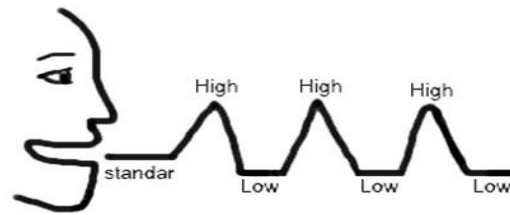


## What is Intonation in English



Intonation refers to the pitch patterns that a speaker uses when communicating in English. The intonation of a sentence is the pattern of the pitch that occurs. There are three patterns of intonation:

**Falling Intonation** (↘) (The pitch of the voice falls at the end of the sentence.)

Falling intonation is the most common intonation pattern in English.

It is commonly found in statements, commands, wh-questions (information questions), confirmatory question tags and exclamations.

Statements

Nice to meet ↘you.

I'll be back in a ↘minute.

She doesn't live here ↘anymore.

Dad wants to change his ↘car.

Here is the weather ↘forecast.

Cloudy weather is expected at the end of the ↘week.

We should work together more ↘often

I'm going for a walk in the ↘park.

Commands

Write your name ↘here.

Show me what you've ↘written.

Leave it on the ↘desk.

Take that picture ↘down.

Throw that ↘out.

Put your books on the ↘table.

Take your hands out of your ↘pockets.

Wh- questions (requesting information.)

(questions beginning with 'who', 'what', 'why', 'where', 'when', 'which', and 'how')

What country do you come ↘from?

Where do you ↘work?

Which of them do you ↘prefer?

When does the shop ↘open?

How many books have you ↘bought?

Which coat is ↘yours?

Whose bag is ↘this?

Questions Tags that are statements requesting confirmation rather than questions.

Not all tag questions are really questions.

Some of them merely ask for confirmation or invite agreement, in which case we use a falling tone at the end.

He thinks he's so clever, doesn't \he?

She's such a nuisance, isn't \she?

I failed the test because I didn't revise, did \I?

It doesn't seem to bother him much, does \it?

Exclamations

How nice of \you!

That's just what I \need!

You don't \say!

What a beautiful \voice!

That's a \surprise!

Rising Intonation ( ↗ )

(The pitch of the voice rises at the end of a sentence.)

Rising intonation invites the speaker to continue talking.

It is normally used with yes/no questions, and question tags that are real questions.

Yes/no Questions

(Questions that can be answered by 'yes' or 'no'.)

Do you like your new ↗ teacher?

Have you finished ↗ already?

May I borrow your ↗ dictionary?

Do you have any ↗ magazines?

Do you sell ↗ stamps?

Questions tags that show uncertainty and require an answer (real questions).


We've met already, ↗ haven't we?

You like fish, ↗ don't you?

You're a new student ↗ aren't you?


The view is beautiful, ↗ isn't it?

## ■ Use Falling Intonation In...



1. Declarative sentences --> I live in France.
2. Commands --> Sit down!
3. Exclamatory sentences --> What a wonderful girl!
4. At the last item of a list --> I like cars, trucks and BIKES.
5. Wh questions --> Where do you live?
6. Tag question --> You live in France, DON'T YOU?  
(It's not a real question, you already know the answer. You just want to confirm it or are just making conversation.)

## ■ Use Rising Intonation In...



1. Yes/No questions --> Are you French?
2. In every item of list except the last one --> I like CARS, TRUCKS and bikes.
3. Dependent or introductory sentences --> IF SHE CALLS, ask her to come.
4. Direct address --> SIR, be careful with the dog.
5. Tag questions --> You live in France, DON'T YOU?  
(Here the tag question is a real question because you don't know the answer).