

Syllable Breakdown Worksheet

Phonics Help Resource

Below are some basic phonics rules that will help you break down words by syllables:

- **A single vowel (a, e, i, o, u) in the middle of a syllable is usually short** (like *cat*, *pen*).
- **Two vowels together may form a sound or digraph** (like *ea* in "team," *ou* in "shout").
- **A syllable usually contains one vowel sound.** The vowel can be followed by consonants (like *happy*) or end the syllable (like *go*).
- **Consonant blends (like *tr* or *st*) can be in the same syllable** (like *street*).
- **Look for silent letters** (like the "e" in *miserly*).

Part 1: Break down the words into syllables.

For each word below, break it down into syllables. Then, write each syllable as it sounds phonetically.

Example:

Word: Happy

- Syllables: **hap / py**
- Phonetic spelling: **hap / pee**

1. **Ambition**

Syllables: _____ / _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____ / _____

2. **Dismal**

Syllables: _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____

3. **Giddy**

Syllables: _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____

4. **Heed**

Syllables: _____

Phonetic spelling: _____

5. **Miserly**

Syllables: _____ / _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____ / _____

6. **Morose**

Syllables: _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____

7. **Ogre**

Syllables: _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____

8. **Shabby**

Syllables: _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____

9. **Apparition**

Syllables: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

10. **Conscience**

Syllables: _____ / _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____ / _____

11. **Sorry**

Syllables: _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____

12. **Spirit**

Syllables: _____ / _____

Phonetic spelling: _____ / _____

Part 2: Practice writing words with similar syllable patterns.

Below, write two words that have a similar syllable pattern to each of the words above. For example, if you think the syllables in *giddy* are *gid / dy*, you could write two other words with similar patterns like *kitty* and *city*.

1. **Ambition:**

○ Word 1: _____

○ Word 2: _____

2. **Dismal:**

○ Word 1: _____

○ Word 2: _____

3. **Giddy:**

○ Word 1: _____

○ Word 2: _____

4. **Heed:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

5. **Miserly:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

6. **Morose:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

7. **Ogre:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

8. **Shabby:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

9. **Apparition:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

10. **Conscience:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

11. **Sorry:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

12. **Spirit:**

- Word 1: _____
- Word 2: _____

Part 3: Fill in the missing syllable.

Below are words with missing syllables. Use your knowledge of phonics and syllable patterns to fill in the missing syllable.

1. **Mis-___-ly**

Complete the syllable: _____

2. **Gid-___**

Complete the syllable: _____

3. **A-___-ition**

Complete the syllable: _____

4. **___-mal**

Complete the syllable: _____

5. **Spi-___**

Complete the syllable: _____

Part 4: Write a sentence with 3 of the words.

Choose three words from the list (e.g., ambition, miserly, ogre) and write a sentence that includes all three.

Bonus Challenge:

Can you think of other words that follow the same syllable patterns as the ones you practiced today? Write down at least three of them.

This worksheet provides practice in breaking down words phonetically and understanding syllable patterns, all while encouraging students to think critically about word structure.