Making Sense of Stress Homographs

Directions: Identify the part of speech for each of the following homographs and then underline the stressed syllable. If you are stuck, consult the Visual Thesaurus to help you determine part of speech and pronunciation. Do you see a relationship between part of speech and pronunciation?

Example:

\[ n. \]
The convict escaped from his jail cell.

\[ v. \]
The prosecutor is hoping to convict the suspected robber.

1. Ali entered the watermelon-eating contest.

   The coach wanted to contest the referee’s call.

2. Leonard Bernstein used to conduct the New York Philharmonic orchestra.

   Sam was kicked out of the library for poor conduct.

3. You better bring along a lot of water if you want to explore a desert.

   The dog would not desert her litter, even when she was starving.

4. Theo could not digest his lunch since he went swimming right after eating.

   He preferred to read the news in a digest, since he did not have enough time to read lengthy articles.

5. Most people consider the word “loser” as an insult.

   Don’t insult your boss if you want to keep your job.

6. I like shopping at farmer’s markets because the produce is so fresh.

   The workers are on strike so the factory cannot produce enough cars.