

Stress and Silent Final

CK-12 English

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Printed: February 5, 2022 (PST)



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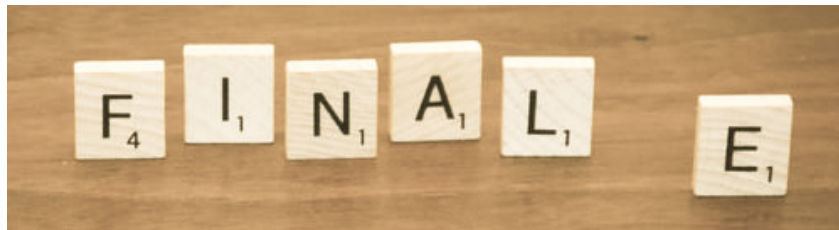
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Silent Final <e> and Stress

Silent final <e> marking a vowel long if the vowel has strong stress

Stress and Silent Final <e>



[Figure1]

You delete a final <e> that marks a soft <c> or a soft <g> only when you add a suffix that starts with <e>, <i>, or <y>; you delete a final <e> that is only marking a long vowel when you add a suffix that starts with any vowel.

Examples

One of the things silent final <e> does is to mark a vowel as long in a VCV string at the end of a word. So *rat* has a short <a> sound, [a], but *rate* has a long one, [ā]. The silent final <e> in *rate* fills out the VCV string and the first vowel is long: *rate*_{vcv}

But sometimes silent final <e> does not mark the vowel in front of it as long. For instance, in the word *engine* the <i> is not long even though the silent final <e> makes a VCV string: *engine*_{vcv}

The rule is this: Silent final <e> only marks a vowel long if the vowel has strong stress.

In the word *decide* the strong stress is on the <i>: *decíde*. So in *decide* the silent final <e> marks the <i> as long. But in the word *engine* the strong stress is on the first <e>, and the <i> has weak stress: *éngine*. So in *engine* the silent final <e> does not mark the <i> as long.

Review

1. Mark the strong stress in each of these words. Remember that when a word has two vowel sounds, the strong stress is usually on the first vowel — not always, but usually.

missile	college	office	climate	decide
service	dispute	package	remote	reduce
passage	practice	require	suppose	active
notice	courage	surface	manage	purpose

2. Now sort the words into this matrix:

	Words with strong stress on the last vowel sound:	Words with weak stress on the last vowel sound:
Words in which the final <e> marks a long vowel:		
Words in which the final <e> does not mark a long vowel:		

[Figure2]

3. A silent final <e> only marks a long vowel if the final vowel sound in the word has _____ stress.

Review (Answers)

1.

míssile	cóllege	óffice	clímate	decíde
sérvice	dispúte	páckage	remóte	redúce
pássage	práctice	requíre	suppóse	áctive
nóttice	cóurage	súrface	mánage	púrpose

2.

	Words with strong stress on the last vowel sound:	Words with weak stress on the last vowel sound:
Words in which the final <e> marks a long vowel:	<i>dispute</i> <i>require</i> <i>remote</i> <i>suppose</i> <i>decide</i> <i>reduce</i>	
Words in which the final <e> does not mark a long vowel:		<i>missile</i> <i>surface</i> <i>service</i> <i>climate</i> <i>passage</i> <i>manage</i> <i>notice</i> <i>active</i> <i>college</i> <i>purpose</i> <i>practice</i> <i>courage</i> <i>office</i> <i>package</i>

3. A silent final <e> only marks a long vowel if the final vowel sound in the word has strong stress.

1.0 REFERENCES

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