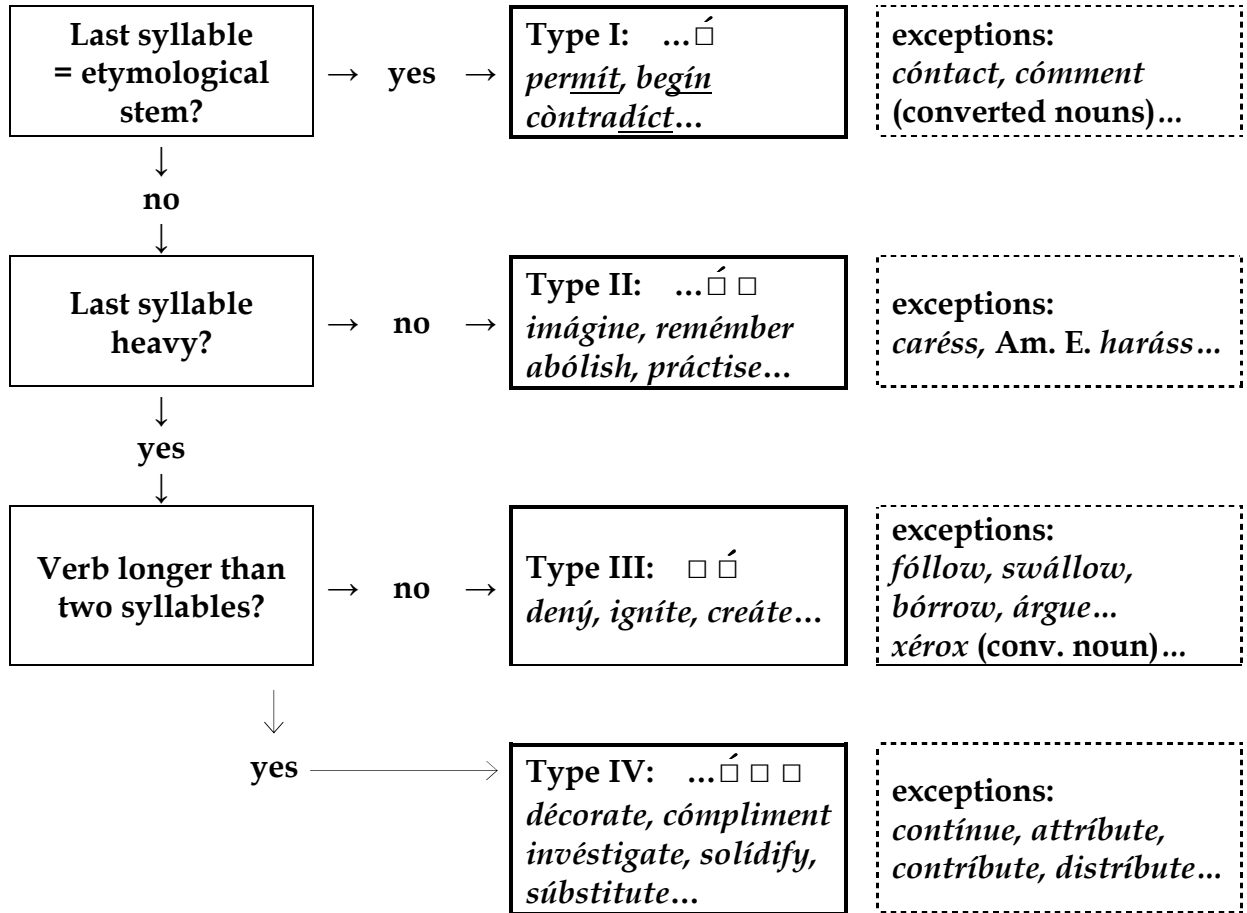


Main stress placement in verbs



Main stress placement in nouns

The three-syllable window:

	3rd	2nd	Last
			cát
		pá	per
		bán	quet
	cí	ne	ma
	pró	tes	tant
a	cá	de	my
càr di	ó	lo	gy
in tè lli	gént	si	a

Exceptions to the three-syllable rule:

- Stress on 4th-last syllable:
 - Words in -Vry: *cémetery*, *consérvatory*, *cátégory*, *ínventory*, *émíssary*...
 - Others: *hélicopter*, *áristocrat*, *céremony*, *mélancholy*, *épílepsy*...

- Stress on last syllable:
 - stressed endings: *ballóon*, *paráde*, *magazíne*...
 - converted verbs: *surpríse*, *debáte*, *arrést*...
 - (but cf. *récord* ~ *recórd*, *cónvert* ~ *convóert*, *rébel* ~ *rebél*...)
 - others: *hotél*, *Julý*, *màyonnaíse*...

- stress on 2nd-last syllable
 - long vowel: *albíno*, *aróma*...
 - consonant cluster: *agéndá*, *eléctron*, *fiásco*...
 - (but regular *cáendar*, *prótestant*, *órchestra*, *gálaty*...)
 - „ghost cluster”: *vanílla*, *proféssor*, *Viénna*...
 - others: *enámel*, *Diána*...

Main stress placement in adjectives

- Two-syllable adjectives are like verbs:
 - if last syllable is light, stress is on 2nd-last: *cléver*, *próper*, *rígíde*, *éasy*, *súllen*, *húman*...
 - (cf. verbs like *trável*)
 - if last syllable is heavy, stress is on last: *occúlt*, *sevére*, *humáne*, *minúte*...
 - (cf. verbs like *dený*, *ignéte*)

- Longer adjectives are like nouns:
 - generally, stress is on 3rd-last: *défníte*, *íntegral*, *márvellous*, *fémínine*, *ádequate*, *signífícant*, *ridícúulous*...
 - (cf. nouns like *cínema*, *acádemý*)
 - if 2nd-last syllable is heavy, stress is on it: *etérnal*, *treméndous*, *cohérent*...
 - (cf. nouns like *agéndá*, *albíno*, *fiásco*)

Homography

(c) **Noun/Verb pairs with stress difference (the “rébel/rebél” type).** — There is a sizeable number of two-syllable words which have different stressing when they are nouns or verbs. The noun has front-stress, the verb has end-stress. In many cases the stress difference does not cause much difficulty as the sounds themselves remain the same, e.g. *a miscóunt* /'mískəʊnt/ – *to miscóunt* /mískəʊnt/, *a dígest* /'daɪdʒest/ – *to dígest* /daɪ'dʒest/; similarly *an úpgráde* – *to upgráde*, *an ínserť* – *to ínserť*, *a réwřite* – *to rewřite*, etc. But in some pairs the pronunciation of the vowels changes in accordance with the stress change. We list the most important such pairs below.

	<u>Noun</u> [1 0]	<u>Verb</u> [0 1]		<u>Noun</u> [1 0]	<u>Verb</u> [0 1]
accent	/ˈæksent/	/ək'sent/	present	/'preznt/	/pri'zent/
addict	/'ædɪkt/	/ə'dɪkt/	produce	/'prɒdju:s/	/prə'dju:s/
ally	/'ælaɪ/	/ə'laɪ/	progress	/'prɒʊgres/	/prə'gres/
attribute	/'ætrəbjʊ:t/	/ə'trɪbjʊ:t/	project	/'prɒdʒekt/	/prə'dʒekt/
contrast	/'kɒntrɑ:st/	/kən'trɑ:st/	protest	/'prɒʊtest/	/prə'test/
convict	/'kɒnvɪkt/	/kən'vɪkt/	rebel	/'rebl/	/rɪ'bel/
desert	/'dezət/	/dɪ'zɜ:t/	record	/'rekɔ:d/	/rɪ'kɔ:d/
export	/'ekspɔ:t/	/ɪk'spɔ:t/	refuse	/'refju:s/	/rɪ'fju:z/
object	/'ɒbdʒɪkt/	/əb'dʒekt/	subject	/'sʌbdʒɪkt/	/səb'dʒekt/

Further pairs showing such stress-change are: *abstract*, *combine*, *compress*, *concert*, *conduct*, *consort*, *contract*, *escort*, *import*, *insult*, *permit*, *proceed(s)*, *segment*, *survey*, *torment*, *transfer*, *transport*.

The following table sums up the types of two-syllable noun/verb homographs:

	(a) “cómfort”-type	(b) “debáte”-type	(c) “rébel/rebél”-type
Noun-like stress [1 0]	<i>my cómfort</i> (noun) <i>to cómfort</i> (verb)	--	<i>a rébel</i> (noun)
Verb-like stress [0 1]	--	<i>a debáte</i> (noun) <i>to debáte</i> (verb)	<i>to rebél</i> (verb)

11.37 Strong/weak unstressed ults. — Some three-syllable words which are used both as verbs and nouns (or adjectives), differ only in having a strong or weak unstressed ult, without any difference in the place of stress. These words end in *-ment* or *-ate* and are stressed on the antepenult. The noun or adjective has a weak-vowelled ult, while the verb has a strong (full-vowelled) ult:

	<u>Weak ult (N or A)</u>	<u>Strong ult (V)</u>
-ment:		
dóccument	/'dɒkjʊmənt/ N	/'dɒkjʊmənt/ V
cómplément	/'kɒmpləmənt/ N	/'kɒmpləmənt/ V
cómplimént	/'kɒmplɪmənt/ N	/'kɒmplɪmənt/ V
súplément	/'sʌpləmənt/ N	/'sʌpləmənt/ V
-ate:		
assóciate	/ə'sɒʃiət/ N	/ə'sɒʃiɛt/ V
délegate	/'delɪgət/ N	/'delɪgeɪt/ V
éstimate	/'estɪmət/ N	/'estɪmeɪt/ V
gráduate	/'grædʒuət/ N	/'grædʒueɪt/ V
íntimate	/'ɪntɪmət/ A	/'ɪntɪmeɪt/ V
séparate	/'sep(ə)rət/ A	/'sepəreɪt/ V

There is one more similar pair: *a próphécy* /'prɒfəsi/ – *to próphesy* /'prɒfəsəɪ/.