

First Syllable Sort

Sort words by the way their first syllable ends.

4.F.P.4.b “Decode and encode single-syllable and multisyllabic words of all syllable types.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

OPEN FIRST SYLLABLE

The first syllable ends in a vowel. The vowel usually says its long sound.

zebra (ze-bra)

CLOSED FIRST SYLLABLE

The first syllable ends in a consonant. The vowel usually says its short sound.

winter (win-ter)

1 SORT

8 items

Circle OPEN or CLOSED for each word, then pick two words and explain how the first syllable helped you sort them.

1. robot

OPEN

CLOSED

2. tulip

OPEN

CLOSED

3. napkin

OPEN

CLOSED

4. music

OPEN

CLOSED

5. basket

OPEN

CLOSED

6. magnet

OPEN

CLOSED

7. final

OPEN

CLOSED

8. paper

OPEN

CLOSED

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new word with an open first syllable and one new word with a closed first syllable.

OPEN _____

CLOSED _____

CHALLENGE

Write a two-syllable word with an open first syllable and a closed second syllable. Show the syllable break.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	robot	OPEN	The first syllable, ro, ends in a vowel.
2	tulip	OPEN	The first syllable, tu, ends in a vowel.
3	napkin	CLOSED	The first syllable, nap, ends in a consonant.
4	music	OPEN	The first syllable, mu, ends in a vowel.
5	basket	CLOSED	The first syllable, bas, ends in a consonant.
6	magnet	CLOSED	The first syllable, mag, ends in a consonant.
7	final	OPEN	The first syllable, fi, ends in a vowel.
8	paper	OPEN	The first syllable, pa, ends in a vowel.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **OPEN:** hotel (ho-tel)
- **CLOSED:** dentist (den-tist)

Challenge: basic (ba-sic)

For Part 2, students should name the first syllable and tell whether it ends in a vowel or consonant. Accept other correct words for Part 3 and the challenge if the syllable types match.