

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY STRESS

by Julian Conde

I. Identify if the underlined syllable has "primary", "secondary" or it's "unstressed".

- Photograph _____
- Phototography _____
- About _____
- University _____
- Organize _____



II. Choose the syllable that is stressed.

- How old is he? He is **six-teen**.
- He lives at **six-teen** Main Street.
- I have **thir-teen** apples.
- The lucky number is **thir-teen**.



III. Write T (true) or F (false) according to the rules.

- ____ Primary stress is the most important syllable for listeners to identify a word.
- ____ Unstressed syllables usually have a high pitch and a full vowel sound.
- ____ Secondary stress is common on the second noun of a compound word, such as in "railroad."
- ____ In the word "evidence," it is acceptable to skip the unstressed "i" and "e" sounds, pronouncing it as "ev'dence."
- ____ Secondary stress is written with a grave accent symbol (').
- ____ Syllables with secondary stress have a lower pitch than syllables with primary stress.
- ____ When a "-teen" number is followed by a pause, you should stress the first syllable of the number.
- ____ "Movable stress" occurs to help create a more regular-sounding rhythm in speech.

