

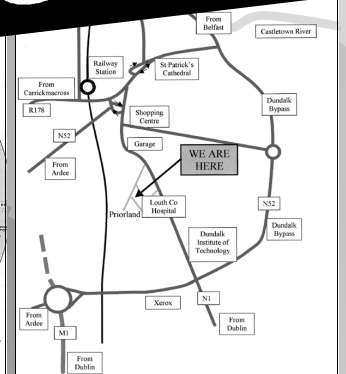
**Beginners'**

**Before**

*Speaking*

**with**

**Pronunciation  
Practice**



## **PART TWO: TALK ABOUT PLACES**

***4. DESCRIBE  
SPACES & SCENES***

Numbers of  
Syllables

***5. TELL THE  
LOCATION OF PLACES***

Syllable-Stress  
Patterns

***6. GET & GIVE  
DIRECTIONS***

Stress Rhythm,  
Pitch, & Intonation






# Pronunciation




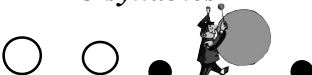
## PART TWO-4: Numbers of Syllables

Every word or phrase has one or more syllables. A syllable is a word or a part of a word with *one* vowel sound. It is "a beat in speech music."

Here are some words and phrases—with one "drum beat" circle for each syllable. In each item, the number of circles equals the number of syllables. The size of the circles and letters shows the relative strength (stress or emphasis) of each syllable.

*As you pronounce each item aloud, count the number of beats (syllables).*

1 syllable  place	2 syllables  a place	3 syllables  some plac <u>e</u> s	4 syllables  some good plac <u>e</u> s	5 syllables  to some good plac <u>e</u> s
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1 syllable  rooms	2 syllables  build <u>i</u> ngs	3 syllables  pa <u>t</u> i <u>o</u> s	4 syllables  el <u>e</u> va <u>t</u> ors	5 syllables  two-story hous <u>e</u> s
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## The Spelling & Pronunciation of Vowel Sounds in Multi-Syllable Words

In words of more than one syllable, the spelling and pronunciation patterns for vowel sounds apply *only* to the accented (stressed) syllables.

For most of the sounds, here's a review of two kinds of phonetic symbols (IPA and dictionary) with word examples and common spellings.

*As you pronounce each example aloud, count the number of beats (syllables).*

1. æ = ă as in <u>p</u> atio or <u>p</u> asture a	2. ɛ = ě as in <u>f</u> ences or <u>w</u> eather e, ea	3. ɪ = ĩ as in <u>v</u> illage or <u>b</u> uilding i, y	4. ʌ = õ as in <u>c</u> ondo or <u>g</u> arage o, a	5. ʌ = ũ as in <u>s</u> tructure or <u>c</u> ountry u, o(-e), ou	6. ɔ = õ as in <u>w</u> all, <u>o</u> ffice, <u>l</u> awn, or <u>l</u> aundry a, o, aw, au	7. ʊ = ö as in <u>b</u> ullpen or <u>w</u> ooden oo, u	8. ɑ:(r) = ä(r) as in <u>h</u> arbor or <u>a</u> partment a
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10. e <sup>y</sup> = ā as in <u>r</u> ailing, <u>p</u> layground, or <u>a</u> rea ai, ay, a, a- e, eigh	11. i <sup>y</sup> = ē as in <u>n</u> ortheast, <u>t</u> heater, or <u>f</u> ield ea, ee, e, e-e, ie	12. a <sup>y</sup> = ī as in <u>d</u> rive-in, <u>l</u> ibrary, or <u>h</u> ighway ie, i, i-e, y(e), igh	13. o <sup>w</sup> = ō as in <u>c</u> oastline, <u>s</u> now, or <u>c</u> orner oa, ow, o, o-e, oe	14. (y)u <sup>w</sup> = yū as in <u>t</u> oolshed, <u>b</u> ureau, or <u>n</u> ewsstand oo, ew, u, u-e	15. ɑ <sup>w</sup> = ou as in <u>o</u> uthouse or <u>d</u> owntown ou, ow	16. ɔ <sup>y</sup> = oi as in <u>j</u> oint or <u>e</u> mployer oi, oy
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# Challenge Activities—Numbers of Syllables in Words and Phrases:

*How can you tell how many syllables are in a word or phrase?*

*As you say the item, count the number of vowel sounds.*

Here's some additional information about the number of syllables:

◆ In this **Beginners' Before Speaking with Pronunciation Practice** book, there are small spaces between the syllables of a word. There are bigger spaces between the words of a phrase. To show relative voice stress (emphasis), the letters of separate syllables are of different sizes.

In many dictionary entries, there's a dot (•) between syllables:

**EXAMPLES:** *patio = pat•i•o. garage = ga•rage. a two-story building = a two-sto•ry building.*

◆ Final silent -e after one or more consonants is **not** pronounced as a separate syllable. Instead, it often changes the pronunciation of the vowel sound from a simple to a complex one.

**COMPARE:** *bath = bæθ vs. bathe = be<sup>θ</sup>. mop = mæp vs. mope = mo<sup>ə</sup>p. tub = tʌb vs. tube = tu<sup>ə</sup>b.*

◆ A letter combination like ay, ai, ea, ee, ie, ei, oa, ow, oo, or ew usually spells one syllable, as in playground, drainpipe, speakers, streetlight, fields, ceiling, coastline, shower, bedroom, etc.

But some letter combinations can form **two** syllables. Here are some examples:

*idea, areas, geography, stereo, diagram, patio, pianos, experience, genuine, situation, etc.*

◆ With a few exceptions like rugged or jagged, the -ed ending is a separate syllable **only** after the /t/ or /d/ sound, as in potted, padded, or decorated—but not in washed /wɒʃt/ or installed /ɪnstɔld/.

The -es ending is a separate syllable only after the sounds /s z ʃ tʃ dʒ /, as in buses, roses, bushes, couches, or garages—but not in potatoes, volcanoes, luxuries, or skies.

◆ Some syllables (in parentheses in this book) seem to “disappear” in pronunciation—usually in words with two or three unstressed syllables after a stressed syllable.

For example, the words dif(fe)rent, sev(e)ral, sep(a)rate, fam(i)ly, choc(o)late, and ev(e)ning are usually pronounced with **two** syllables each, not three. In everyday speech,

veg(e)tables, int(e)resting, comf(or)table, dec(o)rative, fav(o)rable, and gen(e)rally are **three**-syllable words.

◆ In a noun phrase, the articles a or an and the are pronounced as one (unstressed) syllable each.

Numbers and quantity words like two, some, or a lot of; adverbs and adjectives; and/or noun-adjectives add more syllables before the “head noun.” This main noun can be a compound noun (one word with a single meaning containing smaller words) or a compound noun phrase.

**EXAMPLES:** *a very comf(o)rtable classroom = 8 syllables (the article a = 1 syllable; very = a 2-syllable adverb; comfortable = a 3-syllable adjective; classroom = a 2-syllable compound head noun.) a lot of baseball and soccer fields = 9 syllables (a lot of = a 3-syllable quantity phrase; baseball = a 2-syllable compound noun-adjective; and = a one-syllable conjunction; soccer = a 2-syllable noun-adjective; fields = a 1-syllable plural head noun.)*

*Now look back at the lists of words and phrases in Part One of this book, such as the nouns, adjectives, and noun phrases on pages 22-23, 32-33, 37-39, 42-43, and/or 47-49. As you pronounce each item aloud, count and tell the number of syllables.*

*Can you identify the parts of each phrase, such as the article, adjectives, noun-adjectives, compound words, and compound phrases?*

# Vocabulary

## ► The Words for Places (Common Nouns in Phrases)

A *place* may be an interior room or space, a structure, or an outside area. The name of a place can be a common noun (simple or compound) in a noun phrase with or without an article (*a, an, the*) and/or adjectives or noun-adjectives.

The word and phrase names of the places below contain the Simple Vowel Sounds 1-9 in their focus (most strongly accented) and other stressed syllables.

The letters for these full vowel sounds are underlined.

*As you pronounce each item aloud, count the number of syllables. Write that number in the brackets.*

1. æ = ǎ	2. ε = ě	3. ɪ = ĭ	4. ɑ = ǒ or 6. ɔ = ô
tr <u>ack</u> s [ / ]	st <u>ep</u> s [ ]	g <u>ym</u> s [ ]	mos <u>que</u> s [ ]
pa <u>s</u> tures [ 2 ]	these sh <u>ed</u> s [ ]	that br <u>id</u> ge [ ]	ha <u>ll</u> ways [ ]
a ca <u>s</u> tle [ 3 ]	re <u>s</u> taurants [ ]	big bu <u>ild</u> ings [ ]	ga <u>rag</u> es [ ]
a ba <u>d</u> cla <u>ss</u> room [ 4 ]	e <u>l</u> evators [ ]	a sy <u>n</u> agogue [ ]	the la <u>und</u> ry room [ ]
a la <u>b</u> (o)ratory [ 5 ]	that ce <u>m</u> etery [ ]	ancient py <u>r</u> amids [ ]	a two-car ga <u>rag</u> e [ ]
an a <u>m</u> phitheater [ 6 ]	a se <u>p</u> (a)rate e <u>n</u> try hall [ ]	our li <u>tt</u> le refrigerator [ ]	all la <u>rg</u> e sa <u>lt</u> -water ponds [ ]
this small fa <u>m</u> (i)ly ca <u>b</u> in [ 6 ]	a we <u>ll</u> -de <u>cor</u> ated be <u>d</u> room [ ]	typical condo <u>min</u> iums [ ]	some so <u>ft</u> ball and so <u>cc</u> er fields [ ]
5. ʌ or ə = ŭ or ɐ	7. ʊ = ǝ	8. ɑ:(r) = ä(r)	9. ɜ(r) = û(r)
hu <u>t</u> s [ ]	wo <u>od</u> s [ ]	ba <u>r</u> s [ ]	wo <u>rl</u> ds [ ]
str <u>uc</u> tures [ ]	bo <u>ok</u> stores [ ]	ca <u>r</u> ports [ ]	our Ea <u>r</u> th [ ]
the co <u>un</u> try [ ]	fo <u>ot</u> bridges [ ]	pa <u>r</u> king lots [ ]	ci <u>r</u> cus tents [ ]
a Su <u>nd</u> ay school [ ]	a cro <u>ok</u> ed ro <u>of</u> [ ]	sta <u>r</u> s in the sky [ ]	a Christian chu <u>rch</u> [ ]
a pu <u>bl</u> ic bu <u>s</u> stop [ ]	a wo <u>od</u> en pu <u>lp</u> it [ ]	ap <u>ar</u> tment houses [ ]	pe <u>r</u> fect wo <u>r</u> kplaces [ ]
some o <u>th</u> er lu <u>sh</u> ju <u>ng</u> les [ ]	bu <u>sh</u> es along a bro <u>ok</u> [ ]	a la <u>rg</u> e open-air ma <u>r</u> ket [ ]	sub <u>ur</u> ban areas [ ]
o <u>n</u> e wo <u>nd</u> erful co <u>m</u> pany [ ]	lots of fu <u>ll</u> bu <u>ll</u> etin boards [ ]	ya <u>rd</u> s and ga <u>rd</u> ens at the ha <u>r</u> bor [ ]	an <u>ur</u> ban in <u>fi</u> rmary [ ]

# Vocabulary

## The Words for Places (Common Nouns in Phrases)

As the main word in a phrase, a common noun *may* follow an article (*a, an, the*), a demonstrative (*this, those, etc.*), numbers or quantity words (*five, few, some, a lot of, etc.*), and/or (noun-)adjectives. The noun doesn't contain capital letters.

The word and phrase names of these places contain the Complex Vowel Sounds 11-16 in their focus (most strongly accented) and other stressed syllables.

The letters for these full vowel sounds are underlined.

*As you pronounce each item aloud, count the number of syllables. Write that number in the brackets.*

10. e <sup>y</sup> = ā	11. i <sup>y</sup> = ē	12. a <sup>y</sup> = ī	13. o <sup>w</sup> = ō
space [ / ]	fields [ ]	sky [ ]	home [ ]
r <u>ai</u> lroad [ 2 ]	ki <u>o</u> sk[s] [ ]	h <u>igh</u> ways [ ]	o <u>ce</u> ans [ ]
the <u>ai</u> rport [ 3 ]	ga <u>z</u> e bos [ ]	l <u>i</u> braries [ ]	the <u>co</u> astline [ ]
a <u>st</u> adium [ 4 ]	a <u>ca</u> th <u>ed</u> ral [ ]	a <u>fi</u> ve- <u>mi</u> le <u>dr</u> ive [ ]	fourteen <u>to</u> ll roads [ ]
recre <u>at</u> ion rooms [ 5 ]	a <u>ma</u> usole <u>u</u> m [ ]	n <u>in</u> ety <u>li</u> gh <u>t</u> houses [ ]	a <u>mo</u> tor home park [ ]
that <u>gr</u> eat <u>ra</u> dio station [ 7 ]	fif <u>te</u> en <u>nor</u> th <u>ea</u> stern <u>str</u> eams [ ]	wild <u>i</u> solated <u>i</u> slands [ ]	those <u>co</u> ld <u>sn</u> ow-covered <u>sl</u> opes [ ]
a <u>ba</u> se <u>me</u> nt in our <u>ne</u> igh <u>bo</u> rh <u>oo</u> d [ 8 ]	this <u>pr</u> est <u>ig</u> ious <u>me</u> e <u>ti</u> ng hall [ ]	sev(e) <u>r</u> al <u>st</u> yl <u>i</u> sh <u>hi</u> gh- <u>ri</u> se <u>sk</u> y <u>sc</u> rapers [ ]	a <u>cha</u> teau on a <u>pl</u> ateau [ ]
14. u <sup>w</sup> = ū	15. a <sup>w</sup> = ou	16. o <sup>y</sup> = oi	o <sup>w</sup> = ō
<u>sch</u> ools [ ]	<u>gr</u> ounds [ ]	<u>so</u> il [ ]	
<u>sh</u> oe stores [ ]	the <u>So</u> uth [ ]	<u>oi</u> l wells [ ]	
<u>je</u> w(e) <u>l</u> ry shops [ ]	<u>to</u> wnhouses [ ]	sleazy <u>jo</u> ints [ ]	<i>those cold snow-covered slopes</i>
the <u>u</u> niverse [ ]	<u>mo</u> untain ranges [ ]	<u>jo</u> yful <u>to</u> y stores [ ]	
your <u>co</u> mm <u>u</u> nity [ ]	20 <u>ro</u> und <u>fo</u> un <u>t</u> ains [ ]	a <u>no</u> isy <u>fo</u> y <u>e</u> r [ ]	
two <u>ne</u> w <u>ne</u> ws <u>pa</u> per <u>bo</u> oths [ ]	some <u>cr</u> ow <u>de</u> d <u>sur</u> ro <u>u</u> nd <u>in</u> gs [ ]	a long <u>o</u> y <u>st</u> er <u>vo</u> yage [ ]	
a <u>be</u> autiful <u>sm</u> ooth <u>bl</u> ue <u>la</u> goon [ ]	our <u>to</u> wn and <u>co</u> un <u>ty</u> <u>co</u> un <u>ci</u> l [ ]	the <u>un</u> em <u>pl</u> oy <u>me</u> nt office [ ]	

# Conversation

## Describe Spaces & Scenes

*With someone else, have Conversations One and Two.*

- ◆ *Read aloud the lines printed in letters of the alphabet. Pay attention to the number of syllables in each word, phrase, and sentence. (There are small spaces between the syllables of a word and larger spaces between words.)*
- ◆ *The size of the letters indicates the relative amount of stress for each syllable. Put extra emphasis on the sounds spelled by the biggest letters of each word grouping (the syllable with the underlined vowel sound). It is the focus point.*

**Conversation One**

Where are you now?

I'm in front of a mausoleum.

You mean, you're at a small building in a cemetery?

Yeah, it's the burial place of a whole fam(i)ly! There are graves all around, of course—some under the ground and a few above it. There's grass between the tombstones. There are trees, too.

You know, it sounds beautiful—and peaceful!

It is! And here's another mausoleum.

# Conversation

## Describe Spaces & Scenes

*Describe the places on pages 59 to 63. First, paying attention to the number of syllables, pronounce the phrases above each photo. (Read them aloud clearly and correctly.)*

- ◆ Small spaces separate the syllables of a word; larger spaces separate words. There are slashes (/) between phrases (groups of words that belong together).
- ◆ The size of the letters indicates the relative amount of stress for each syllable.
- ◆ The syllable with the underlined vowel sound (spelled by the biggest letters of each word grouping) gets extra emphasis. It's the focus point.

*Next, with someone else, talk about the three kinds of places:*

*1. interior spaces, 2. structures, and 3. outdoor areas.*

- ◆ Use the appropriate sentence patterns and phrasing from Conversations One and Two on pages 58 and 59: there's (singular) or there are (plural) and prepositional phrases of location (in . . . , on . . . , at . . . , in front of . . . , around . . . , between . . . , etc.).
- ◆ Make correct use of the vocabulary above the picture. Put in necessary words. Be sure to use correct sentence grammar, words, and phrasing. Add your own ideas.

*Finally, for the class, have one of your conversations about each kind of place (an interior space, a structure, and an outdoor area). Here are the beginnings of some samples:*

### EXAMPLES: 1. PLACES = INTERIOR SPACES. PICTURE A.

*SPEAKER 1:* Where are you?      *SPEAKER 2:* Right *now*? I'm in a bedroom in a cabin in the woods.

*SPEAKER 1:* You are? So tell me about it.      *SPEAKER 2:* Well, it has two single beds in it. There are handmade quilts and blankets on them—with decorative pillows against the headboard. They look very comfortable. There's a bench at the foot of one of the beds. And there's a bright lamp on a table next to the bed. It's great for reading in bed, I bet.

*SPEAKER 1:* Sounds good. What about the rest of the room? Is there any other furniture?

### EXAMPLES: 2. PLACES = STRUCTURES. PICTURE A.

*SPEAKER 1:* So you're outside in the park? Are there any buildings or structures nearby?

*SPEAKER 2:* At the moment I can see two small structures. There's an information booth, but there's nobody in it now. Maybe it's for carnivals or parties. It's not a four-sided structure. It's pentagonal. The roof consists of five triangles. They come to a point at the top.

*SPEAKER 1:* You mean, the booth is shaped like a pentagon? It has five sides?

*SPEAKER 2:* Yes, it does. The bottom part is closed, with counters around it to put stuff on. But the booth is completely open in the upper half—on all five sides. Poles support the roof.

# 1. Places = Interior Spaces

a **bed room** / in a cabin / some single **beds**  
**handmade quilts** / and **blan**kets on them  
**dec(o)rativ**e **pil**lows / against a **headboard**  
a **bench** / at the foot of **one** of the **beds**  
a **bright table lamp** / next to the **bed**  
**wood-paneled walls** / **wooden fur**niture  
**wall-to-wall car**peting / on the **floor**  
a **warm, cozy, country at**mosphere



a **beautifully remod**eled **kitchen**  
a lot of **well-arranged cabinet space**  
**built of smoothly-polished light wood**  
a **number of modern appli**ances / **built in**  
a **refrigerator**, / a **dish washer**, / a **mi**crowave,  
an electric **range**, / and two **white sinks**  
**consistent with the overall design**  
a **hardwood floor** / with a **Persian car**pet



**A**

**B**

a **basement recreation or hobby room**  
a **collection** / of **old sound equipment**  
**various models** / of **transistor radios**  
**lined up** / on the **mantelpiece or shelf**  
**attached** / to a **brick wall** or **facade**  
a **television set** / on a **one-legged stand**  
**some cassette tapes** / and **record albums**  
**stereo equipment** / on **metal shelving**



the **lobby of a hotel** / a **Victorian mansion**  
**curved latticework** / over the **front desk**  
**ornately furnished** / with **period antiques**  
**reproductions** / of **carved oak fur**niture  
a **Tiffany lamp** / **plush red cur**tains  
**heirloom dresses** / **mannequins** / on **display**  
**flowered wall paper** / with **framed pic**tures  
a **decorated Christmas tree** / **point**settias



**C**

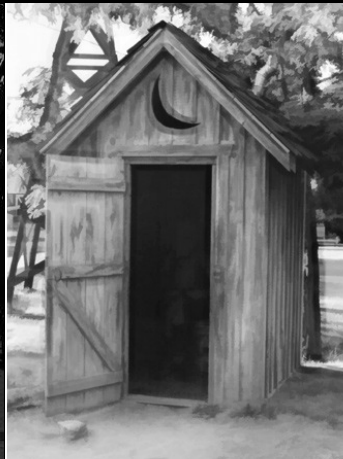
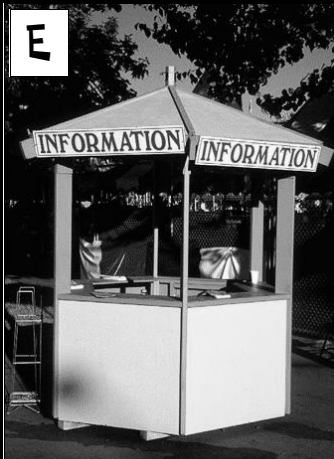
**D**



## 2. Places = Structures

both of these **structures** / in the **woods**  
**trees all around** / a **natural environment**  
 a **pentagonal information booth**  
 open in the **upper half** / **five poles**  
**signs** / on the **triangular roof surfaces**  
 a **four-sided outhouse** / **rectangular**  
**made of wood** / a **cut-out moon symbol**  
 an **open door** / a **two-sided pitched roof**

a **lodge** on a **hill** / built like a **log cabin**  
 not a **luxury resort** / not especially **large**  
 a **sep(a)rate entry room** / with **big windows**  
 a **long pitched roof** / with **two solar panels**  
 a **tall stone chimney** / a **fire place** inside  
**wood railings** / around the whole **building**  
 a **porch** / held up by **strong pillars**  
 in a **dry climate** / **desert plants** / **few trees**



**sev(e)ral mobile homes** / often called **trailers**  
**small houses** / without **foundations**  
**wheels** / surrounded by **concrete**  
 now **semi-permanent** / **difficult to move**  
**rectangular in shape** / **flat roofs** on top  
**fourteen feet wide** by **thirty-six feet long**  
**pro(ba)ly old** / **single width** / not **doubled**  
 in a **shaded park** / with **trees in autumn**

**huge semi-circular buildings** / **three** in all  
**four-story parking garages** / at the **base**  
**twelve stories above** / **curved balconies**  
**two-bedroom, two-bath condominiums**  
**spacious, open layouts** / **floor plans**  
**floor-to-ceiling windows** / many **amenities**  
**luxury furnished apartment living**  
 on the **waterfront** / a **small-boat marina**

