

INFLECTION EXERCISE HANDOUT

Work in a small group. Each member of the group will state the sentence with a different inflection, using *stress*, *stretching*, and *pausing* to give the sentence a different meaning.

Part I: Changeable Meanings

Work through each sentence until you can find no more possible meanings for that given sentence, and then proceed on to the next one.

Example: *I've got a big dog.*

- 1: You aren't going skiing this weekend!
2. The train smashed into the taxi.
3. This race horse is faster than that one.
4. It's been a long time, hasn't it?
5. There are over five hundred varieties of different plants growing in this part of the jungle.
6. I have no desire to do that.
7. It's bigger, it's better, and it's just more exciting!
8. There is no other solution.
9. There's no down-payment, and you don't have to pay a cent until next February.

PART II: Emphasis Strategy

As a group, decide on the type and placement of emphasis that is most appropriate to each sentence:

1. The most important point is the low price.
2. On average, American homes are bigger than Korean homes.
3. We're facing serious problems if global warming isn't halted.
4. But the cost of buying a car has dropped in the last few years.
5. This computer has two hard drives!
6. This exercise is very difficult.