

# What is a syllable?

It's the sound of a vowel (A, E, I, O, U) that is created when pronouncing the letters A, E, I, O, U, or Y.

“Y” is a vowel **only** if it creates an A, E, I, O, or U sound.

- *examples: fry, try, cry, & dry*

The number of times you hear the sound of a vowel  
is the number of syllables in a word.

If two (or more) vowels are next to each other, the number of syllables is the number of vowel sounds.

- *examples: free (1 syllable), eat (1 syllable), & bio (2 syllables)*

A silent vowels is not a syllable.

- *examples: fire (1 syllable), tire (1 syllable), & sale (1 syllable)*

If a word ends with “-le” or “-les” and the “-” is not a vowel, “-le” is a syllable.

- *example: apple (2 syllables)*

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