

# Decoding Multisyllable Words

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Score: \_\_\_\_ / 12



## Quick Review

Long words can be easier to read if you **BREAK** them into syllables. A syllable is a chunk with a vowel sound. Look at the parts you already know — prefixes, suffixes, and root words — to help you read the whole word.

## PRACTICE

Break each long word into parts and choose the **BEST** answer.

- How many syllables are in *elephant*?
  - one
  - two
  - three
  - four
- How is *basketball* best broken into syllables?
  - bask / etball
  - bas / ket / ball
  - ba / sket / ball
  - basket / ball
- Which is the **BEST** way to read the word *unhappiness*?
  - un-hap-pi-ness
  - u-n-h-a-p-p-i-n-e-s-s
  - unh-app-in-ess
  - un-happin-ess
- How many syllables does *information* have?
  - two
  - three
  - four
  - five



5. Which word has THREE syllables?
- A. mountain
  - B. snowflake
  - C. elephant
  - D. tree
6. Read this long word by parts: *rebuilding*. Which BREAK is correct?
- A. reb-uild-ing
  - B. re-build-ing
  - C. re-bu-il-ding
  - D. reb-u-ild-ing
7. Which word has FOUR syllables?
- A. volcano
  - B. celebration
  - C. important
  - D. remember
8. Break this word by parts: *uncomfortable*
- A. un-com-fort-a-ble
  - B. unc-omf-ort-able
  - C. u-ncom-fortab-le
  - D. unco-mfort-able
9. Why is it helpful to break long words into parts?
- A. It makes the words shorter on the page.
  - B. It helps a reader sound out and understand the word.
  - C. It changes the meaning of the word.
  - D. It makes every long word easy to spell.
10. Which word has the FEWEST syllables?
- A. beautiful
  - B. important
  - C. school
  - D. remember
11. Write the syllables of *butterfly* with dashes between them: \_\_\_\_\_
- Answer: \_\_\_\_\_



12. Which strategy helps MOST when you see a long word you don't know?
- A. skip it and move on
  - B. look for word parts you know and read them one chunk at a time
  - C. guess based on the first letter
  - D. read the page from the end to the start



## Answer Keys

- |   |                                    |                                    |                                    |                         |    |  |                                    |                                    |                         |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|----|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | <input type="radio"/> A            | <input type="radio"/> B            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | 7  | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C            | <input type="radio"/> D |
| 2 | <input type="radio"/> A            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C            | <input type="radio"/> D | 8  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A       | <input type="radio"/> B            | <input type="radio"/> C            | <input type="radio"/> D |
| 3 | <input checked="" type="radio"/> A | <input type="radio"/> B            | <input type="radio"/> C            | <input type="radio"/> D | 9  | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C            | <input type="radio"/> D |
| 4 | <input type="radio"/> A            | <input type="radio"/> B            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | 10 | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input type="radio"/> B            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D |
| 5 | <input type="radio"/> A            | <input type="radio"/> B            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> C | <input type="radio"/> D | 11 | <input type="text" value="but-ter-fly"/> |                                    |                                    |                         |
| 6 | <input type="radio"/> A            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C            | <input type="radio"/> D | 12 | <input type="radio"/> A                  | <input checked="" type="radio"/> B | <input type="radio"/> C            | <input type="radio"/> D |

### Explanations

<b>1. C</b>	el / e / phant = 3 syllables. Each chunk has one vowel sound.
<b>2. B</b>	Three clear syllables: bas-ket-ball. Compound words split between root parts and inside each root.
<b>3. A</b>	Pull off the prefix (un-) and the suffix (-ness), then read the middle. The others either spell letter by letter or split in odd places.
<b>4. C</b>	in-for-ma-tion = 4 syllables.
<b>5. C</b>	Elephant = el-e-phant (3). Mountain = moun-tain (2), snowflake = snow-flake (2), tree = 1.
<b>6. B</b>	Prefix (re-), root (build), suffix (-ing). The others ignore the word parts.
<b>7. B</b>	cel-e-bra-tion = 4 syllables. Volcano = vol-ca-no (3); important = 3; remember = 3.
<b>8. A</b>	Prefix (un-) + comfort + -able. The others ignore real chunks of the word.
<b>9. B</b>	Splitting into chunks helps decoding. A is not the point; C is wrong; D is too strong.
<b>10. C</b>	School = 1 syllable. The others have 3 or more.
<b>11. but-ter-fly</b>	Three clear syllables.
<b>12. B</b>	Chunking is the strategy. Skipping skips meaning; first-letter guessing is unreliable; reading backward changes nothing.



## Want Even More Practice? Check Out Our Other Washington Smarter Balanced ELA Test Books!



Includes 5, 6, 7 & 8 Test Prep Books

### Washington Smarter Balanced Grade 3 ELA Preparation Bundle

26 full-length practice tests across four books (5 + 6 + 7 + 8)

*No repeated questions — maximum practice value!*

▼ DOWNLOAD INSTANTLY ▼



SCAN ME

*Point your phone camera at the code · instant access to all four books*

### 26 Tests! 4 Books One Bundle

**Important:** All our test books contain **unique, completely different tests** from each other! Each book offers fresh practice questions — no repeats!

<h4>5 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 5 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ Perfect foundation for Smarter Balanced ELA prep</li> <li>✓ Builds confidence and test-taking skills</li> <li>✓ High-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Start your practice journey!</b></p>	<h4>6 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 6 complete practice tests with detailed explanations</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from the 5 tests book</li> <li>✓ Perfect for more practice after mastering 5 tests</li> <li>✓ Same high-quality questions aligned with standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Take your practice to the next level!</b></p>	<h4>7 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 7 complete practice tests for deeper preparation</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5 and 6 tests books</li> <li>✓ Builds stamina with full-length practice</li> <li>✓ Aligned to Grade 3 Smarter Balanced ELA standards</li> </ul> <p><b>Maximum preparation power!</b></p>	<h4>8 Practice Tests</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 8 complete practice tests — our largest book</li> <li>✓ <b>Unique tests</b> — different from 5, 6 and 7 books</li> <li>✓ Great for final review before test day</li> <li>✓ Builds true test stamina and confidence</li> </ul> <p><b>Be fully prepared!</b></p>
--	--	--	---

Get the bundle at [EffortlessMath.com](https://www.EffortlessMath.com) — scan the QR code above to open the product page.

