

# emphasize

verb

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► Say it: em • pha • size

Write it: \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Vocabulary Toolkit

### Meaning

to give something special importance

*Synonyms:* stress, highlight

*Antonym:* de-emphasize

### Example

When I study, I use a \_\_\_\_\_  
to **emphasize** important information  
that I want to \_\_\_\_\_ later.

*Present:*

I/You/We/They  
He/She/It

emphasize  
emphasizes

*Past:*

emphasized

• *Noun:* emphasis

• \_\_\_\_\_ (my/your/his/  
her/our/their) point

The speaker **emphasized her point** by showing pictures of the disaster.

• \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of  
something

Our gym teacher **emphasizes the importance of** stretching before we exercise.

• \_\_\_\_\_ the need for  
something

I think all the litter on our school grounds **emphasizes the need for** more trash cans.

## Verbal Practice

**Read** each sentence and **think** about how you would complete it.

**Discuss** your idea with your partner using the sentence frame.

**Listen** carefully to your partner's and classmates' ideas.

**Write** your favorite idea in the blank.

- 1 Some women use makeup to **emphasize** their \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 When people argue, they often **emphasize** a point by \_\_\_\_\_.

## Writing Practice

**Work with your partner** to complete the sentence using the correct form of **emphasize** and appropriate content.

My doctor always \_\_\_\_\_ the importance of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Work independently** to complete the sentence using the correct form of **emphasize** and appropriate content.

If I could change anything in my neighborhood, I would \_\_\_\_\_ the need for more \_\_\_\_\_.

**Work independently** to write two sentences. In your first sentence, use **emphasize** in the *simple present tense* with a person's name. In your second sentence, use **emphasize** with the modal verb *would* and include a word partner.

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Complete** the paragraph using the correct form of **emphasize** and original content.

The Wodaabe, a nomadic tribe in Niger and Nigeria, are famous for their unique \_\_\_\_\_  
1 \_\_\_\_\_ about beauty. Every year, men and women gather for Gerewol, a courtship festival during which men \_\_\_\_\_  
2 \_\_\_\_\_ elaborate makeup, jewelry, and clothing in order to attract a wife. In the Wodaabe culture, men are considered \_\_\_\_\_  
3 \_\_\_\_\_ if they have white eyes and teeth and a long neck and nose. As a result, men will wear bright makeup on their faces and roll their eyes in order to \_\_\_\_\_  
4 \_\_\_\_\_ the whiteness of their eyes and teeth. They may also paint a line down their nose to \_\_\_\_\_  
5 \_\_\_\_\_ its length. Throughout the festival, men flash their teeth and dance in an attempt to \_\_\_\_\_  
6 \_\_\_\_\_ their grace and charm, each hoping a woman will select him as her \_\_\_\_\_  
7 \_\_\_\_\_.

### grammar tip

**In the simple present tense, the third-person singular (*he/she/it*) form takes an *-s* or *-es* ending.**

Mr. Tom emphasizes the importance of checking our work.

She goes to the library after school.