

A Few Important Spelling Rules

The following rules in English spelling have very few exceptions. For a more complete list of English spelling rules, visit Mr. Myers' Classroom Website at:

<http://www.mrmyers.org/Spelling/spellingonline.html>

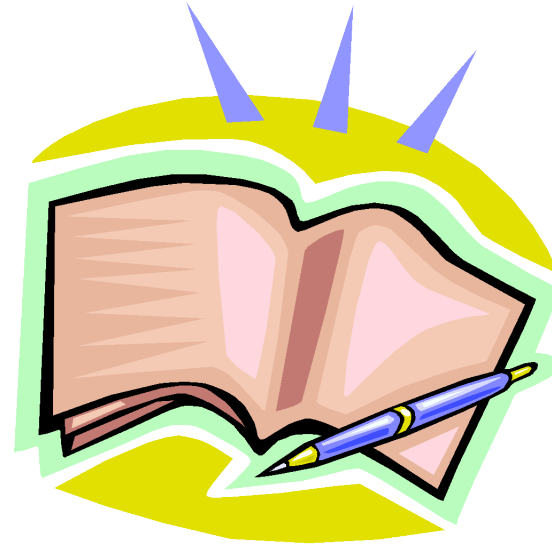
1. The letter **q** is always followed by the letter **u**.
(ex. question, quick)
2. English words do not end with the letter **v**.
(ex. gave, have, adaptive)
3. **Adding Suffixes:**
 - If a word ends with a silent “**e**”, drop the “**e**” before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel:
(ex. state - stating, like - likable)
 - If a word ends in a “**y**” with a consonant before it, change **y** to **i** and add the suffix: (ex.. beauty - beautiful, fry - fried)
 - Do not drop the “**e**” when the suffix begins with a consonant: (ex. state - statement, like - likeness)
4. **Forming plurals:**
 - Add **s** to most words: (ex.. bird -- birds)
 - Add **es** if the word ends in **sh, ch, ss, s, x** or **z**:
(ex.. dish - dishes, coach - coaches, boss - bosses, fox - foxes)
 - If a word ends in a “**y**” with a consonant before it, change **y** to **i** and add **es**: (ex.. baby- babies, fly - flies)
 - If a word ends in a “**y**” with a vowel before it, add “**s**”:
(ex. toy - toys, play - plays, monkey - monkeys)
 - A number of nouns ending in **long o**, add **es** for the plural:
buffaloes, tomatoes, heroes , torpedoes , cargoes,
mosquitoes , volcanoes, echoes , potatoes.
5. **The ie-ei Rule:**

Write **ei**:

 - (1) after **c**, as in ceiling
 - (2) when the letters sound like long **a**, as in neighbor
 - (3) before the letters **gh**, as in eight
 - (4) between the letters **f** and **t**, as in forfeit

Write **ie**:

 - (1) in most other words
 - (2) even after **c**: :when **c** sounds like **sh**, as in efficient :
in words with the long **i** sound after **c**, as in society and science



Personal Dictionary

Name: _____

School: _____

Grade: _____

Common Abbreviations

<i>and others</i>	<i>etc.</i>	<i>minute</i>	<i>min</i>
<i>avenue</i>	<i>ave.</i>	<i>miscellaneous</i>	<i>misc.</i>
<i>building</i>	<i>bldg.</i>	<i>month</i>	<i>mo</i>
<i>capital</i>	<i>cap.</i>	<i>noon to midnight</i>	<i>p.m./P.M.</i>
<i>company</i>	<i>co.</i>	<i>number</i>	<i>no.</i>
<i>corporation</i>	<i>corp.</i>	<i>ounce</i>	<i>oz</i>
<i>department</i>	<i>dept.</i>	<i>package</i>	<i>pkg.</i>
<i>dozen</i>	<i>doz.</i>	<i>page</i>	<i>p./ pg.</i>
<i>example</i>	<i>ex.</i>	<i>pages</i>	<i>pp.</i>
<i>foot or feet</i>	<i>ft</i>	<i>paid</i>	<i>pd.</i>
<i>gallon</i>	<i>gal</i>	<i>pint</i>	<i>pt</i>
<i>government</i>	<i>govt.</i>	<i>pound</i>	<i>lb</i>
<i>hospital</i>	<i>hosp.</i>	<i>president</i>	<i>pres.</i>
<i>hour</i>	<i>hr</i>	<i>principal</i>	<i>prin.</i>
<i>inch</i>	<i>in.</i>	<i>quart</i>	<i>qt</i>
<i>manager</i>	<i>mgr.</i>	<i>road</i>	<i>rd.</i>
<i>medium</i>	<i>med.</i>	<i>seconds</i>	<i>sec</i>
<i>midnight to noon</i>	<i>a.m./A.M.</i>	<i>street</i>	<i>st.</i>
<i>miles per hour</i>	<i>mph</i>	<i>telephone</i>	<i>tel.</i>
		<i>year</i>	<i>yr</i>

Table of Contents

<i>1000 High Frequency Words</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>(as found in 3rd through 9th grade texts)</i>	
<i>Personal Dictionary Pages</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Mathematical Words</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Geographic Words</i>	<i>38</i>
<i>Calendar Words</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>Vowels & Consonants</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>Spelling Practice Strategies</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>Sounds Like... (letter combinations).</i>	<i>45</i>
<i>Common Prefixes & Suffixes</i>	<i>47</i>
<i>Common Abbreviations.</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>How to Use This Dictionary</i>	<i>49</i>
<i>A Few Important Spelling Rules</i>	<i>50</i>

Months

<i>January</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	Days	
<i>February</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Sun.</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Mon.</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Apr.</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Tues.</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Wed.</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Thur.</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Fri.</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sat.</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Sept.</i>		
<i>October</i>	<i>Oct.</i>		
<i>November</i>	<i>Nov.</i>		
<i>December</i>	<i>Dec.</i>		

Sounds Like...(cont.)

Consonant Sounds

<u>Sound</u>	<u>Letter Combinations</u>		
ch as in the word chin	ch, -tch	bought	case
n as in the word tan	n, kn, gn	box	cat
d as in the word door	d, -ed	boy	catch
r as in the word roof	r, wr-, rh	bread	cattle
f as in the word find	f, ph, -gh	break	caught
s as in the word sit	s, c, sc	breakfast	cause
g as in the word dog	g, gh, -gue	breath	cells
sh as in the word dish	sh, ch, ci	bright	center
j as in the word jog	j, g, -dge	bring	century
k as in the word kid	c, k, -ck, ch, -que	British	certain
t as in the word tin	t, -ed	broken	chair
m as in the word mint	m, -mb, -mn	brother	chance
z as in the word zoo	z, s	brought	change
makes a " shun " sound	-tion, -sion	brown	check
		build	chief
		built	children
		business	choose
		busy	Christmas
		but	church
		buy	circle
		by **	city
		cabin	class
		California	clean
		call **	clear
		came	climb
		camp	clothes
		can **	close
		cannot	cloud
		can't	coast
		capital	coat
		car	cold
		care	color
		carefully	column
		carry	come
			common
			compare
			complete
			contain
			continue
			control
			cool
			copy
			corn
			corner
			correct
			cost
			cotton
			could **
			couldn't
			count
			country
			course
			cover
			cried
			crops
			cross
			crowd
			cut
			dance
			danger
			dark
			day
			dead
			deal
			dear
			death
			decided
			deep

Deconstruction

This one is best done with the help of a parent or friend. Have someone write the spelling word on a piece of paper. However, ask the person writing the word to replace some of the letters with blanks. Fill in the blanks with the correct letter. Repeat this process several times, each time filling in more and more blanks until you have completely written the word on your own.

temperature		historical
___perature		histor_____
_____ature	or	his_____
_____		_____

or even

government
 gov___ment
 go_____nt

Root Word, Prefixes, & Suffixes

Many spelling words are simple root words with various prefixes and suffixes attached. Learning commonly used prefixes and suffixes and identifying root words within your spelling words can help you to remember the correct spelling.

* For a more complete list of prefixes and suffixes along with their meanings, see page 47.

root word: **interest**
prefixes/suffixes: **interested** **uninterested**

root word: **like**
prefixes/suffixes: **likely** **unlikely**

root word: **place**
prefixes/suffixes: **misplace** **placement**

five	glad	heat
flat	glass	heavy
flew	go	held
floor	gold	help
flower	gone	Henry
fly	good	her **
follow	got	here
food	government	herself
foot	grass	he's
for *	gray	high
force	great	hill
forest	Greek	him **
form	green	himself
forth	grew	his *
forward	ground	history
found	group	hit
four	grow	hold
free	guess	hole
fresh	had **	home
friend	hair	hope
from *	half	horse
front	hand	hot
fruit	happen	hour
full	happy	house
fun	hard	how **
game	hardly	however
garden	has **	huge
gas	hat	human
gave	have *	hundred
general	he *	hungry
George	head	hurt
get	hear	I *
girl	heard	ice
give	heart	I'd

Exaggerated Pronunciation

This one is fun! Make up your own special pronunciation for a word which will help remind you of what that word looks like.

people → “PEE - OP - LEE”

naive → “NAY - IVY”

language → “LAN - GOO - AGE

toilet → “TO - I - LET”

together → “TO - GET- HER”

Mnemonics (memory aids)

Mnemonics (NUH- MON - IKS) can be goofy sayings, rhymes, or mental pictures that help you remember how to spell a word. The sillier, the better.

**For a much more extensive list of mnemonics, visit Mr. Myers' Classroom Website at:
<http://www.mrmyers.org/Spelling/spellingonline.html>*

because

big elephants **c**an **a**lways **u**nderstand **s**mall elephants

could

cats **o**nly **u**se **l**emon **d**eodorant

believe

never **bel**ieve a **lie**

separate

There is **a rat** in **separate**

Oklahoma

O.K. L.A. H-O-M-A

meet
members
men
met
metal
method
middle
might
miles
milk
million
mind
minutes
miss
modern
moment
money
months
moon
more **
morning
most **
mother
motion
mountain
mouth
move
movement
Mr.
Mrs.
much
music
must
my **

myself
name
narrow
nation
natural
nature
near
nearly
necessary
neck
need
neither
never
new
New York
next
nice
night
nine
no **
noise
none
nor
north
nose
not **
note
nothing
notice
noun
now **
number
object
ocean

of *
off
office
often
oh
oil
old
on *
once
one **
only **
onto
open
opposite
or **
order
original
other
our
out **
outside
over **
own
page
paid
pair
paper
paragraph
parents
part
particular
party
passed
past

Spelling Practice Strategies

Spelling is an activity which requires your mind to exercise your sense of sight (visual) as well as your ability to control the muscles in your hand (motor) in order to write a word. In order to spell correctly, you will usually need a visual image of the word, plus practice at writing the word to strengthen your “motor memory”. Simply sounding out words is not always the best strategy, because many words in the English language are not written as they sound.

There is no one right way of learning to spell correctly, but rather many different strategies. You need to find the method or methods which work best for you. The following pages contain various strategies for learning to spell words correctly. Try each method until you find one or several which work well for you.

Look, Cover, Say, Write, Check

This technique helps you with the “visual” way to learn to spell a list of words. Notice how the letters look when they are together in the word.

What to do?

First, divide your paper into four columns. Label the columns as seen below:

Look	Cover	Write	Check

** You can print a pre-made worksheet from Mr. Myers' Classroom website at:
<http://www.mrmyers.org/>

second
 section
 see **
 seed
 seemed
 seen
 sell
 send
 sense
 sent
 sentence
 separate
 set
 settle
 seven
 several
 shall
 shape
 share
 sharp
 she **
 sheep
 ship
 shoes
 shore
 short
 shot
 should
 shoulder
 shouted
 show
 side
 sight
 sign

silver
 similar
 simple
 simply
 since
 sing
 single
 sister
 sit
 six
 size
 skin
 sky
 sleep
 slowly
 small
 snow
 so **
 soft
 soil
 sold
 soldiers
 solid
 solve
 some **
 someone
 something
 sometimes
 son
 song
 soon
 sort
 sound
 south

space
 Spanish
 speak
 special
 speech
 speed
 spend
 spent
 spoke
 spot
 spread
 spring
 square
 strand
 stars
 started
 state
 statement
 stay
 steel
 step
 stick
 still
 stone
 stood
 stop
 store
 story
 straight
 strange
 street
 strength
 string
 strong

Geographic Words

Continents & Oceans

Africa	Asia	Europe	Arctic Ocean
Antarctica	Australia	North America	Atlantic Ocean
		South America	Indian Ocean
			Pacific Ocean

Countries

Afghanistan	France	Ireland	Panama
Brazil	Germany	Israel	Russia
Canada	Greece	Italy	Saudi Arabia
China	India	Jamaica	Spain
Colombia	Iran	Japan	Thailand
Cuba	England	Mexico	United States
Egypt	Iraq	New Zealand	Vietnam

States

Alabama	Indiana	Nebraska	Rhode Island
Alaska	Iowa	Nevada	South Carolina
Arizona	Kansas	New Hampshire	South Dakota
Arkansas	Kentucky	New Jersey	Tennessee
California	Louisiana	New Mexico	Texas
Colorado	Maine	New York	Utah
Connecticut	Maryland	North Carolina	Vermont
Delaware	Massachusetts	North Dakota	Virginia
Florida	Michigan	Ohio	Washington
Georgia	Minnesota	Oklahoma	West Virginia
Hawaii	Mississippi	Oregon	Wisconsin
Idaho	Missouri	Pennsylvania	Wyoming
Illinois	Montana		

Major Cities

Atlanta	Denver	Memphis	Pittsburgh
Austin	Detroit	Miami	Portland
Baltimore	El Paso	Milwaukee	St. Louis
Boston	Honolulu	New Orleans	San Antonio
Chicago	Houston	New York	San Diego
Cincinnati	Indianapolis	Oklahoma City	San Francisco
Cleveland	Kansas City	Philadelphia	Seattle
Dallas	Los Angeles	Phoenix	Washington D.C.

various
verb

very **

village

visit

voice

vowel

wait

walk

wall

want

war

warm

was *

Washington

wasn't

watch

water **

waves

way **

ways

we **

wear

weather

week

weight

we'll

well

went

we're

were **

west

what **

what's

wheel

when **

where **

whether

which **

while

white

who **

whole

whose

why

wide

wife

wild

will **

window

wings

winter

wire

wish

with *

within

without

woman

women

won

wonder

won't

wood

words **

work

world

would **

wouldn't

write

wrong

wrote

yard

years

yellow

yes

yet

you *

you'll

young

your **

you're

yourself

XYZ

Handwriting practice lines for page 36. The page features 18 horizontal lines. The first four lines are pre-filled with the letters 'X', 'Y', and 'Z' respectively, while the remaining 14 lines are blank for practice.

A

Handwriting practice lines for page 13. The page features 18 horizontal lines. The first line is pre-filled with the letter 'A', while the remaining 17 lines are blank for practice.

V

Handwriting practice lines for the letter V. The page features a large 'V' 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 14 lines.

C

Handwriting practice lines for the letter C. The page features a large 'C' 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 14 lines.

R

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

G

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

