane?*) |How on 'earth should ^I know?|

YNQs: impressed: (- *He shot an elephant.*) | ^Did he?|

challenging: (- *It's a faster car.*) |But 'is it any ^safer?|

Commands: disclaiming responsibility:

(-*My doctor's useless.*) | ^Try a ^different one.|

Interjections: impressed, surprised: |Good ^morning.|

(- *You can borrow my Jaguar.*) | ^Thank you.|

## PRACTICE:

1. (Can you see?) ^Perfectly. 2. (Is he as tall as his father?) ^Taller, even. 3. (I was very cross with him.) ^Naturally. | ^Anyone would be. 4. (Surely one of these screws will fit.) ^Which of them, though? 5. (I finished well before time.) ^Clever, | ^aren't you? 6. (I hate it, but what can I do?) ^Tell them you hate it. 7. (Did you finish that job?) ^Heavens, yes, | ^ages ago.

8. (Did you see any lions?) ^Lots. 9. (Is it cheaper by coach?) ^Much. 10. (You pay for it.) ^How? 11. (Well borrow a ruler.) ^Whose? 12. (May I take this newspaper?) ^Do.

13. (John's got it now.) ^Oh! |That's ^different! 14. (Can you manage it alone?) I'm ^sure I can. 15. (I thought you didn't like spinach.) On the ^contrary. | I ^love it. 16. (Why should you do the donkey work?) Who ^else is there to do it? 18. (You ought to apologise.) Oh ^ought I, indeed? 19. (Everything's so dear. ) Aren't po^tatoes a price!

21. (Is he getting fatter?) 'Getting ^fatter? | He's ^huge. 22. (Did you save time?) I was 'able to 'do it in ^half the time. 23. (I don't like the man.) You've 'never 'even ^spoken to him. 26. (I've had this pain for days.) 'Why don't you ^do something about it? 27. (Can we afford to buy it?) 'Can we afford ^not to? 29. (It's not much of a cut.) Then 'don't make 'so much ^fuss about it. 30. (Thank you so much.) 'Not at ^all. | 'Thank ^you.

**C6 = CONTOUR SIX: (Low prenuclear part) + Low Rise**

General attitudes: RESERVED, CAUTIOUS

Statements: speaker reserves judgement until he has heard more:(- *Have you any money on you?*) | *Yes.* |

often resentful, critical, politely contradictory:

(- *Must I do it now?*) | *Not if you don't want to.* |(- *That's our train.*) | *No, it's not.* |

non-final items in an enumeration, neutral:

| *You can have coffee, or tea, or cocoa.* |QWQs: asking for information to be repeated, nucleus on the QW:(- *The meeting's at five.*) | *When?* |

when the nucleus is not on the QW, menacing:

(- *Please, don't do that.*) | *And why shouldn't I?* |YNQs: cautious, sceptical:(- *I'm sorry that I did it.*) | *Are you really sorry?* |but neutral on Q-tags: | *She's nice girl, isn't she?* || *Stand still, will you?* |Commands: reserved (widely used only when command begins with *don't*):| *Don't do that.* |Interjections: reserved: (- *John says he can't come.*) | *Oh.* | *Well.* |

calm, casual acknowledgement of something expected:

(- *The car's here.*) | *Good.* | | *Thank you.* | | *Very well.* |**PRACTICE:**

1. (Did you catch the last train?) *Just.* 2. (What does a haberdasher sell?) *Shirts, ties, socks, gloves, ...* 3. (When's the meeting due to take place?) *When? [Why, at five].* 4. (The meeting's at five.) *When? [I thought it was at six].*

7. (Do you ever go to the club?) *Sometimes.* 8. (Tony's always late.) *Last week he was on time.* 9. (How old are you?) *How old am I? [How old do you think?]* 10. (I thought she was pretty.) *Did you?*

12. (Have you been there?) *I have.* 13. (I wonder if they sell socks.) *You could enquire.* 15. (I went with Mr Spang.) *With who?* 17. (Oh good! Breakfast in bed!) *Do you like breakfast in bed?* 18. (I can't find my key anywhere.) *You haven't lost it, have you?* 20. (Is that really yours?) *Of course.*

22. (How much did you win?) *About a thousand pounds.* 23. (What will they think of me?) *You mustn't take it to heart.* 24. (Shut the door, for heaven's sake.) *Just who do you think you're talking to?* 26. (Let's use it now.) *Wouldn't it be better to wait till it's cold?* 29. (I'm sorry.) *Well say it as if you meant it.*

**C7 = CONTOUR SEVEN: High prenuclear part + Low Rise**

General attitudes: NEUTRAL on YNQs and on non-final subclauses;  
REASSURING, PATRONIZING otherwise

Statements: soothing, reassuring (+ hint of speaker's self-confidence):

|It 'won't /hurt. | |You 'won't /fall. |

neutral on non-final clause (formal reading style):

|'When I ar,rived, | there was 'nobody at /home. |

|I 'opened the 'door /quietly, | and 'looked /in. |

QWQs: encouraging (often used to children):

| 'When do you 'want to /go there? |

echoing of a previous Q (with disapproval):

(- When are you going home?) |'When am I 'going /home? |

asking for information to be repeated, nucleus on the QW:

(- I saw him in Cronbongo.) |You 'saw him /where? |

YNQs: neutral:

|<sup>(1)</sup>Did you en'joy the /play last night? |

Commands: soothing, reassuring (+ hint of speaker's self-confidence), often used to children: |'Blow your /nose, dear. | |'Don't /worry. |

Interjections: friendly, reassuring, encouraging:

|'Good /luck. | |'Well /done. | |'Yes, /please. | |'No, /thank you. |

in greetings (especially leave-takings) with a high prehead:

|°Good /morning. | |°Good-/bye. | |°Good /night, dear. |

**PRACTICE:**

1. (I hate climbing ladders.) It's 'all /right. | You 'won't /fall. 2. (I must pay you what I owe you.) There's 'no /hurry. | When'ever it's con,venient. 3. (Tell me doctor. Is he badly hurt?) 'Nothing at 'all /serious. | 'Just a 'few /bruises. 5. (I leave tomorrow morning.) 'What /train are you thinking of catching? 6. (Stephen's going to retire.) 'Who do you 'think will take /over from him? 7. (He's sitting on the carver.) He's 'sitting on the /what? 8. (I'm going to do some shopping.) Can 'I come, /too? 9. (I'd love you to come.) Are you 'taking the /car? 10. (I suppose I'll have to.) 'Would you like /me to drive? 13. (I just can't quite manage it.) Well 'keep /trying. 14. (I'm just going.) 'Have a good /time. 16. (Have a good holiday.) 'And /you! 17. (I'll be back later.) Good'bye for the /present. | 'See you /then.

19. (Do hurry up.) °I'm /coming. 20. (But I may spill some.) °If you go /carefully, you won't. 22. (I said nothing of the kind.) °What /did you say then? 23. (He was treated by an osteopath.) °By /who, did you say? 24. (When can I call for it?) °Would /Friday suit you? 25. (We had a splendid game.) °Did you /win, by the way? 27. (Whatever shall we do?) °Don't /panic. | °We'll /think of something.



**C8 = CONTOUR EIGHT: (High prenuclear part) + High Rise**

General attitudes: QUESTIONING

Statements: become Qs:|*He's 'definitely 'going?*|

can be used on non-final items (more tentative and casual than C6 or C7):

|*You can 'stay 'here, | or 'come with \us. |*QWQs: asking for information to be repeated, nucleus on QW (lighter, more casual than with C6 or C7):|*'What was his name again?* |

echoing a previous Q (no disapproval as with C7):

(- *When are you going home?*) |*'When am I 'going 'home?*|YNQs: lighter, more casual than with C6 or C7 (neutral in American E):|*'Is it 'raining?*|Commands and interjections: question a part or all of an utterance of the listener:(- *Take it home.*) |*'Take it 'home?*| \Why? |(- *What a shame.*) |*'What a 'shame?*| \Why? |**PRACTICE:**

1. (It's snowing.) 'Much?
2. (I've just seen the Edwards girl.) 'Joan Edwards?
3. (Can I borrow some matches?) 'Matches? | [By \all means.]
4. (I've got to go to Leeds.) 'You've got to go?
6. (How did he find out?) 'How did he find out? | [Through \Max, I imagine.]
7. (Can you make me one?) 'Make you one? | [With \pleasure.]
9. (What lovely cherries.) 'Want some?
12. (Pass me the paper.) The 'Times, do you mean?
13. (Has Michael arrived yet?) You were ex'pecting him?
15. (I'd like to hear one of your records.) Well, I've got some 'Bach, | or De'bussy, | or if you pre'fer it, | [I've got some \jazz.]
17. (My knife's broken.) Your 'what's broken?
18. (Would you like one?) Would 'I like one? | I'd \love one.]
19. (How do you like my song?) Do you 'always sing as flat as that?
20. (Take them away.) Take 'both of them away?
22. (Why not ask Jennie?) You 'think she 'might a'gree?
24. (I'd like two dozen.) 'Two 'dozen, sir? | [\Certainly.]
25. (How many children has he?) 'How 'many? | [\Six, I be'lieve.]
26. (Which would you recommend?) 'Which would 'I recommend?
27. (He speaks Hindustani.) He 'speaks 'what language?
30. (Could I talk to you sometime?) 'Are you 'free 'now?
32. (Leave the key with Mrs Atkins.) 'Leave it with 'Mrs 'Joyce Atkins?
33. (The silly young fool.) 'Silly young 'fool? | [\Who? | 'John?]

**C9 = CONTOUR NINE: (High prenuclear part) + Fall-Rise**

General attitude: IMPLICATIVE (something is left unspoken)

Note: Here the High prenuclear part is different from that in the other contours: it consists of gently descending patterns, O'Connor &amp; Arnold call this the Sliding Head.

Statements: for the first element of double contrast:| *On<sup>V</sup> weekdays | I<sup>\</sup> work, | but on<sup>V</sup> Saturdays | I<sup>\</sup> don't.* |

implication of double contrast:

| *I<sup>\</sup> did on<sup>V</sup> Saturday. | (→ But I didn't on Sunday.)*

“Although what you say is acceptable, something else is not.”

(- *It's raining.*) | *It<sup>\</sup> is at the<sup>V</sup> moment. | (→ But it may clear up later.)*

“Although what you say isn't acceptable, something else is.”

(- *Everyone's gone home.*) | *'Not<sup>V</sup> everyone. | (→ Though most have.)*

contradictions, corrections:

(- *It didn't take you long.*) | *It<sup>V</sup> did. |*(- *Did you say seventeen?*) | *<sup>V</sup>Seventy. |*Qs (all kinds): surprised, astonished:(- *It's your turn.*) | *<sup>V</sup>Is it?* |Commands: urgent warnings:| *<sup>V</sup>Mind. | | 'Mind the<sup>V</sup> steps. |*Interjections: scornful:(- *Did you lend him any money?*) | *'Not<sup>V</sup> I!* |**PRACTICE:**

1. (I thought they all took one.) <sup>V</sup>Ann did. 2. (Are things getting dearer?) <sup>V</sup>Some things. 3. (I like oysters.) <sup>V</sup>You may. | But <sup>V</sup>I certainly don't. 4. (His name is John.) <sup>V</sup>Harry. 6. (They gave us eight pounds.) <sup>V</sup>Seven, | \wasn't it?

10. (Have you finished?) <sup>V</sup>Practically. 11. (It's a good plan, isn't it?) <sup>V</sup>We think so. 13. (What a dull book.) <sup>V</sup>Parts of it were fairly interesting. 14. Aren't these apples sour!) <sup>V</sup>Some of them are all right. 15. (He's an old fool.) <sup>V</sup>That's not a very nice thing to say. 18. He speaks French and Italian fluently.) <sup>V</sup>German and Italian you mean, | /don't you?

21. (You won't tell him, will you?) <sup>V</sup>No, | but 'very re<sup>V</sup>luctantly. 22. (Was it twins or triplets?) <sup>V</sup>Twins. | We 'mustn't e<sup>V</sup>xaggerate. 25. (I don't think I can do it.) <sup>V</sup>Try. 26. (Can I give you a hand?) <sup>V</sup>Please.

28. (I say the scheme's much too ambitious.) Well that's <sup>V</sup>one way of looking at it. 29. (But you never lose your temper.) Oc<sup>V</sup>asionally I do. 30. (Nothing went at all right.) The <sup>V</sup>weather might have been worse.

40. (D'you smoke?) I 'do <sup>V</sup>sometimes. 41. (What a nasty cold day.) It's 'bitterly <sup>V</sup>cold, | but it's 'not <sup>V</sup>nasty. 42. (Would he lend me his video?) He 'might if you 'talked <sup>V</sup>nicely to him. 45. (Can I borrow your penknife?) It's 'not very <sup>V</sup>sharp. 47. (Let me know tomorrow.) I 'doubt whether I can 'give you an 'answer by <sup>V</sup>then. 50. (Alan's forgotten his umbrella.) He 'always leaves <sup>V</sup>something behind. 51. (Oh dry up, you idiot.) It's 'no use 'trying to 'shout me <sup>V</sup>down. 55. (What's worrying you, Peter?) I 'hope you don't 'think I'm inter<sup>V</sup>fering, | [but 'is it /wise to spend so much?] 61. (I'm sorry.) Well 'say it as 'if you <sup>V</sup>meant it.

**C10 = CONTOUR TEN: (High OR Low prenuclear part) + High Fall + Low Rise**

General attitudes: SYMPATHETIC, PERSUASIVE, PLAINTIVE.

Often correlates with a “more important—less important part” division of the sentence, without conveying any attitude other than neutral.

Statements: communicatively main part + subsidiary part:

|*He was com<sup>1</sup>pletely ex<sup>h</sup>hausted by the <sub>1</sub>time he ar<sub>1</sub>rived.*|

|*I<sup>1</sup>haven't <sup>h</sup>seen him <sub>1</sub>lately.*| |*That's e<sup>n</sup>ough, <sub>1</sub>thank you.*|

previous opinion or statement has turned out to be correct:

|*I<sup>h</sup>thought it was <sub>1</sub>going to <sub>1</sub>rain.*|

sympathetic, persuasive (not condescending as C7):

|*I<sup>m</sup> <sup>v</sup>ery <sub>1</sub>sorry.*| |*I<sup>w</sup>ish I <sup>h</sup>adn't been so <sub>1</sub>rude.*|

|*It's <sup>o</sup>nly a <sub>1</sub>few minutes' <sub>1</sub>walk.*|

self-pity, plaintiveness:

|*I<sup>w</sup>ish you'd <sub>1</sub>do as you're <sub>1</sub>told.*|

OWQs: plaintive, weary:

(- *Bill's watch! I've lost it!*) |*What <sup>s</sup>hall I <sub>1</sub>do, Mary?*|

(- *You owe me ten pounds.*) |*Just <sup>h</sup>ow d'you make <sub>1</sub>that out?*|

sympathetic, persuasive:

|*<sup>h</sup>What's the <sub>1</sub>matter, darling?*|

YNQs: plaintive:

|*<sup>h</sup>Must you <sub>1</sub>be so <sub>1</sub>obstinate?*|

Commands: main part + subsidiary part:

|*Carry on as <sup>u</sup>sual for the <sub>1</sub>moment.*|

|*Don't say <sup>a</sup>nthing unless you <sub>1</sub>have to.*|

sympathetic, persuasive, plaintive (when the fall is on *do, don't* or *please*): |*Now <sup>h</sup>do be <sub>1</sub>reasonable, Charles.*|

|*Don't take it <sub>1</sub>too much to <sub>1</sub>heart.*|

Interjections: sympathetic, warm:

|*<sup>h</sup>Poor old <sub>1</sub>Peter!*| |*<sup>h</sup>All <sub>1</sub>right!*| |*<sup>h</sup>Good <sub>1</sub>morning, Bill.*|

plaintive:

(- *I've asked you to make up the fire.*) |*<sup>h</sup>All <sub>1</sub>right.*| |*I was <sup>h</sup>just <sub>1</sub>going.*|

Notes: 1. This is a compound contour (= the divided Fall-Rise), i.e. a combination of a High Fall and a Low Rise, without a pause between them. The differences between this (C10) and the undivided Fall-Rise (C9) are as follows: (a) In C9 the so-called Sliding Head is used, in C10 the Stepping Head or the Low Head. (b) The fall in pitch in C10 is from a higher level and often to a lower level than in C9. (c) In C9 the syllables after the fall may gradually rise one after the other, in C10 they are always at the lowest level until the final Low Rise. (d) In C9 the stresses after the the fall may be suppressed, in C10 this is never so. Cp C9: |*He was com<sup>1</sup>pletely ex<sup>v</sup>hausted by the time he arrived.*| vs. C10: |*He was com<sup>1</sup>pletely ex<sup>h</sup>hausted by the <sub>1</sub>time he arrived.*|

2. Many scholars do not recognize the divided Fall-Rise, and analyse it as two intonation phrases, one having a falling nuclear contour, the other a low rising one. This is fine when there is a (potential) pause between the fall and the rise, but problematic when there is no such pause.

## PRACTICE:

1. (Don't you like it?) I \don't /frankly. 2. (Any news of Tim?) He's coming \home /soon. 3. (Did it amuse you going to the club?) Yes, and I'd /like to go a\gain with you /sometime. 4. (I bumped into Alfred yesterday.) [How \nice! |] I /don't suppose you \see much of each other /nowadays. 5. (And this is Tommy's effort.) You know it's /rather \good for a /six year old. 6. (Haven't you finished it yet?) I've /only just be\gun it, as a /matter of /fact. 11. (I thought of going for a stroll.) I'll come \too, if I /may. 12. (How did you get on with him?) /Rather \well, /strange as it may /seem.
16. (What about approaching Janet?) No, I'd \hate the /thought of asking /her a favour. 18. (Where shall we go this year?) 'Somewhere in \Devon would make a /nice /change. 19. (It was quite an accident.) But I \told you /not to /touch it. 20. (Yes, that's Ben Cunynghame.) [Well, /now! |] I \thought his /face was fa/miliar. 26. (I thought you ought to know.) \Thank you for /telling me. | I \do ap/preciate it. 27. (I really must go now.) Well, \goodbye, /Bill. | I \do hope you have a /comfortable /journey. 28. (It's all so discouraging, ) I know e\actly how you /feel. 29. (Sorry I haven't returned it yet.) That's \quite all /right, | I'm in \no par/ticular /hurry for it. 31. (I've already been waiting a year.) Then \surely a /few more /days won't make much difference. 32. (It's an absolute scandal.) There's \no need to /get so worked /up about it. 33. (I do wish he'd mind his own business.) But he was \only /trying to be /helpful. 42. (Come and have a game, Phil.) \Will you /stop /bothering me? | \Can't you /see I'm /busy? 45. (Quickly.) \Wait a /minute. | There's \no /hurry. 46. (What's all the knocking about?) Oh \don't just /sit there. | \Open the /door.