Word Stress Patterns: Nouns and Verbs

Some words can be either nouns or verbs. Often, you can tell whether a word is functioning in a sentence as a noun or a verb by which syllable of the word is stressed. If the first syllable is stressed, the word is probably functioning as a noun. If the second syllable is stressed, the word is probably functioning as a verb.

DIRECTIONS: The stressed syllable of each word is underlined. Say the word softly to yourself. Stressed in this way, is the word a noun or a verb? Write a sentence that uses each word correctly.

1. <u>pre</u>sent _____

2. <u>re</u>peat _____

3. <u>in</u>crease _____

4. <u>re</u>cord _____

5. pre<u>sent</u> _____

6. re<u>peat</u> _____

7. in<u>crease</u> _____

8. re<u>cord</u> _____