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| Word Stress (Pronunciation): Overview |
| A syllable is a combination of sounds that are said together to either make one very small word, or, when combined with other syllables, to make longer words.For example: One syllable: *long, man, sit* Two syllables: *ba/con, pen/cil, ten/nis* Three syllables: *ra/di/o, po/ssi/ble, pa/ter/nal*When we say words, the listener hears syllables that are said louder, for a longer time, and/or at a higher pitch than other syllables. These are the stressed syllables in word. A syllable is stressed if:* The accent of the word falls on that syllable.
* The speaker wants to emphasize that syllable for some reason.

For example: One syllable: *long, man, sit* Two syllables: *ba/con, pen/cil, ten/nis* Three syllables: *ra/di/o, poss/i/ble, pa/ter/nal* |

*A. Divide the following words into syllables.*

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| week | people | computer | telephone |
| musician | keyboard | picture | encyclopaedia |
| unbelievable | reward | doctor | desk |
| calculator | stapler | incredible | shower |
| television | window | plate | journalist |
| present | kangaroo | mother | export |
| microwave | knowledgeable  | persistent | patience |

*B. Put the stress on the correct syllables in the words above. Consult your dictionary if necessary.*