

that parts of phonetic and orthographic syllables do not always coincide (*let-ter* ['let-'ə], *sin-ging* ['sɪŋ-'ɪŋ]).

Syllable division in writing may follow the rules which have already been stated above. Then the division of the syllabic structure in orthography is made according to phonological principles (*fa-mi-ly*, *re-gu-lar*). Still such a division is not always possible. For example, in the words *body* ['bɒd-'ɪ], *money* ['mʌn-'ɪ], the consonant letter representing the point of syllable division should be added to the next vowel letter in order to escape notation gaps: *bo-dy*, *mo-ney*.

Syllable division in writing may be also based on the morphological principle. In this case prefixal and suffixal morphemes are divided from the root one (*ir-regul-ar*), no matter whether they belong to the same phonetic syllable or not.

Graphic representation of syllables in orthography is relevant for language learning only when it is necessary to carry some of the letters over to the next line. This process is usually called **syllable separation**. Special attention is necessary in order to exercise it correctly. There are the following rules:

- a word can be separated only if it consists of more than 5 letters and contains more than one syllable;
- the number of separated letters should be more than one;
- the parts of a word subjected to separation are derivational morphemes used in word-building, but not inflexional ones used in word-changing (*be-come*, *friend-ship*, *commit-ment*, *sports-man*, *volley-ball*);
- the suffix -ing can be separated with the preceding consonant if there is a consonant cluster before it: *hand-ling*;
- suffixes consisting of two syllables can't be broken and should be separated as a whole: *vulner-able*;
- suffixes consisting of two letters can't be separated with the exception of -ly: *surprised*, *teacher*, *graphic*, but: *correct-ly*.

Seminar 5

1. What is a syllable? How would you define it in a general sense?
2. Interpret different theories that study the syllable. Consider the following:

- a) the expiratory theory;
 - b) the sonority theory;
 - c) the theory of muscular tension;
 - d) the loudness theory.
3. Give the definition of the syllable as a sum of features, characteristic of this suprasegmental unit.
 4. What are the two aspects that determine the problem of the study of syllable?
 5. What is syllable formation in the English language based on?
 6. Give an overview of different classifications of syllables types. Illustrate what you are going to say.
 7. Discuss the peculiarities of consonant distribution in the structure of English syllables. Give your own examples.
 8. Give a generalized formula of an English syllable. What parts does it consist of?
 9. What type of syllable makes up the basis of syllable formation in English?
 10. What is the essence of syllable division in the English language?
 11. List and explain the basic rules for syllable division in the English language.
 12. Why is it sometimes difficult to define syllable boundary within English words?
 13. What functions does a syllable perform?
 14. Characterize the syllabic functions one by one. Suggest evidence for each of them with the help of examples.
 15. Explain the notion of juncture. How is it connected with the realization of syllabic functions?
 16. What is the difference between phonetic and orthographic representations of syllables?
 17. What methods of syllable division in writing do you know?
 18. List the rules for syllable separation. Give your own examples.