

## Still Other Uses of the Four Word-Stress Rules A Sample

As a standard procedure, we remove the neutral endings from a word – *-s*, *-’s*, *-ly* – then apply the appropriate stress rule to the remainder which is a free-standing word. There are more neutral endings than these three. If you can recognize other neutral endings, then you can apply stress accurately to many more thousands of words. The following will introduce you to other neutral endings.

In order to place stress accurately, you must know that the remainder of a word, after removing the neutral ending, is nearly always a **noun** or **adjective**. Only one of these new neutral ending requires a **verb** as the remainder: *-ment*.

### A. Neutral Endings

The neutral endings share one characteristic: they all begin with a **consonant** letter.

<i>-ment</i> (verb stem)	<i>enlarge<sub>1</sub>ment</i>	<i>-most</i> (noun stem)	<i>left<sub>1</sub>most</i>
<i>-ness</i> (adj. stem)	<i>critical<sub>1</sub>ness</i>	<i>-s</i> (noun/verb)	<i>animal<sub>1</sub>s, decide<sub>1</sub>s</i>
<i>-like</i> (adj. stem)	<i>snake<sub>1</sub>like</i>	<i>-’s</i> (noun stem)	<i>animal<sub>1</sub>’s</i>
<i>-ly</i> (adj. stem)	<i>principal<sub>1</sub>ly</i>	<i>-ship</i> (noun stem)	<i>champion<sub>1</sub>ship</i>
<i>-ful</i> (noun stem)	<i>meaning<sub>1</sub>ful</i>	<i>-some</i> (noun stem)	<i>frolic<sub>1</sub>some</i>
<i>-hood</i> (noun stem)	<i>bachelor<sub>1</sub>hood</i>	<i>-th</i> (noun stem)	<i>million<sub>1</sub>th</i>
<i>-less</i> (noun stem)	<i>function<sub>1</sub>less</i>	<i>-ward</i> (noun/adj)	<i>awk<sub>1</sub>ward, west<sub>1</sub>ward</i>
<i>-man</i> (noun stem)	<i>enfantry<sub>1</sub>man</i>	<i>-wise</i> (noun stem)	<i>other<sub>1</sub>wise</i>

### B. Key Stress Rule (KSR) Examples

Stress the Key Syllable.

*máns<sub>1</sub>ion<sub>1</sub>like*      *nát<sub>1</sub>ion<sub>1</sub>hood*      *míll<sub>1</sub>ion<sub>1</sub>th*      *chámp<sub>1</sub>ion<sub>1</sub>ship*

### C. Prefix Stress Rule (PSR) Examples

When no part of a prefix is in the left syllable, stress left.  
If you can't stress left, stress the key.

*báchel<sub>1</sub>or<sub>1</sub>hood*      *advént<sub>1</sub>ure<sub>1</sub>some*      *enlárg<sub>1</sub>e<sub>1</sub>ment*      *méan<sub>1</sub>ing<sub>1</sub>ful*

D. V/VC Stress Rule (VSR) Examples

Stress the left syllable when the key is spelled V or VC.  
If you can't stress left, stress the key.

*crítical,ness      análysis,wise      óxygen,less      frólicic,some*

E. Left Stress Rule (LSR) Examples

For words with left rule endings and terminals, stress the left syllable.

*énfantr,y,man      bóomerang,like      díssolute,ness      séparate,ly*

☛ Look through your own GAT and SAT words.

- a. Write down at least eight examples of words with the neutral endings noted in A above. However, **avoid examples that end in -s, -'s, -ly**. If you cannot find at least eight examples in your personal GAT and SAT words or in your Focus Text, return to the list of GAT words on pp. 2-4 of the workbook to complete your eight examples.
- b. After each word, in parentheses, write the stress rule that applies: (KRS), (PSR), (VSR), (LSR).
- c. **Mark the stress of each word.**
- d. Practice saying each word aloud.

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____