

Vocabulary Building Activity

Review important letter sounds and reading rules from Grade 4 Vocabulary

1 Consonant Rule – 2 Consonant Rule – short vowels – long vowels – [View rule online](#)

1 Consonant Rule

1. medium
2. beyond
3. remain
4. previous
5. identical

2 Consonant Rule

6. distance
7. effort
8. explanation
9. accurate
10. opportunity

1 Consonant Rule: When one consonant follows a vowel, the vowel is often long.

2 Consonant Rule: When two consonants follow a vowel, the vowel is usually short.

Note: These rules are not 100% true, however, they do occur more than 75% of the time for the first vowel sound in a word, and therefore, can help greatly with successful decoding and spelling.

SKILL 1 – Review Long and Short Vowels (answers not from above list)

1. Write one word as an example of each long vowel sound (a-e-i-o-u). Words must contain 4 letters:

_____ long a _____ long e _____ long i _____ long o _____ long u

2. Write one word as an example of each short vowel sound (a-e-i-o-u). Words must contain 3 letters:

_____ short a _____ short e _____ short i _____ short o _____ short u

SKILL 2 – Identify Vowel Sounds

3. Which word begins with a long i vowel sound in the 1 Consonant Rule list? _____
4. Which word has a long e for its first vowel sound and means to “stay put” ? _____
5. Which word has a long e sound and means “in the middle of low and high” ? _____
6. Which word has a long e sound because it is followed by the single “v” consonant? _____
7. Which word has a long e sound and means “something that is past something else”? _____
8. Which word begins with a short o sound because it is followed by two letter p’s ? _____
9. Which word begins with a short e sound because it is followed by consonants “xp” ? _____
10. If a word begins with “accu” – would the “a” most likely have a long or short sound? _____
11. If a word begins with “rema” – would the “e” most likely have a long or short sound? _____
12. If a word begins with “opp” – would the “o” most likely have a long or short sound? _____
13. If a word begins with “previ” – would the “e” most likely have a long or short sound? _____
14. Circle your fastest time for saying the 10 list words: 4 sec - 5 sec – 6 sec – 7 sec – 8 sec – 9 sec – 10 sec

SKILL 3 – Sentence Writing

15. Use a separate sheet of paper and put each list word into a sentence containing at least 7 words.