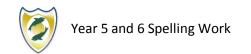


Spelling – years 5 and 6

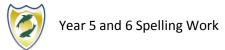
Revise work done in previous years

New work for years 5 and 6

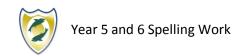
Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt –cious or –tious	Not many common words end like this. If the root word ends in —ce, the /ʃ/ sound is usually spelt as c — e.g. vice — vicious, grace — gracious, space — spacious, malice — malicious. Exception: anxious	vicious, precious, conscious, delicious, malicious, suspicious ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious ferocious
Endings which sound like /ʃəl/	 -cial is common after a vowel letter and -tial after a consonant letter, but there are some exceptions. Exceptions: initial, financial, commercial, provincial (the spelling of the last three is clearly related to finance, commerce and province). 	official, special, artificial, partial, confidential, essential potential, initial, crucial, social
Words ending in -ant, - ance/-ancy, -ent, -ence/- ency	Use -ant and -ance/-ancy if there is a related word with a /æ/ or /eɪ/ sound in the right position; -ation endings are often a clue. Use -ent and -ence/-ency after soft c (/s/ sound), soft g (/dʒ/ sound) and qu, or if there is a related word with a clear /ɛ/ sound in the right position.	observant, observance, (observation), expectant (expectation), hesitant, hesitancy (hesitation), tolerant, tolerance (toleration), substance (substantial) innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, confident, confidence (confidential)
	There are many words, however, where the above guidelines don't help. These words just have to be learnt.	assistant, assistance, obedient, obedience, independent, independence
Words ending in –able and –ible	The -able ending is far more common than the -ible ending. As with -ant and -ance/-ancy , the -able ending is used if there is a related word ending in -ation . If the -able ending is added to a word ending in -ce or -ge , the e after the c or g must be kept as those letters would	adorable (adoration), applicable (application), considerable (consideration), tolerable (toleration) changeable, noticeable, forcible, legible
	otherwise have their 'hard' sounds (as in cap and gap) before the a of the -able ending. The -able ending is usually but not always used if a complete root word can be heard before it, even if there is no	dependable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable



	related word ending in ation The first	
	related word ending in —ation . The first five examples opposite are obvious; in reliable, the complete word rely is heard, but the y changes to i in accordance with the rule. The —ible ending is common if a complete root word can't be heard before it but it also sometimes occurs when a complete word can be heard (e.g. sensible).	possible, horrible, terrible, visible, incredible, sensible suitable, miserable, probable, comfortable, horrible, possible, impossible, collectible, terrible, legible, credible, illegible, revisable, invincible
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer	The r is doubled if the -fer is still stressed when the ending is added. The r is not doubled if the -fer is no longer stressed.	referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred, transferring, transferred reference, referee, preference, transference
Use of the hyphen	Hyphens can be used to join a prefix to a root word, especially if the prefix ends in a vowel letter and the root word also begins with one.	co-ordinate, co-ordination re-enter, co-operate, co-operation, co-own
Words with the /i:/ sound spelt ei after c	The 'i before e except after c' rule applies to words where the sound spelt by ei is /i:/. Exceptions: protein, caffeine, seize (and either and neither if pronounced with an initial /i:/ sound).	deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling receipt, deceit, conceit
Words containing the letter-string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought rough, tough, enough cough though, although, dough through thorough plough
Words with 'silent' letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word)	Some letters which are no longer sounded used to be sounded hundreds of years ago: e.g. in <i>knight</i> , there was a /k/ sound before the /n/, and the gh used to represent the sound that 'ch' now represents in the Scottish word <i>loch</i> .	doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight silent B: bomb, climb, comb, crumb, debt, plumber, dumb, womb, tomb, thumb, numb, limb, lamb silent C: ascend, descend, muscle, scene, scent, scissors, isosceles, disciple, fascinate, conscious, conscience, science, crescent Silent G: gnaw, gnome, foreign, gnarl, gnash, sign, resign, design Silent K: knight, knuckle, know, knob, knock, knowledge, knit, knot, knife, knew, knee, kneel, knickers, knead



Silent N: Autumn, column, solemn, hymn, damn, condemn, Silent P: receipt Silent T: apostle, thistle, fasten, soften, castle, bristle, whistle, wrestle, listen, bustle, bustling, rustle, rustling Silent W: wriggle, sword, wreck, wrap, wrinkle, wrist, write, written, writing, wrote Homophones and other In these pairs of words, nouns end -ce advice/advise words that are often and verbs end -se. Advice and advise device/devise confused provide a useful clue as the word advise licence/license practice/practise (verb) is pronounced with a /z/ sound which could not be spelt c. prophecy/prophesy eligible: suitable to be chosen or aisle: a gangway between seats (in a elected church, train, plane) illegible: not legible (i.e. isle: an island unreadable) aloud: out loud eliminate: get rid of/exclude allowed: permitted illuminate: light up farther: further affect: usually a verb (e.g. The weather father: a male parent may affect our plans.) effect: usually a noun (e.g. It may have guessed: past tense of the verb an effect on our plans.). If a verb, it means 'bring about' (e.g. He will effect guest: visitor changes in the running of the business.). heard: past tense of the verb hear herd: a group of animals altar: a table-like piece of furniture in a church led: past tense of the verb *lead* alter: to change lead: present tense of that verb, or else the metal which is very heavy ascent: the act of ascending (going up) (as heavy as lead) assent: to agree/agreement (verb and morning: before noon noun) mourning: grieving for someone who has died bridal: to do with a bride at a wedding bridle: reins etc. for controlling a horse past: noun or adjective referring to a previous time (e.g. In the past) or cereal: made from grain (e.g. breakfast preposition or adverb showing place cereal) (e.g. he walked past me) serial: adjective from the noun series - a passed: past tense of the verb 'pass' succession of things one after the other (e.g. I passed him in the road) compliment: to make nice remarks precede: go in front of or before about someone (verb) or the remark proceed: go on that is made (noun) principal: adjective - most complement: related to the word important (e.g. principal ballerina) complete – to make something complete noun - important person (e.g. or more complete (e.g. her scarf principal of a college) complemented her outfit)



descent: the act of descending (going down)

dissent: to disagree/disagreement (verb and noun)

desert: as a noun – a barren place (stress on first syllable); as a verb – to abandon (stress on second syllable)

dessert: (stress on second syllable) a sweet course after the main course of a meal

disinterested: not having a personal stake in the matter (a World Cup referee must be disinterested – i.e. must not be from one of the countries playing in the match)

uninterested: not interested, bored (a referee should be interested, not uninterested, in football)

draft: noun – a first attempt at writing something; verb – to make the first attempt; also, to draw in someone (e.g. to draft in extra help) draught: a current of air

principle: basic truth or belief

profit: money that is made in selling

things

prophet: someone who foretells the

future

stationary: not moving

stationery: paper, envelopes etc.

steal: take something that does not

belong to you steel: metal

wary: cautious weary: tired

who's: contraction of who is or who

has

whose: belonging to someone (e.g.

Whose jacket is that?)