

Level 4 Answer Key

1

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
absolve	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	ab-solve
absolve	Why doesn't this word end in "v"?	Ex: English words do not end in v.
abstractive	How would you divide this word into syllables?	ab-strac-tive
abstractive	Why?	Ex:follow consonant cluster and affix patterns
abstractive	What is the V-C-E exception in this word, and what does it say?	The exception is tive; /tɪv/ OR / tɪv/
addictive	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	ad-dic-tive
addictive	Why are the vowels in this word all short?	Ex: they are in closed or exception syllables.
addictive	What does this word mean?	Ex: causing a strong habit or dependence
advise	What does this word mean?	Ex: to give guidance or recommendations
advise	How would you advise someone to follow the school rules?	Student's own response
advise	Name three words with a V-C-E syllable.	Ex: make, hope, line
affective	Name the sounds that make up each syllable.	af-fec-tive: /ăf/ /fĕk/ tɪv/ OR /æf/ /fɛk/ / tɪv/
affective	Use the word in a sentence.	Student's own response
afflictive	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	af-flic-tive
afflictive	Say the first and last syllable.	af, tive
afflictive	What is the base word?	Afflict
aggressive	How would you divide this word into syllables?	ag-gres-sive
aggressive	Name the opposite of this word.	Ex: peaceful or calm
anecdote	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	an-ec-dote
anecdote	What does this word mean?	Ex: a short, amusing or interesting story
apse	Name two types of syllables.	Ex: closed, V-C-E
apse	Provide at least one exception for each.	V-C-E: ive in give; Closed: ild in child
attractive	Name three V-C-E exception words.	Ex: active, captive, positive
attractive	How does the V-C-E exception affect the vowel sound?	Vowel is short instead of long
attribute	Tap out and say each syllable in this word.	at-trib-ute

Level 4 Answer Key

2

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
attribute	Is the last syllable closed or V-C-E?	V-C-E
attribute	How do you know?	Ex: ends with silent e making u long
bathe	Does the vowel "a" say its name?	yes
bathe	What is the rule for a V-C-E syllable with a digraph before "e"?	Ex: silent e makes the vowel long, even with a digraph
blindsides	What types of syllables are in this word?	blind (closed exception), side (V-C-E)
blindsides	What is the closed syllable exception in this word?	ind in blind
clothespin	Is this a compound word?	Yes
clothespin	How do you know?	Ex: made of two words: clothes + pin
clothespin	What is a digraph?	Two letters making one sound
clothespin	What sounds do the digraphs "th" and "sh" make?	/th/ OR /θ/ and /sh/ OR /ʃ/.
collapse	Why is the "e" silent at the end of "collapse"?	Ex: its job is to follow the "s" so that it isn't thought of as a suffix
collapse	What is the opposite of this word?	Ex: expand or rise
collapse	Use "collapse" in a sentence.	Student's own response
collective	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	col-lec-tive
collective	Does the last syllable have a long or short vowel?	Short vowel
collective	Why?	Because it's in an exception syllable (tive)
combustive	Tap out and say each syllable in this word.	com-bus-tive
combustive	What does this word mean?	Ex: related to burning or exploding
commutes	How does the suffix change the meaning of this word?	Ex: it makes it third person singular or plural
commutes	Use this word in a sentence.	Student's own response
compare	What is the opposite of this word?	Ex: contrast
compare	Use "compare" in a sentence.	Student's own response
compulsive	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	com-pul-sive
compulsive	What does this word mean?	Ex: driven by an irresistible urge
condense	Why does this word have an "e" after the "s"?	Ex: its job is to follow the "s" so that it isn't thought of as a suffix
condense	Use this word in a sentence.	Student's own response

Level 4 Answer Key

3

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
conduct	What do the last two letters in this word say?	/kt/
conduct	What does this word mean?	Ex: to lead or direct
conduct	Name two synonyms.	Ex: guide, manage
confiscate	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	con-fis-cate
confiscate	What does this word mean?	Ex: to take away something
confiscate	Use this word in a sentence.	Student's own response
conflictive	What types of syllables are in this word?	con (closed), flic (closed), tive (VCE exception)
conflictive	How do you know?	Ex: by analyzing vowel sounds and syllable endings
confuse	What are the vowel sounds in each syllable?	con: /ɔ̃/ OR /ɒ/; fuse: /ū/ (/yoo/)
confuse	Are they long or short?	First short, second long
confuse	What helps you determine this?	Ex: syllable types and VCE pattern
connective	Tap out and say each syllable in this word.	con-nec-tive
connective	What strategy would you use to spell this word?	Ex: break into syllables and analyze sounds
consoles	How would you divide this word into syllables?	con-soles
consoles	Why?	Ex: prefix: con- and root: soles
consoles	What does this word mean?	Ex: comforts or supports
consoles	What is the opposite of this word?	Ex: distresses
constructive	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	con-struc-tive
constructive	What constructive advice could you give to a friend?	Student's own response
contemplate	How would you divide this word into syllables?	con-tem-plate
contemplate	Why?	Ex: divide after the first vowel/between the two consonants; VCE in final syllable
contemplate	What does this word mean?	Ex: to think deeply about something
contemplate	Use it in a sentence.	Student's own response
crossbones	How would you divide this word into syllables?	cross-bones
crossbones	Why?	Ex: compound word with clear parts

Level 4 Answer Key

4

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
crossbones	What two sounds does "s" make in this word?	/s/ and /z/
custom-made	What are the three syllables in this word?	cus-tom-made
custom-made	What would you like to be custom-made for you?	Student's own response
custom-made	Why?	Student's own response
daredevils	What suffix and base word are in this word?	Suffix: -s; base: daredevil
daredevils	How does the suffix change the meaning of the base word?	Ex: makes it plural.
delve	Why is the second "e" in this word silent?	Ex: silent e added to avoid ending in v
delve	What does this word mean?	Ex: to dig or search deeply
delve	Use it in a sentence.	Student's own response
demonstrate	How would you divide this word into syllables?	de-mon-strate
demonstrate	What strategies would you use?	Ex: identify the vowel-sounds and follow the syllable rules for those sounds
disenfranchise	When dividing this word into syllables, do you keep together or break apart the "ch"?	Keep together
disenfranchise	Why?	Ex: ch is a digraph and digraphs stay together
disenfranchise	What is a franchise?	Ex: authorization to sell or distribute a company's goods/services
disenfranchise	Name two franchises.	Ex: McDonald's, Subway
disincline	What does this word mean?	Ex: to make unwilling or reluctant
disincline	How does the prefix alter the base word's meaning?	Ex: adds a negative meaning to the baseword
dismissive	How would you divide this word into syllables?	dis-mis-sive
dismissive	Why?	Ex: follow consonant division and prefix rule
dismissive	What does this word mean?	Ex: showing indifference or disregard
dismissive	What is a synonym for it?	Ex: scornful
dispense	Say this word.	dispense
dispense	Now say it without the first syllable.	pense
dispense	Now say it without the second syllable.	dis
dispose	Is this a compound word?	No

Level 4 Answer Key

5

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
dispose	How can you tell?	Ex: it does not contain two standalone words.
dispose	What's the job of the silent final "e"?	Makes the o say it's name (long)
disruptive	Why does this word have an "e" after the "v"?	English words do not end in v.
disruptive	What is the opposite of this word?	Ex: orderly or calm
dissolve	What spelling rules help determine this word's correct spelling?	Ex: prefix/base word; no English words end in v; sound out the syllables
distinctive	How would you divide this word into syllables?	dis-tinc-tive
distinctive	Why?	Ex: break at consonant cluster and suffix
distinctive	What does this word mean?	Ex: unique or characteristic
distinctive	What is the opposite of it?	Ex: common or ordinary
distribute	Which rule helps you divide this word into syllables?	Ex: prefix-root division rule
distribute	What are the characteristics of V-C-E syllables?	Ex: vowel is long, ends with silent e, consonant in middle
drugstore	Name the two types of syllables in this word.	closed, V-C-E
drugstore	What does this word mean?	Ex: a store that sells medicine and other goods
drugstore	What is a synonym for this word?	Ex:pharmacy
effective	What is the meaning and the opposite of this word?	Ex: meaning: successful; opposite: ineffective
excludes	Can you name three things you see right now that start with the same letter as this word?	Student's own response
exculpate	Identify the syllable types in this word.	ex (closed), cul (closed), pate (VCE)
exculpate	Say each syllable aloud.	ex-cul-pate
exculpate	Name a word that rhymes with the third syllable.	Ex: late
expanse	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	ex-panse
expanse	What does this word mean?	Ex: wide continuous area
expanse	What is its opposite?	Ex: small space
expensive	What is the antonym or opposite of this word?	Ex: cheap or inexpensive
expensive	Use "expensive" in a sentence.	Student's own response

Level 4 Answer Key

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
extreme	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	ex-treme
extreme	Demonstrate your understanding of this word by using it in a sentence.	Student's own response
farewells	Identify the syllable types in this word.	fare (VCE), wells (closed)
farewells	Use a different compound word in a sentence.	Student's own response
gangrene	Name the two types of syllables in this word.	gan (closed), grene (VCE)
gangrene	Are there any welded letters in this word?	Yes; an
gangrene	Why or why not?	An is a welded team; ang is not welded since the g belongs in the second syllable
glimpse	If you got to travel anywhere in the world, where would you want to go and why?	Student's own response
gravestones	Divide this word into syllables, and say each syllable aloud.	grave-stones
gravestones	If you could choose any superpower, what would it be, and why?	Student's own response
homemade	Name three different compound words.	Ex: sunflower, basketball, rainbow
homemade	What five adjectives best describe you?	Student's own response
illustrate	Identify the syllable types in this word.	il (closed), lus (closed), trate (VCE)
illustrate	Describe a perfect day using five multisyllabic words.	Student's own response
immense	Can you name five animals or foods that start with the same letter as this word?	Ex: iguana, insect, ice cream, iceberg lettuce, impala
impressive	Share a proud experience, and include at least three multisyllabic words to describe it.	Student's own response
impulsive	When do you double a letter at the end of a single-syllable word?	You double "f", "l", "s", and sometimes "z" at the end of one-syllable words.
incomplete	What vowel sounds are in this word?	/ɪ/ /ɔ̃/ /ē/ OR / ɪ/ /ɒ/ /i/
incomplete	How does the silent "e" affect the vowel sound in the third syllable?	Ex: makes e long
indiscrete	Say this word one syllable at a time.	in-dis-crete
indiscrete	What would this word be if the prefix was removed?	discrete
inductive	How many syllables are in this word?	3 syllables
inductive	What are the sounds in the second syllable?	/dũk/ OR /dʌk/

Level 4 Answer Key

7

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
infiltrate	Why doesn't the second syllable in this word have a double letter?	Ex: fil is a word part and not meant to be the word "fill".
inflective	How many syllables does this word have?	3 syllables
inflective	Say each syllable aloud.	in-flec-tive
inquire	How would you divide this word into syllables?	in-quire
inquire	Why?	Ex: because 'qu' stays together as a blend; technically is a VC/CV word
inquire	Is this a compound word?	No
inquire	How can you tell?	It is not two independent words joined together.
instinctive	What is the V-C-E exception?	Ex: the siffix tive; the i makes its short sound
instinctive	Share a proud experience.	Student's own response
instinctive	Include three multisyllabic words to describe it.	Student's own response
invade	Name the sounds that make up this word.	/ɪn/ /vād/ OR /ɪn/ /veɪd/
invade	How do you know you're saying the correct vowel sounds?	Ex: Apply syllable rules
Japanese	Is the last syllable closed or V-C-E?	VCE
Japanese	How do you know?	Ex: the first e says it's name and is followed by a consonant and a silent e.
landslide	What is a blend?	Ex: two or more consonants next to each other that hold their own sounds
landslide	Identify the blend in the second syllable.	sl
landslide	How does the V-C-E pattern affect vowel sounds?	Ex: makes vowels long
lapse	If the "e" weren't at the end of this word, what would the base word be?	lap
lapse	What role would "s" play?	Suffix
lemonade	Can you divide this word into syllables?	lem-on-ade
lemonade	How many syllable types make up this word?	2: closed, closed, VCE
limestone	Divide this word into syllables.	lime-stone
limestone	What sound does the vowel make in the first syllable due to the silent "e"?	/ī/ OR /ɑɪ/
mandate	What remains if we remove the first syllable?	date

Level 4 Answer Key

8

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
mandate	Name two words that rhyme with the first syllable.	Ex: ban, can
midshipmate	Identify the syllable types in this word.	mid (closed), ship (closed), mate (VCE)
midshipmate	Name another word that has the same prefix as this word.	Ex: midday, midweek
mistranscribe	Tap out and pronounce each syllable.	mis-tran-scribe
mistranscribe	Now say the word without the prefix.	transcribe
mistranslate	Where would you divide this word into syllables?	mis-trans-late
mistranslate	Why?	Ex: divide at prefix and root boundary
mundane	What is the antonym of this word?	Ex: exciting or extraordinary
mundane	Use an antonym in a sentence.	Student's own response
necklines	What suffix is in this word?	s
necklines	How does it change the meaning of the word?	Ex: makes it plural
nonsense	Identify the syllable types in this word.	non (closed), sense (closed)
nonsense	What does this word mean?	Ex: words or ideas that are foolish or make no sense
nonsense	Name one synonym.	Ex: foolishness
obfuscates	Identify the syllable types in this word.	ob (closed), fus (closed), cates (VCE)
obfuscates	What does this word mean?	Ex: to make something unclear or confusing
obfuscates	Use it in a sentence.	Student's own response
obsessive	Name two cities that start with the same letter as this word.	Ex: Orlando, Omaha, Oslo
obsessive	What's the job of the silent final "e"?	Ex: to not have the word end in v
obstructive	Tap out and pronounce each syllable.	ob-struc-tive
obstructive	If you could have any superpower, what would it be?	Student's own response
offense	What does this word mean?	Ex: violation or attack
offense	What is this word's opposite?	Ex: defense
palindrome	How does the "o" sound change if you remove the silent "e" at the end of this word?	It would become a short o.
pocket-size	When dividing this word into syllables, would you keep together or separate the "ck"?	Keep together

Level 4 Answer Key

9

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
pocket-size	Why?	Ex: "ck" is a digraph, and digraphs aren't split up.
possessive	Say this word without the third syllable.	possess
possessive	What does the whole word mean?	Ex: showing ownership
possessive	Use it in a sentence.	Student's own response
productive	Read the word without its last syllable.	produc(t)
productive	Use the whole word in a sentence.	Student's own response
profit-wise	What is the effect of the silent "e" in this word?	Ex: makes preceding vowel long
profit-wise	Name two one-syllable V-C-E words.	Ex: cake, time
prospective	Say this word without the third syllable.	prospec(t)
prospective	What does the whole word mean?	Ex: expected or potential future
prospective	Use it in a sentence.	Student's own response
pulse	Say the word with and without the "e" at the end.	With: pulse (s makes /s/ sound); without: puls (s makes /z/ sound)
pulse	How did the sound of the "s" change?	Ex: with the e, the s says /s/; without the e, the s says /z/
quagmire	True or false: There are four syllables in this word.	False.
quagmire	Explain.	It has two syllables: quag-mire
recognize	How would you divide this word into syllables?	rec-og-nize
recognize	Why?	Ex: divide to close in short sounding vowels; divide between consonants
recognize	What's the job of the silent final "e"?	Ex: makes the vowel in last syllable long
satellite	How would you divide this word into syllables?	sat-el-lite
satellite	Why?	Ex: divide to close in short sounding vowels; divide between consonants
satellite	Say this word without its second syllable.	sat-lite
scrapes	What comes to mind with this word?	Student's own response
scrapes	Use this word in a sentence.	Student's own response
spareribs	Read this word.	spareribs
spareribs	What is the base word?	sparerib
spareribs	Read this word again without the first syllable.	ribs

Level 4 Answer Key

10

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
statesmanship	How does the V-C-E pattern affect vowel sounds?	Ex: makes vowels long
statesmanship	Is this a compound word?	Yes
statesmanship	How do you know?	Made from two words: statesman + ship
stripes	Name two number words that end with "th" to represent number ranking.	Ex: sixth, tenth
stripes	Now spell one of them.	Student spells chosen word correctly
subjective	Identify the syllable types in this word.	sub (closed), jec (closed), tive (VCE exception)
subjective	Read this word without the last syllable.	subject
subscribe	How would you divide this word into syllables?	sub-scribe
subscribe	Why?	Ex: divide after prefix 'sub-' and root 'scribe'
subscribe	Use this word in a sentence.	Student's own response
suspense	How would you divide this word into syllables?	sus-pense
suspense	Why?	Ex: VC/CV pattern
suspense	What is the meaning of this word?	Ex: a feeling of excitement or anxious uncertainty
suspense	Use it in a sentence.	Student's own response
tranquelize	How would you divide this word into syllables?	tran-quil-ize
tranquelize	Why?	Ex: divide to close in short sounding vowels; divide between consonants
tranquelize	What five adjectives would best describe you?	Student's own response
transfuse	Identify the syllable types in this word.	trans (closed), fuse (VCE)
transfuse	Why is it important to know the V-C-E syllable?	Ex: it helps determine vowel pronunciation
transgressive	How would you divide this word into syllables?	trans-gres-sive
transgressive	Why?	Ex: divide at prefix and root; break before suffix
transgressive	What is the V-C-E exception?	sive; has short i instead of long
transgressive	Name two words with the V-C-E exception.	Ex: massive, passive
transpire	What does this word mean?	Ex: to occur or happen
transpire	What is its opposite?	Ex: not occur or fail to happen

Level 4 Answer Key

11

Stimulus Word	Question	Answer
transpose	How does the suffix "-ing" change a word's meaning?	Ex: shows ongoing action or state
transpose	Provide three multisyllabic words where "-ing" is used as a suffix.	Ex: developing, organizing, presenting
twelve	What is the spelling rule for words ending in "v"?	Ex: add silent e after v; words in English don't end in v
twelve	Name two words that end with "ve".	Ex: give, save
unthrone	Name a compound word, and use it in a sentence.	Student's own response
unthrone	What are the characteristics of V-C-E syllables?	Ex: long vowel sound, ends with silent e, one consonant (or digraph) in middle
valentine	How many syllables does this word have, and what types of syllables are they?	3 syllables: val (closed), en (closed), tine (VCE)
valentine	Use this word in a sentence.	Student's own response
valve	What is the rule for spelling words ending in "v"?	Ex: add silent e after v; words in English don't end in v
valve	Name two words that end with "ve".	Ex: have, live
velvetlike	How many syllable types are in this word?	2; closed and VCE
velvetlike	Say this word without the third syllable.	vel-vet
volumes	What spelling skill or strategy helps you spell this word?	Ex: use syllable rules to identify syllables and silent letters
volumes	What two sounds does the suffix "s" make?	/s/ or /z/
waves	Is this a closed or V-C-E syllable?	VCE
waves	How do you know?	Ex: silent e makes the vowel long
waves	Describe your perfect day using five multisyllabic words.	Student's own response