ACCENTS ON LETTERS

An accent on a letter (ó) shows you where to emphasize a word.

estación (not, estación)  station
línea (not línea)  line

If there isn't an accent, you stress the last but one syllable when the word ends in a vowel, -s or -n.

sencillo  single
vamos  let's go

If a word doesn't end in a vowel, -s or -n, stress the last syllable.

por favor  please
Madrid  Madrid

A few words that look almost the same have a different sound and meaning depending on the accent.

carne  meat
carné  ID card