1. **Syllable**
   - regarded by some as basic unit of speech production
   - words are composed of one or more syllables
   - although sometimes easy to identify, difficult to define
   - author: basic building block of language composed of one or more vowels alone or in combination with consonants

2. **Definition characteristics**
   - definition based often on letters not sounds
   - pronounce these words with one, two or three syllables
     - feel, camera, chocolate jewelry,
   - separated by decreased energy

3. **Composition of syllables**
   - vowels are major elements—greatest energy
   - vowels perceived as being louder or more sonorant than consonants
   - consonants may initiate or terminate a syllable
     - CV - be, by, _______
     - VC - at, up, -------
     - cvc - top, pot, --------- CVCC - best, walked

4. **Word Stress**
   - In polysyllabic words, one syllable produced with greatest energy
   - longer duration, higher pitch, greater intensity
   - may determine meaning of word: word class
     - noun, verb, adjective, etc

5. **Primary and Secondary Stress**
   - varying stress in multisyllabic words
     - three levels: primary, secondary and weak
   - primary stress - greatest emphasis
   - secondary stress - lesser emphasis
   - in IPA primary stress noted by raised mark
   - say discover, stressing a different syllable each time

6. **Identify the number of syllables and primary stress:**
   - farthest   basketball university alphabet
   - antique paper complete
   - insurance present present