

英語語句重音变化举例

許 海 兰

语句重音 (sentence stress) 是英语语音中的一个重要因素。本来, 英语的每个单词, 单独唸的时候总是重读的。一个词如果只有一个音节, 例如 yes 和 is, 那么单独唸的时候, 其单音节本身当然就是重音所在。一个词如果是由两个或两个以上的音节组成的, 那么重音就会落在个别音节上。例如 'sentence, ex'plore, im'portance, 便都有它们自己的重音。此外还有一些词具有两个音节, 而这两个音节都是重音所在。如 'Chi'nese 便是一个例子。这些词在单独唸的时候的重音, 便叫做“单词重音”(word stress)。但当人们讲英语的时候, 在一个句子里, 却往往不是每个单词都该重读的, 而是有轻有重, 有重读也有不重读的。这是英语语音中的一个重要特点。单词在句子中的这种重音, 便叫做“语句重音”。

在一个句子里, 究竟哪些词该重读? 哪些词不该重读? 要解决这个问题, 有一条基本原则必须遵循, 那就是: 凡在句中表达重要意思的词才有语句重音, 否则便没有语句重音。根据这条基本原则, 一般说来, 凡是实词, 一般都有语句重音。实词包括名词、指示代词、加强语气代词、所有格代词^①、表意动词、形容词、付词、感叹词、疑问词、数词、否定词; 这些词都该重读。不过, 还有一个音节以上的前置词和连接词, 虽然不是实词, 也是要重读的。另一方面, 凡是虚词, 因为在句中只起语法作用, 即使具有一定意义, 却在句中不占重要地位, 一般便没有语句重音。虚词包括冠词、人称代词、反身代词、相互代词、不定代词、关系代词、物主代词、关系付词、助动词、连系动词、情态动词、动词 have、单音节的前置词和连接词、引导词 there 和小品词 to 等; 这些词都不该重读。总之, 就一般规律而论, 可以说: 实词有语句重音, 虚词无语句重音。

根据上述的一般规律, 现在就按有语句重音的词和无语句重音的词, 分别列表举例如下。表中第一栏所列的词类, 在第二栏的例句中就以相应的单词用斜音字表示出来。例句中重读的词, 都在重读音节的左上方或左下方用(')或(ˈ)标出。

有语句重音的词

词 类	例 句
名 词	The 'hero 'gave his 'life for the 'cause.
指 示 代 词	'This is a 'victory for the revo'lution.
加强语气代词	We our'selves are 'building 'socialism.
所有格代词	The 'peasants' 'harvest is 'theirs, 'not the 'landlords'.
表 意 动 词	'First 'think, 'then 'speak.
	The 'people's 'artist 'sang with 'feeling.
形 容 词	'Red 'banners were 'flying 'everywhere.

① 名詞型的物主代詞有語句重音, 而形容詞的物主代詞无語句重音。

付	词	The 'people's 'artist 'sang 'beautifully.
感 叹	词	'Ah! Our 'leaders have ar'rived!
疑 问	词	'How shall we pro'ceed? 'Where does the 'bus 'stop? 'What 'method pro'duces 'better 'crops?
数	词	'Millions u'nite as 'one. 'Four 'eyes 'see 'more than 'two. 'All a'greed to co'operate.
否 定	词	'No, I 'never 'saw him. 'Nobody 'asked me, so I 'said 'nothing. He did 'not 'come, so I 'didn't 'see him. Our 'victory is be'yond 'doubt. He did 'not 'hesitate be'cause of 'difficulties. 'Everyone ex'cept 'Chang ar'rived on 'time.
一个音节以上的前置词		They ar'rived on 'time al'though it was 'raining. We will 'fight the 'enemy un'til they are de'feated.
一个音节以上的连接词		

无语句重音的词

词 类	例 句
冠 词	The 'atom bomb is a 'paper 'tiger.
人 称 代 词	He 'offered to 'help me.
反 身 代 词	We 'criticise ourselves 'regularly.
相 互 代 词	'Comrades should under'stand each other.
不 定 代 词	We have 'not any 'interest in 'mere 'money.
关 系 代 词	I 'don't 'know the 'man who 'came 'yesterday. 'This is a 'principle that we 'all sup'port.
物 主 代 词	She 'lent me her 'book.
关 系 付 词	We 'go where the 'country 'needs us.
助 动 词	We are 'marching 'forward. We have 'finished our 'task.
连 系 动 词	'Unity is 'strength. The 'workers look 'healthy. ①
情 态 动 词	We can 'do it with the 'Party's 'guidance. We may 'fail but we must 'try.
动 词 have	I have 'confidence in our suc'cess.

① 动词 to be 无语句重音，其它动词当连系动词时只有次重音或完全不重读。

单音节的 前置词	We 'went to the ,countryside and 'lived <i>with</i> the 'commune members.
单音节的 连接词	'This 'skill is 'difficult <i>but</i> we will 'master it. We 'get 'up <i>when</i> the 'bell 'rings.
引导词 there	<i>There</i> is 'much 'work to be 'done.
小品词 to	It is 'necessary for us to u'nite.

学习英语的人自然应当首先了解上述语句重音的一般规律，并且应当从实践中加以掌握，因为讲英语的时候总不能不注意重音规律，它是讲好英语的基础之一。可是在实际的口头表达中，这条规律是不能机械地加以理解和运用的。在不少情况下，语句重音是可以变化的。事实上，这样的情况是常常出现的：一个词在某一句中要重读，而在另一句中却又不重读。或是一个词在通常情况下不该重读，而在一定的上下文中却又该重读。这类变化之所以发生，主要有两方面的原因。首先，说话人在一定情况下，由于自己的思想感情或某种强烈的愿望，往往在句中要加强表达某种意思，因而句中某一个词便相应地显得非常重要，而随之也就发生语句重音的变化。这类变化是因强调或者强化某种意思而引起的，英语里就称之为“emphasis”（“强调”）。其次，还有些语句重音的变化，并不是因“强调”而引起的，而是因为上下文中的某些特征所引起的。本文所要研究的，就是属于这后一类的语句重音的变化。

这一类语句重音的变化是比较复杂的；正因为如此，对于我国学英语的人来说，它是比较不容易掌握的。本文的目的，是试图对平日常见的一些语句，进行分析归纳，从而揭示出这类语句重音变化本身所具有的一些法则，并适当地说明这些变化发生的某些原因。希望本文对于我国学英语的人，在理解和掌握这类语句重音的变化方面，有一些帮助。

下面就按这类语句重音的变化的不同情况，分别列举出来，依次举例加以说明：

I. 在句中或上下文中重复前面的意思的词，通常不重读；即使表达这一意思的词是实词，也不重读。很显然，当某一意思被重复时（因为听者对它已有所理解），它在句子中或上下文中就失去了它的重要性，因此表达它的词就无须重读了。至于前面第一次表达的意思，相形之下，自然是比它重要多了。一个意思的重复，可以用以下种种不同的形式出现：

A. 重复的词（a repeated word）。在下面的例句或上下文中，重复的词便失去了语句重音：

1. 'Study as 'Lenin studied.
2. 'Do as the 'teacher does. (比较：'Do as the 'teacher 'says.)
3. If we must ,die, o 'let us 'nobly die.
4. 'At the 'next ,harvest, we will 'do 'better, 'much better.
5. 'Weapons are an im'portant 'factor in 'war, but 'not the de'cisive factor; it is 'people, 'not 'things that are decisive.
6. 'Lenin's ,room, of ,course, 'draws the 'greatest at'tention. 'Lenin 'studied in this room.

7. 'One 'day in ,February, we 'went to 'visit a 'factory. We 'saw how the ,workers of the factory 'made 'steel.
8. "You 'always 'eat my 'grass," said the ,wolf. "I have 'not yet 'tasted grass," answered the ,lamb.
9. 'Go ,home and 'stay home.
10. A. "I'm 'going to 'town."
B. "'What are you going to 'do in town?"
11. The 'law ,says that 'citizens have the 'right to 'vote; 'this ,means, of ,course, that 'both the ,white people and the ,negroes can 'exercise that right. But in the 'U. ,S. 'most 'negroes are de'prived of that right.

为了使实词失去语句重音这一现象显得格外清楚，上面例句中的重复的词都没有标出任何重音符号。实际上，这些实词都还保留着弱重音，特别是跟句子里通常不重读的词完全没有重音这一情况相比，那就更加明显了。这种保留着的重音，属于次重音或部分重音，当它跟从着降调时，往往就在它的左下方标出一个低平重音符号，当它跟从着升调时，往往就在它的左上方加上一个园点：

1. If we must ,die, O 'let us 'nobly ,die.
2. There is a 'comrade at the 'front 'door. 'Do you 'know the 'name of the 'comrade?

已经失去正常的语句重音的实词，其重读比通常无语句重音的词仍要强些。因为这些实词没有弱读式，不重读的词则通常有弱读式，例如：“a”〔ə〕，“the”〔ðə〕或〔ði〕，“of”〔əv〕。

就语调而论，部分地重读的词，按非重读音节处理。

这些属于部分地重读的实词，往往在一个句子里最后出现，因而就使得落在最后的完全重读音节上的语调往前移动。这种语调、特别是降调的位置的变动，听起来是非常清楚的。如果这种词被错误地象平常那样重读的话，那么语调的位置也就会摆错。

例如：If we must ,die ,O let us 'nobly ,die.

如果重复的词是句子的主语的话，那它仍保留正常的语句重音。只有当它不是句子的主语时，它才失去语句重音：

1. 'Whose 'horse is this?
'That 'horse is 'mine.
'No, it's 'not your horse.
2. You are a 'diligent 'boy.
I 'like diligent boys.
'Diligent 'boys 'make 'progress.

一个词如因强调而需要重复时，那它仍可有语句重音。

1. "Jim, oh 'Jim," the woman moaned, "I'll be 'late; I'll be 'late; I 'shan't 'see you!"
2. "Grandma, 'what is in the 'tea -kettle?" he ,asked.

"Water, my child—nothing but water.

3. ,Seam, and ,gusset, and \band,
 ,Band, and ,gusset, and \seam,
 \Work, \work, \work,

Like the \engine that \works by \steam.

(From "The Song of the Shirt" by Thomas Hood)

在格言或谚语里，节奏往往会使重音落在一个重复的词上面：

1. \One for ,all and \all for \one.
2. \No ,root, \no \fruit.
3. \First ,come, \first \served.

B. 替代词 (a substitute word)

1. 付词 there, here, then 有时当作替代词用，用以指明上文所提到过的地点或时间，因而没有语句重音：
 - a. We'll \go to the \Red \Flag \People's \Commune to \visit a \friend there.
 - b. The \commune \dining-room is \playing an im\portant \part in the \everyday \life of the \members. They are \now having a \class in the \dining-room. ,Sometimes they \hold \meetings there.
 - c. The fa\cilities for \study at our uni,versity are \excellent. I \like it here
 - d. What a \lovely \spot! \Let's have a \swim here!
 - e. I \can't \come on \Thursday. I'm \going to \town then.
 - f. We're \always \busy in the \morning. We have \classes then.

可是当这些付词是在句首时，就要重读了：

\Lenin was \born in the \town of Sim\birsk. \After he \finished ,school there, he \went to the Uni'versity of Ka\zan. ,There he was a \leader of the \student \movement.

2. 指示代词 this, that 这些词，有时其“指示性”并不太强，这时它们相当于替代词，不应有语句重音。
 - a. The \farmer \told his ,sons to break the \sticks \one by \one. \All of them \did this \easily.
 - b. \How can we \finish \this \task \sooner? We must \seriously con\sider that.
 - c. Our \teachers \taught us to under,stand, ,speak, ,read and \write \Eng\lish. We \soon \mastered these skills.
 - d. At ,first our \difficulties were \many, but with perse,verance we over\came those obstacles.

这些词的位置要是在句首，就应重读了。有些通常不放在句首的词，因为用作强调的修辞手法而摆在句子前面，这时句首的词就要重读，甚至要加强语气读。例如：

,This \all of them \did \easily.

'These ,skills we 'soon 'mastered.

3. 不定代词 one, some, any 用来代替已经提到过的名词时, 也属于替代词这一类。
 - a. The 'peasant's 'life is 'now a 'happy one.
 - b. 'Here are some 'nice 'apples. 'Please 'take one. I 'don't 'want any. Oh, 'do 'have some.
 - c. 'These 'pictures are 'rather 'old. 'Let's 'take them ,down and 'put up some 'new ones.
4. 动词 do 用来代替已经提到过的动词时, 也是一个替代词。
 - a. 'Marxists 'think about this ,question as 'Marx did. (试比较: 'Marxists 'think about this ,question as 'Marx 'wrote.)
 - b. 'He 'works 'faster than 'I do.
 - c. The 'teacher 'read the 'new 'words a,loud and 'then the 'students did.
5. So 这个词有时用作一个替代词, 来代替前面已叙述过的整个意思。
 - a. "We 'finished the 'job a'head of 'schedule. "
"I 'told you so. " (I told you that we would finish the job ahead of schedule.)
"Yes, you 'did say so. "
 - b. "Is he 'coming? "
"I 'don't 'think so. " 或:
"I 'don't ,think so. "
6. Such, that kind of 和 that sort of 这些词或表达法, 当它们用来指前面已提到过的形容词时, 也都是替代词。
 - a. It was a 'difficult 'task. We 'learn a 'lot from such tasks. We should 'highly'value that kind of task. But on the ,contrary, 'some of us 'often 'try to a'void that sort of task.
 - b. Im'perialism is a 'paper 'tiger. We 'don't 'fear that kind of tiger.
 - c. What a 'magnificent ac'complishment!
Congratu'lations on such an accomplishment!
7. 名词 person, comrade, fellow, thing, matter, affair, business, place 等用来指示刚提到过的人或事物时, 不重读。这些词前面通常有一个限定性的形容词, 这个形容词该重读。
 - a. 'Chang's the 'finest comrade I 'know.
'Such a comrade should be en'couraged.
 - b. 'Do you 'know 'Chang 'Ming? He's a 'trustworthy fellow.
 - c. 'Those things are of 'great im'portance.
 - d. 'Envy is a 'terrible thing.
 - e. 'Why 'don't you ex'plain the matter?

- f. 'Since it's 'such an im,portant affair, I'd 'like it ex'plained to me 'further.
- g. 'That's a 'terrible business.
- h. 'Tsing'tao is a de'lightful place. It's 'one of the 'best places for a 'summer 'holiday.

C. 有些词或表达法虽和前面用过的词语不同，但重申它们的意思时也不重读：

1. 'May I 'come to 'see you at 'five?
'Sorry, I'll be 'busy at that time. (这里“at that time”指“five” (o'clock).)
2. 'Ilyich 'studied 'living 'London. He 'liked the 'movement of this huge city. (“this huge city”指“London”.)
3. We must pre'vent the 'wind from 'coming through 'this 'crack. 'Would a 'piece of 'paper do the job? (“do the job”意指“prevent the wind from coming through the crack.”)

D. again 一词用作强意语，重申对比的意思时不重读：

1. He has 'gone ,out and 'come 'back again.
2. After 'reading a ,book, 'put it 'back on the 'shelf again.
3. 'Welcome 'home again. (You left home and have come home.)

应当注意的是，当付词“again”作“另一次”、“下次”、“再一回”意思讲时就要重读了。

1. 'Read 'this 'sentence. 'Read it a'gain.
2. 'Say it a'gain.

I. 某些词语用来表示一般的和不确定的意义时，无语句重音。

A. Things 和 people 有这样的用途：

1. 'Don't 'take a 'one-sided 'view of things.
2. 'Learn 'those idio'matic 'ways of 'saying things.
3. 'That 'only 'makes things 'worse.

Things 有时用来表示有某种用途的必需品。作这种意思讲时，它前面总是有一重读的限定词。这类词组实际上就是复合词，例如：'swimming things, 'tea things, 'dinner things, intel'lectual things, ma'terial things. 关于复合词的重音，以后本文将另行提到。

4. The im'perialists 'use the 'atom bomb to 'scare people with.
5. The 'spirit of our 'socialist society is to 'help people.

B. 短语 a sort of, a kind of 用来表示不确定的意义时，具有跟不定代词 some 相同的意思。

1. There was a sort of curi'osity in his 'voice.
2. They 'came to a kind of a'greement.

II. 另外有某些词，由于在意义上比较不重要，可以失去语句重音。

A. 独立成分

1. 插在句子中间的独立成分, 也就是语音学上的所谓插入语, 其中重读的词可以失去语句重音, 只保留次重音。
 - a. The 'young ,man, I ob'served, was 'most enthusi'astic. (这里插入语不重读, 跟着从“man”这个词开始的升调继续升上去。)
 - b. The 'actual re'sult, of ,course, was a com'plete 'victory for 'our side. (这里插入语“of course”按非重读音节的低音调唸出来, 跟落在“result”一词上的降调一同下降。)
2. 句末的独立成分, 或所谓补加语, 也可以失去语句重音。
 - a. He's 'gone, I ,think.
 - b. We had a de'lightful 'time, to be ,sure.
3. 在句子中间和末尾出现的称呼语, 无语句重音, 除非说话人要表示友好或亲昵, 才用升调唸出来。
 - a. And 'now, ,Jack, 'give it to me.
 - b. 'Sit 'down, ,comrades.
 - c. Good 'bye, 'students.
4. 叙述语。
 - a. 在句首出现的叙述语有时失去语句重音。
She ,said, “We are 'very 'fond of 'sports.”
 - b. 在句子中间或末尾出现的叙述语, 总是沒有语句重音。
 - (a) “'When do we 'start for the 'countryside?”
asked the ,student.
 - (b) “'Now,” said the ,scientist” , “we have 'solved the 'problem.”
 - (c) “'Shall we 'not re'sist ag'gression?” the 'leader 'shouted.

B. 许多复合词的第二个成分

下列句子中复合词的第二个组成部分失去语句重音, 这是因为另外有许多复合词的第二个组成部分都和它相同因而失去它的重要性的原故。比较重要的或比较有意义的词却是第一个组成部分, 它单独有语句重音。①

1. 'October the 'First is 'National Day.
2. We are 'going to a 'ball game.
3. I 'like to 'play 'basket ball.
4. We 'visited the 'steel works.
5. My 'brother is a 'Party member.
6. The 'women are 'working in the 'rice fields.
7. He is a pro'fessional man.

① 关于这一部分复合词的重音规则, 请参考作者所写的《英語复合名詞和复合形容词的重音》一文, 载《外語教学与研究》1964年第2期。

8. It's 'tea time.

9. 'Get the 'dinner things.

C. Street 这个词, 在街道名称中不重读, 这或许是 street 在这些名称中用得普通的原因, 例如: 'Downing Street, 'Tenth Street, 'Wall Street.

D. 在短语 and 'so forth, and 'so on, and 'so on and 'so forth 中, 副词 forth, on 都没有语句重音。这也许是因为 forth, on 和 so 相比时, 显得并不重要, 而 so 由于 forth, on 失去语句重音却被强调起来了。

IV. 语句重音有时用来区别一个词的各种不同意思。

A. 若干助动词和情态动词都有这种情况:

1. 动词 will, would 表示将来时, 具有助动词的性质, 因此没有语句重音。但它们也可以表示决心、坚持或强烈的愿望, 这时便具有情态动词的性质, 就有语句重音了。试比较以下各组的例句:

a. The 'students will 'help us with 'this 'work.

The 'students 'will 'help you, in 'spite of your ob'jection.

b. They 'said they would 'come in the 'evening.

The 'students 'would 'do it, al'though it 'wasn't 'necessary.

但当 will 是一个多义的表意动词时, 它自然要重读了。例如:

a. We must 'will a ,thing and 'then 'do it.

b. The 'veteran revo'lutionaries 'will the 'future 'work of the revo,lution to the 'youth of to'day.

2. 情态动词 may, might 可以表示允许和可能两种意思。它们表示允许时不重读, 表示可能时就要重读了。

a. 表示允许, 不重读。

(a) I should 'like to ,know if I may 'go.

(b) 'Yes, you may 'go.

(c) He 'asked if he might 'go.

b. 表示可能, 要重读。

(a) It 'may 'rain to₁night.

(b) It 'might 'rain to₁day.

(c) He 'may be 'able to 'help you.

(d) Chang 'might have 'that 'book.

3. 情态动词 should 有三种不同的用法:

a. 用于虚拟语气, 表示条件或者礼貌, 不重读。

I should 'go if 'I were ,you.

I should 'like to ,help you, if I ,could.

I should 'like to go 'swimming to₁day.

b. 用以表示义务或者合宜, 不重读。

You should co'operate with each other. After ,class, you should

- re'view your 'lessons.
- c. 用以表示推理或接近确实, 要重读。
 'Judging from con,ditions, we 'should have a 'good 'crop this ,year.
 'Everything has 'gone 'well during the 'trip, the 'train 'should be on 'time.
 It 'should be 'fine to,morrow. (For the clouds are disappearing.)
4. 情态动词 must 可以表示义务, 也可以表示推理或接近确实。
- a. 表示义务, 不重读。
 We must at'tend 'classes 'every 'morning.
 'Everyone must 'work for the 'benefit of 'all.
- b. 表示推理或接近确实, 要重读。
 He 'said he would ,come, so he 'must be 'here 'soon.
 There are 'bumper 'crops this ,fall, the 'commune 'members 'must have, worked and co'operated 'well.
 The 'streets are 'wet, it 'must have 'rained last ,night.
- c. 在习用语 "I must say" 中, must 要重读。
 I 'must 'say I a'gree with him.
5. 动词 have 有许多用法和意义:
- a. 用作助动词, 不重读, 唸弱读形式(həv)或(həd).
 We had 'crossed the 'high 'mountains.
 The 'athletes have 'broken 'many 'records.
- b. 表示占有, 不重读, 但唸强读形式(hæv), (hæz), (həd).
 'Every 'student has his 'own 'textbook.
- c. 用于不同习用语中表示“享有”、“忍受”、“经历”。这时它不重读, 但唸强读形式。
 We have 'dinner at 'six.
 'Let's have a 'rest.
 They had a 'comfortable 'journey to Pe'king.
 He 'often has 'colds.
- d. 表示役使关系, 没有重音, 但唸强读形式。
 I had my 'hair cut this after,noon.
 The 'workers had 'new 'suits made.
- e. 表示义务, 要重读, 当然唸强读形式。
 I 'have to 'do it to'day.
 'Do you 'have to 'go 'now?
 'Everyone in our so'ciety who is 'able ,physically 'has to 'labour.
- f. 表示“容许”或“忍受”的意思, 要重读甚至要加强语气读。
 We 'won't 'have such conduct.

B. 短语 **to be going to** 跟一表意动词联用表示将来时，从语音的角度讲，常被看做一个助动词，因而无语句重音。

We are going to 'labour on the 'school 'farm to,day.

I 'think it is going to 'rain.

但当 **go** 是个表意动词时，则要重读：

He is 'going to 'town 'this after'noon.

C. **Any** 作为不定代词时不重读，但是当它具有“无论哪……”的意义时又要重读了。

1. 用作不定代词，不重读。

'Have you any 'ink?

We 'didn't have any 'trouble in 'finishing the 'job.

2. 表示“无论哪……”的意思，要重读。

'Come 'any 'day you 'like.

You can 'find 'records of im'perialist ag'gression in 'any 'news-paper.

The 'people are de'termined to 'gain 'liberty at 'any 'cost.

V. 助动词、前置词、连接词——即通常没有语句重音的这些词——用在一句的开头时，按照英国英语，它们经常是重读的。但按照美国英语，这些词却往往不重读。

A. 以助动词开头的一般问句：

'Is it 'Jack's 'turn?

'Have you 'read the 'works of Chairman 'Mao?

'Will you 'play in the 'ball game this after'noon?

这些词如有语句重音，往往是表明发问者较为关切，这种关切是表示一种礼貌。但有时也表示迫不及待，甚至不耐烦。

B. 句首的前置词或连接词，经常是重读的：

'In the after,noon, we have 'classes.

'In our,coutry, we are 'carrying 'on the revo'lution to the 'end.

'When I 'left my 'home, town, I was a 'young 'boy.

这些词在句首时要重读的原因，可能是前置词短语和子句，放在句首比放在句末其语势更显得强些。

在句首的助动词、前置词或连接词，如果后面紧跟着一个重读音节，由于节奏或强调的原因，可以不重读。

Is 'Chang on 'duty?

At ,midnight 'all was 'quiet.

While 'that is ,true, there are 'other conside,rations.

VI. 感叹句句首的 **what**, **how**, 以及程度付词 **such**, **so**, **as**, **more**, **most**, 通常都不重读。

What a 'glorious at'tainment!

How in'spiring the 'new 'songs 'are!

We have 'never 'seen such 'great 'unity of the 'people.

The 'distance was' not so 'far as we 'thought.

The 'old 'woman was as 'busy as a 'bee.

The 'drumhead was more 'useful than I had i'magined.

Ⅶ. 正常的语句重音, 也往往由于节奏的原因而发生变化。在英语中, 一个句子的若干重音节, 是按照几乎相等的间隔时间唸出来的, 这样就形成一种鲜明的节奏。在一个句子内, 如果非重读音节与重读音节的分布相当均匀, 节奏就好。要是实际情况与这种分布的理想情况出入很大时, 那么, 就要重新调整重音, 这样就会引起正常的语句重音的变化。

A. 助动词或者连系动词在句子末尾时, 要重读, 除非它前面的词有一个强重音, 那时才不重读。

1. 'Yes, it 'is.
2. 'Yes, you 'have.
3. It 'certainly 'was!
4. 'That's the 'sort of 'man he 'is.

但: You 'know how 'careful ↓Wang was.

I 'don't 'see what my 'fault was.

B. 连系动词 to be 在非终结性意群末尾时, 要重读。

1. 'This ,is, of ,course, 'very im'portant.
2. The 'first 'thing my 'brother 'said to me ,was: "I 'hear our 'village has 'sunk 'nine 'wells."

C. 当单音节前置词前后都没有重读的词时, 特别是当它紧接在肯定式的动词 to be 之后时, 要重读。

1. To'morrow is 'with us.
2. 'All the 'week 'end, they were 'at her.
3. Her 'daughter was 'like her.

在下面一个例句中, 前置词 for 前面的一个词 English 是重复的词, 已失去语句重音, 因此句子末尾的前置词 for 就要重读。

It is over a year now since I began studying English. I am glad to say that I am getting on well with it. 'First of ,all, I 'know ,clearly 'what I 'study English 'for.

D. 句中重音的一般分布和语调自然是节奏的一个部分, 是也会影响前置词的重音的。比较:

1. You 'put yourself 'out about it.
'Tell me 'all a'bout it.
2. She's 'keen about it.
I 'asked him 'all a'bout it.
3. 'Let's 'walk round the 'lake.
I've 'just walked 'round it.

4. The 'train is 'going through the 'tunnel.

'Now it's gone 'through it.

E. 付词跟在某些动词后面而又改变动词的意义时，它们的重音，是随节奏发生变化的。如果它们前面或后面那个充当动词的宾语的词是名词时，它们就不重读；如果这个宾语是一个人称代词时，就要重读。

1. He 'put on his 'coat. He 'put his 'coat on. He 'put it 'on.

2. 'Make up your 'mind. 'Make your 'mind up. 'Make it 'up.

F. 如果一个人称代词，或任何其它通常不重读的代词，是句中一个复合成分的一个组成部分——复合成分如复合主语、复合宾语或复合定语——这时它就要重读。

1. 'He and his ,son 'work 'well to'gether.

2. I 'told 'John and ,him that they might' come.

3. 'You and 'we have 'common 'interest.

试比较：We have 'common 'interest.

4. Both 'your and 'his ,courage are 'worthy of emù 'lation.

G. 有时，人称代词具有一种指示的意义。在这种情况下，它们所代表的先行词没有表示出来，往往说话人是要利用手势的，这时它们就需要重读。

1. 'Who is 'he? He is my 'classmate.

试比较：There's a 'man at the 'door. 'Who'is he?

2. Is 'he your 'brother?

H. 用于祈使句句首的人称代词 you，通常要重读，甚或加强语势。

1. 'You 'come with me.

2. 'You 'go to 'meet 'Wang.

I. 三个应重读的单音节或双音节词，连贯地挨在一起，由于节奏的原因，中间的词往往失去重音。

1. It's a 'very fine 'day.

2. 'That's a 'lovely little 'house.

3. 'This 'comrade is a 'promising young 'man.

4. To ,criticise oneself is a 'very good 'thing.

但如果中间那个词意义很重要，它就不失去重音。由此可见，在决定语句重音时，词的意义是首要的，而节奏比较起来则是次要的。

1. 'That is a 'very 'grave 'question.

2. He was 'wearing a 'big 'black 'hat.

3. We were 'making a 'long, 'steep 'climb.

4. Our 'long, 'hard 'struggle was re'warded.

J. 节奏的要求也会使重音发生变化。

a. 具有两个重音的双音节词，当它们的前面紧接另—重音节时，那末它的第一个重音节就失去重音；当它的后面紧接另—重音节时，那末它的第二个重音节就失去重音。

1. The 'number of 'men was 'eigh'teen.
There were 'just eigh'teen of them.
'Eighteen 'soldiers 'came a'long.
 2. I am 'Chin'ese.
The 'Chinese ,people 'won the 'victory.
'Do you 'speak Chi'nese?
- b. 很多具有两个重音的复合形容词，由于受节奏的影响，当它们用作表语时，就发两个重音；但是它们用作定语时，却只发一个重音。
1. The 'Chinese 'people, are 'hard-`working.
The 'hard-working 'people have over'come 'great `difficulties.
 2. 'When I re'turned 'home after 'ten ,years, my 'mother was 'white-`haired.
I was over'joyed to 'see 'once ,more my 'white-haired `mother.