

# NINE TYPES OF SYLLABLES

Do you remember that syllables are chunks of speech containing just one vowel sound? Here are nine kinds of syllables that you need to recognize when you attack long words:

- 1 Closed syllables such as "man" that end with a consonant and have a "closed" or "short" vowel. Say each of the closed syllables in these words: catnip, finish, unfit
- 2 Signal "e" syllables with an ending signal "e" such as "bite" and an "open" or "long" vowel. Say one of these syllables in each of these words: dispute, lately, unite
- 3 Open syllables such as "me" that end with a vowel sound. Say the open syllable in these words: Hindu, gismo, domino
- 4 Vowel pair closed syllables such as "feet" in which the vowel is spelled with two or more letters, and the syllable ends with a consonant. Look out for words with adjoining vowels that are in separate syllables such as "dial" and "fuel." Say the vowel pair syllable in these words: outing, readable, saintly
- 5 Vowel pair open syllables such as "saw" in which the vowel is spelled with two or more letters. Say the open syllable in these words: window, lawful, display
- 6 R-controlled syllables such as "jar" and "dare" in which an "r" follows the vowel. Say one of these syllables in each of these words: cartoon, careful, hurting
- 7 Consonant-le syllables such as those in "apple" that end with "le." Say one of these syllables in each of these words: little, able, rifle
- 8 Weak syllables containing a weak vowel such as the "o" in "wagon." Say the weak syllable in these words: open, signal, basin
- 9 Other syllables that are prefixes such as the "un" in "unhappy," suffixes such as the "ly" in "homely," or endings such as the "ed" in "jumped," the "ing" in "swimming," the "er" in "faster," and the "est" in "fastest." : undone, nearly, standing

Now you know about syllables. Let's celebrate!