List of all letters according to the official order in the Russian language (first lowercase, then uppercase):

А а

Б б

В в

Г г

Д д

Е е

Ё ё

Ж ж

З з

И и

Й й

К к

Л л

М м

Н н

О о

П п

Р р

С с

Т т

У у

Ф ф

Х х

Ц ц

Ч ч

Ш ш

Щ щ

Ъ ъ (hard sign; it does not correspond to a sound but indicates some changes in pronunciation)

Ы ы

Ь ь (soft sign; it does not correspond to a sound but indicates some changes in pronunciation)

Э э

Ю ю

Я я

List of vowels (only lowercase):

а е ё и о у ы э ю я

List of sonorants (only lowercase):

й л м н р

List of other consonants (i.e., those which are not sonorants; only lowercase):

б в г д ж з к п с т ф х ц ч ш щ

The soft sign and the hard sign are special signs – they always follow a consonant and they form one unit with the previous consonant. So, they must be always attached to the previous consonant, they can never stand at the beginning of a syllable.

There are 3 zero-syllable words in Russian: в, к, с.

Always attach them to the word which follows them (all of them are prepositions).

When counting syllable or word length, ignore soft sign ь (be careful, in some fonts it is quite difficult to distinguish it completely from the Cyrillic в, i.e. from the letter which is v in Latin alphabet) and the hard sign ъ. Don’t delete them, just insert some condition to the program (or word/syllable length can be determined as the number of all letters minus the number of soft/hard signs in the word/syllable).

Other remarks to syllable length:

One letter (except for the soft sign and the hard sign, see above) corresponds to one phoneme (sound), with the following exceptions:

е ё ю я represent two phonemes if they are at the beginning of a word, or if they follow a vowel (see the list above), a soft sign, or a hard sign; otherwise they represent one phoneme