# First Syllable Sort

Find the first vowel sound in each word.

**2.RF.3.a** "Decode and encode two-syllable words with both long and short vowels, following regular phonics patterns."

NAME _____ DATE _____

**OPEN FIRST SYLLABLE**

An open syllable ends with a vowel. That vowel usually says its name.

pa/per

**CLOSED FIRST SYLLABLE**

A closed syllable ends with a consonant. Its vowel usually has a short sound.

sun/set

## 1 SORT

8 items

Circle OPEN or CLOSED for each word, then choose two words and explain how you knew.

1. robot — OPEN CLOSED
2. tulip — OPEN CLOSED
3. basket — OPEN CLOSED
4. basic — OPEN CLOSED
5. napkin — OPEN CLOSED
6. picnic — OPEN CLOSED
7. silent — OPEN CLOSED
8. hotel — 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 two-syllable word with an OPEN first syllable and one with a CLOSED first syllable.

**OPEN** _____

**CLOSED** _____

**CHALLENGE**

Write another two-syllable word, split it into syllables with a slash, and label its first syllable OPEN or CLOSED.

**ANSWER KEY**

# First Syllable Sort

**GRADE 2 · 2.RF.3.a**

## PART 1 · SORT

| # | ITEM | CATEGORY | WHY |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | robot | **OPEN** | ro/bot: The first syllable ends with o, which has a long sound. |
| 2 | tulip | **OPEN** | tu/lip: The first syllable ends with u, which has a long sound. |
| 3 | basket | **CLOSED** | bas/ket: The first syllable ends with s, and a has a short sound. |
| 4 | basic | **OPEN** | ba/sic: The first syllable ends with a, which has a long sound. |
| 5 | napkin | **CLOSED** | nap/kin: The first syllable ends with p, and a has a short sound. |
| 6 | picnic | **CLOSED** | pic/nic: The first syllable ends with c, and i has a short sound. |
| 7 | silent | **OPEN** | si/lent: The first syllable ends with i, which has a long sound. |
| 8 | hotel | **OPEN** | ho/tel: The first syllable ends with o, which has a long sound. |

## 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**: zero
- **CLOSED**: magnet

**Challenge:** ro/dent, OPEN

For Part 2, a student might explain that ro/bot is OPEN because ro ends with a vowel, while bas/ket is CLOSED because bas ends with a consonant. Other accurate explanations using two sort words are acceptable.