Polite Intonation for Requests

B2 · Pronunciation · WORKSHEET

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. Choose the best answer.

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1. Which tone is polite?
   Choices: Rising, with a wide range / Flat and low / Sharp and falling

   Answer: _____

2. Which sounds more polite?
   Choices: I was wondering if you could help me. / Help me. / You must help me.

   Answer: _____

3. Yes/no requests usually…
   Choices: rise at the end / fall at the end / are flat

   Answer: _____

4. Which request sounds demanding?
   Choices: Open the window. (flat) / Could you open the window? ? / Would you mind opening it?

   Answer: _____

2. Complete the sentence.

Write one or two words.

1. Polite requests have a wider pitch ___ .

2. “Could you help me?” usually ___ at the end.

3. A flat, low tone can sound ___ .

4. “I was ___ if you could help me.”

3. Your turn.

Write your own answers.

1. Write three polite requests.

3. Your turn. (continued)

2. Mark the rising intonation on one request.

3. Write a request for a colleague.