

Tutorial 5

Syllables, Stress, and Tone

October 10, 2024

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this tutorial, you should be able to:

- Draw syllable structures following relevant phonotactic principles
- Identify the syllable structure and mark syllable boundaries of various English words
- Mark primary stress and identify which syllable it falls on
- Differentiate between different types of tones based on sound recordings

Spoken language syllables

Draw the correct syllable structure for the words below. Make sure to use the appropriate labels and follow the appropriate steps (and phonotactic principles) in assigning sounds to their syllable positions. An example is provided for you.

<i>Approve</i> [əprʊv]	<i>grateful</i> [ɡreɪfʌl]	<i>contrast</i> [kəntræst]
<i>distinct</i> [dɪstɪŋkt]	Challenge (do on your own): <i>remarkable</i> [rɪmarkəbəl]	

Syllable structure

Identify the syllable structure of the English words below. In cases where there is more than one syllable, use the [.] notation. Remember to rely on sounds (i.e., how they are transcribed) and not on spelling. Two examples are provided for you.

English word	Syllable structure
<i>though</i> [ðo]	CV
<i>printer</i> [prɪntɹ]	CCVC.CV
<i>crack</i>	
<i>strengths</i>	
<i>optimal</i>	
<i>inks</i>	
<i>playground</i>	
<i>determination</i>	

Stress

Consider the common English words below and their corresponding transcription. Correctly mark the primary stress by using the upper tick mark ['], and then identify which syllable (i.e., initial, antepenultimate, penultimate, or ultimate) the primary stress falls on. Your answer may vary depending on how you count syllables (i.e., from left-to-right or right-to-left). An example is provided for you.

English word	Transcription (mark primary stress)	Primary stress falls on...
<i>elevate</i>	['ɛləvet]	initial
<i>dedicate</i>	[dɛdɪket]	
<i>understand</i>	[ʌndɹstænd]	
<i>intelligence</i>	[ɪntɛlɪdʒəns]	
<i>hobby</i>	[həbi]	

Tone

Challenge: listen to the sound recordings of the CV sequence [ka] in Thai. Determine the type of tone each word has from the following options: *high level tone*, *mid level tone*, *low level tone*, *falling contour tone*, *rising contour tone*

‘galangal’	‘stick’	‘to trade’	‘leg’	‘value’