

How to Use This Dictionary

This booklet contains many tools to assist you in learning to become a better speller. However, the most important tool in this booklet is the one you create for yourself. The blank pages found in the center of this dictionary, are alphabetized and are intended for you to use for recording words that you find troublesome. When recording a word in your personal dictionary, please remember the following guidelines:

1. Once you have identified a troublesome word that you would like to remember for future use, take a look in the front of this dictionary. Your word may already be listed in the “**1000 High-Frequency Words**” section. Depending on what kind of word it is, you may also wish to look in the “**Mathematical Words**”, “**Geography Words**”, or “**Calendar Words**” sections as well.
2. If your word is **not** listed in these places, then you have a word that is worthy of being recorded in your personal dictionary.
3. First, write the word, as you think it is spelled, on a separate sheet of paper. Use the information on pages 45 - 50 for help with spelling rules and guidelines.
4. Once you have written your word, check your spelling by asking a teacher, parent, or by looking your word up in a dictionary.
5. After you have found the correct spelling for your word, write it down on the appropriate page of your personal dictionary. **Make sure that you copy the word correctly and that it is written in your best handwriting.**
6. Double-check your spelling

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http://www.mrmyers.org/Teacher_Resources/

1000 Frequent Words

a *	an **	beautiful
able	ancient	became
about **	and *	because
above	angry	become
according	animals	bed
across	another	been **
act	answer	before
action	any	began
actually	anyone	begin
add	anything	behind
addition	apart	believe
afraid	appear	below
Africa	are *	beside
after **	area	best
afternoon	arm	better
again	army	between
against	around	beyond
age	as *	big
ago	ask	bill
ahead	at *	bird
air	ate	bit
alike	attention	black
all **	away	blood
almost	baby	blow
alone	back	blue
along	bad	board
already	ball	boat
also	band	body
although	bank	bold
always	base	bones
am	basic	book
America	be *	born
among	bear	both
amount	beat	bottom

* denotes those words that are the 25 most-frequent words

** denotes those words which rank 26 through 100

Common Prefixes & Suffixes

Prefixes and suffixes are short combinations of letters that can be added to a root word to change its meaning. Prefixes are attached to the front of a root word. Suffixes are attached to the end of a root word.

*For a more complete list of prefixes and suffixes, visit Mr. Myers' Classroom Website at <http://www.mrmyers.org/Spelling/spellingonline.html>

Prefixes

Suffixes

Prefixes	Suffixes	Suffixes	Suffixes
un-	not, opposite of	-s, -es	plurals
re-	again	-ed	past tense
dis-	not, opposite of	-ing	action of
in-, im-	not	-ly	characteristic of
ir-, ill-	not	-er, -or	person who does
en-, em-	cause to	-ion, -tion	act, process of
non-	not	-ation, -ition	
in-, im-	in, into	-ible, -able	can be done
over-	too much	-al, -ial	related to
mis-	wrongly	-y	characterized by
sub-	under	-ness	state of, condition
pre-	before	-ity, -ty	state of
inter-	between, among	-ment	action or process
fore-	before	-ic	related to
de-	opposite of	-ous, -eous -ious	possessing the qualities of
trans-	across	-en	made of
super-	above	-er	level of comparison
semi-	half	-est	level of comparison
anti-	against	-ful, -full	full of
mid-	middle	-less	without
under-	too little		

describe	easy	express
desert	eat	eyes
develop	edge	face
did **	effect	fact
didn't	eggs	fair
died	eight	fall
difference	either	familiar
different	electric	family
difficult	elements	famous
dinner	else	far
direction	empty	farm
discover	end	farther
divided	energy	fast
do **	engine	father
doctor	English	fear
does	enjoy	feed
doesn't	enough	feel
dog	entire	feet
dollars	equal	fell
done	especially	felt
don't	Europe	few
door	even	field
down **	evening	fight
draw	ever	figure
dress	every	filled
drive	everyone	finally
drop	everything	find **
dry	exactly	fine
during	example	fingers
each **	except	finish
early	exercise	fire
ears	expect	first **
earth	experiment	fish
east	explain	fit

Sounds Like...

One of the most confusing aspects of learning how to spell words in the English language is that there are so many ways of combining different letters to get a particular sound. For instance, in English, the sound the letter **a** makes in the word **ate** can be also be made by the following combinations of letters: **a**, **a-e**, **ai**, **ay**, **eigh**, **ei**, and **ey**. The following list will provide you with a sound, an example of a word containing that sound, and the combinations of other letters which can also make the same sound. The letter combinations in **bold print** occur the most often in English spelling. Combinations not in bold print are much less common ways to produce that particular sound.

Vowel Sounds

<u>Sound</u>	<u>Letter Combinations</u>
a as in the word ace	a , a-e , ai , ay , eigh , ei , ey
e as in the word egg	e , ea
e as in the word be	e , ee , ea , y , e-e , ie , ey
i as in the word ice	i , i-e , igh , y , ie , y-e
o as in the word open	o , o-e , oa , ow , ou , oe
u as in the word unicorn	u , u-e , ue , ew , eu
oo as in the word book	oo , u
ou as in the word couch	ou , ow
oo as in the word boot	oo , ew , u , u-e , ou , ue , ui , eu
o as in the word dog	au , aw , a , augh , ough
er as in the word other	er , ir , ur , or , ar , ear

idea	kept	light
if **	key	like **
I'll	kill	line
imagine	kind	list
important	king	listen
in *	kitchen	little **
inches	knew	live
include	know **	long **
indeed	knowledge	look
Indians	lady	lost
information	laid	lot
insects	land	loud
inside	language	love
instead	large	low
instruments	last	machine
interest (ing)	later	made **
into	laugh	main
iron	law	major
is *	lay	make **
island	lead	man
isn't	learn	many **
it	least	map
it's	leave	mark
its **	led	market
itself	left	Mary
I've	legs	material
jack	length	matter
job	less	may **
Joe	let	maybe
John	let's	me
join	letter	mean
jumped	level	meant
just **	lie	measure
keep	life	meat

Finding Words Within Words

Sometimes you can find smaller words inside a spelling word. Finding these words can help you remember how to spell the larger word correctly.

capacity → cap a city

identified → i dent if i ed

breakfast → break fast

Making It Look Memorable (picking out the problem parts)

This one is fun because what you do to the word comes directly from your own imagination. With this strategy, words can be broken apart into groups of letters, rewritten with spaces to separate difficult letter combinations, or even highlighted with colored boxes, or circles. It's all about giving the word a new 'look' in order to help you remember it.

divide → div | ide or maybe d ivi de

kitchen → k itch en

read → r EA d

beautiful → b eau tiful

column → colu MN

fight → fi gh t

path	product	rest
pattern	proper	result
Paul	proud	return
pay	public	rich
people **	pull	ride
per	purpose	right
perhaps	push	ring
period	put	rise
person	questions	river
Peter	quick	road
picked	quick(ly)	rock
picture	quiet	rode
piece	quite	room
place	race	root
plan	radio	rope
plane	rain	rose
plants	raised	round
play	ran	row
please	rather	rule
point	reach	run
poor	read	safe
position	ready	said **
possible	real	salt
pounds	really	same
power	reason	sand
practice	receive	sat
present	record	saw
president	red	say
pressure	region	scale
pretty	regular	school
probably	remember	science
problem	replied	scientists
process	report	sea
produce	represent	season

Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check (cont.)

1. Write the list of words in the Look column.
2. **Look** at the word, **Say** the letters and remember how it looks.
3. **Cover** the words by folding the Look column, over to the Cover column - now you can only see the Write and Check columns.
4. **Write** the word down in the Write column from memory.
5. **Check** which letters were correct, by looking at the original word and writing them in the Check column and leaving gaps for the letters you missed.
6. In a different color, add in the letters that were missing.
7. Repeat steps 1 - 6 for the next word, until the list is complete. Focus on one word at a time.
8. It might look like this:

Look	Cover	Write	Check
beautiful		beutaful	be <u>a</u> u <u>t</u> if <u>u</u> l
internet		inten <u>e</u> t	inte <u>r</u> net

Chunking

Sometimes breaking a word into smaller pieces (chunking) and learning each piece makes it easier to learn the whole word. This is usually done by dividing the word into syllables (syllabication).

fantastic → fan - tas - tic

divide → di - vide

Dividing a word into syllables can be done by looking that word up in a dictionary. However, if a dictionary is not handy, use the **chin drop method. To figure out where to split up words, place two fingers underneath your chin and slowly say the word that you want to spell. Every time your chin drops when you say the word, is where a syllable, or break in the word, should be written .

student	them **	touch
study	themselves	toward
subject	then **	town
such	there **	trade
sudden(ly)	therefore	train
sugar	there's	travel
summer	these **	trees
sun	they *	tried
supply	thick	trip
suppose	thin	trouble
sure	thing	truck
surface	think	true
surprise	third	try
symbol	this *	tube
system	those	turn
table	though	twenty
tail	thought	twice
take	thousands	two **
talk	three	type
tall	through	uncle
teacher	throughout	under
team	thus	understand
teeth	tied	unit
television	time **	United States
tell	tiny	unless
temperature	tired	until
ten	to *	up **
terms	today	upon
test	together	us
than **	told	use **
that *	too	useful
that's	took	usually
the *	top	value
their **	total	variety

Calendar Words

<u>Days</u>	<u>Months</u>	<u>Holidays</u>	<u>Seasons</u>
Sunday	January	New Year's Day	autumn
Monday	February	Valentine's Day	winter
Tuesday	March	St. Patrick's Day	spring
Wednesday	April	Easter	summer
Thursday	May	Memorial Day	
Friday	June		
	July	Fourth of July	
	August		
	September	Labor Day	
	October	Halloween	
	November	Thanksgiving	
	December	Christmas	
		(Eve)	

Vowels

A, E, I, O, U and in the English language, sometimes **Y**

Consonants

All letters which are not vowels, are considered consonants.

B, C, D, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z

Mathematical Words

Numbers

<i>one</i>	<i>eleven</i>	<i>twenty</i>
<i>two</i>	<i>twelve</i>	<i>thirty</i>
<i>three</i>	<i>thirteen</i>	<i>forty</i>
<i>four</i>	<i>fourteen</i>	<i>fifty</i>
<i>five</i>	<i>fifteen</i>	<i>sixty</i>
<i>six</i>	<i>sixteen</i>	<i>seventy</i>
<i>seven</i>	<i>seventeen</i>	<i>eighty</i>
<i>eight</i>	<i>eighteen</i>	<i>ninety</i>
<i>nine</i>	<i>nineteen</i>	
<i>ten</i>		<i>hundred</i>
		<i>thousand</i>
		<i>million</i>
		<i>billion</i>

Ordinal Numbers

<i>first</i>	<i>eleventh</i>	<i>twentieth</i>
<i>second</i>	<i>twelfth</i>	<i>thirtieth</i>
<i>third</i>	<i>thirteenth</i>	<i>fortieth</i>
<i>fourth</i>	<i>fourteenth</i>	<i>fiftieth</i>
<i>fifth</i>	<i>fifteenth</i>	<i>sixtieth</i>
<i>sixth</i>	<i>sixteenth</i>	<i>seventieth</i>
<i>seventh</i>	<i>seventeenth</i>	<i>eightieth</i>
<i>eighth</i>	<i>eighteenth</i>	<i>ninetieth</i>
<i>ninth</i>	<i>nineteenth</i>	
<i>tenth</i>		<i>hundredth</i>
		<i>thousandth</i>
		<i>millionth</i>
		<i>billionth</i>

Miscellaneous

<i>operation</i>	<i>subtraction</i>	<i>product</i>
<i>addition</i>	<i>difference</i>	<i>division</i>
<i>sum</i>	<i>multiplication</i>	<i>quotient</i>

B

Handwriting practice lines for the letter B. The page contains 18 horizontal lines. The first line is occupied by the letter 'B'. The remaining 17 lines are blank for practice.

W

Handwriting practice lines for the letter W. The page contains 18 horizontal lines. The first line is occupied by the letter 'W'. The remaining 17 lines are blank for practice.

H

Handwriting practice lines for the letter H. The page features a large 'H' at the top left and a series of horizontal lines for practice. The lines are organized into two columns: the first column contains 10 lines, and the second column contains 10 lines. The first line of each column is pre-filled with the letter 'H', while the remaining lines are blank for practice.

Q

Handwriting practice lines for the letter Q. The page features a large 'Q' at the top right and a series of horizontal lines for practice. The lines are organized into two columns: the first column contains 10 lines, and the second column contains 10 lines. The first line of each column is pre-filled with the letter 'Q', while the remaining lines are blank for practice.

J

Handwriting practice lines for the letter J. The page contains 18 horizontal lines. The first line is occupied by the letter 'J'. The remaining 17 lines are blank for practice.

O

Handwriting practice lines for the letter O. The page contains 18 horizontal lines. The first line is occupied by the letter 'O'. The remaining 17 lines are blank for practice.

