

## Natural Speech

After practicing Nearly Natural Speech for some time, many students will automatically shift into Natural Speech. This speech modification *feels* more free and flexible to the speaker and *sounds* normal to the listener.

It involves using learned fluency-enhancing and stuttering modification skills with a very high level of sophistication. Relaxed Breath, Stretched Speech,

Smooth Movement, Easy Voice, and Light Contact are less exaggerated, but still present. Slides, Easy Stuttering, and Cancellation are incorporated as needed or desired.



While the speech rate is faster than Nearly Natural Speech, continuous phonation and an overall centered feeling remains. Students still “hold on to their speech” as they did with Nearly Natural Speech, but now they do so with more freedom, flexibility, and forward moving energy.

It is important to note that Natural Speech it is *not* the same as spontaneous fluency; nor is it similar to the fluency students experienced before therapy. It is a consciously produced speech modification that students will use when they choose to do so.

### *Natural Speech can be taught in the following way:*

1. Explain the rationale (described above and on page 62 of the Student Workbook).
2. Guide students through steps 1–5 of “Using Natural Speech” (see page 63 of the Student Workbook). Provide models as indicated.
3. Move to conversational level after students have incorporated stuttering modification strategies.

## A/V Resources for Natural Speech

### Audio Files

[Track 2.30](#): Natural Speech [0:49]

[Track 2.31](#): Using Natural Speech [0:44]

[Track 2.32](#): Smooth Movement Sentences read at Natural Speech [1:17]

[Track 2.33](#): Easy Voice Sentences read at Natural Speech [1:13]

[Track 2.34](#): Light Contact Sentences read at Natural Speech [1:18]

[Track 2.35](#): Smooth Movement Paragraphs read at Natural Speech [1:15]

[Track 2.36](#): Easy Voice Paragraphs read at Natural Speech [1:16]

[Track 2.37](#): Light Contact Paragraphs read at Natural Speech [1:07]

### Video Files

[v62](#) Therapist Instruction [1:11]

[v61](#) Student Example #1: Smooth Movement Paragraphs [4:21]

[v63](#) Student Example #2: Conversation - Younger Student [2:05]

[v65](#) Student Example #3: Reading Text with Easy Stuttering [1:16]

[v64](#) Student Example #4: School Report Practice [1:44]

[v66](#) Student Example #5: Conversation - Older Student [2:23]

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