

Top Ten ways to learn a spelling

1

Break it into sounds eg



2

Break it into syllables eg



3

Break it into root words and affixes eg



4

Use a mnemonic eg



NECESSARY
one collar
two sleeves

5

Use your knowledge of word roots eg



MUSIC
MUSICAL
MUSICIAN

6

Use word families eg



WOULD
SHOULD
COULD

7

See words within words eg

a friend to the end
a rat in separate



8

Use spelling rules eg



9

By sight - learn the shape of the word eg



Look, Cover, Remember, Write, Check

10

By movement - get used to writing the word with your finger, a pen, in the air. eg



SPELLING RULE ONE

When a word ends with a short vowel followed by a consonant, double the last consonant before adding 'ed'



The girls skip.

The girls skipped.

drop	→	dropped	trim	→	trimmed
admit	→	admitted	shop	→	shopped
occur	→	occurred	flip	→	flipped

Try these ...

trip	→	_____	trot	→	_____
mop	→	_____	rub	→	_____
submit	→	_____	prefer	→	_____

SPELLING RULE TWO

Add an 'es' to action words ending with an 'sh', 'ch', 'ss', 'x', or a 'z' to make the present tense.



Fiona waltzes most Tuesday nights with Jim.

cross	→	cross <u>es</u>	catch	→	catch <u>es</u>
wax	→	wax <u>es</u>	relax	→	relax <u>es</u>
fish	→	fish <u>es</u>	reach	→	reach <u>es</u>

Try these ...

buzz	→	_____	tax	→	_____
watch	→	_____	pass	→	_____
push	→	_____	fix	→	_____

SPELLING RULE THREE

When an action word ends with a consonant followed by a 'y', change the 'y' to an 'i' before adding 'es'



The pirate buries his treasure with great care.

empty	→	empties	tidy	→	tidies
try	→	tries	copy	→	copies
carry	→	carries	fry	→	fries

Try these ...

hurry	→	_____	dry	→	_____
fly	→	_____	dirty	→	_____
worry	→	_____	apply	→	_____

SPELLING RULE FOUR

Double the consonant before adding 'ing' to words that have a short vowel followed by a consonant at the end



Grandad was sitting in his chair all morning.

stop	→	stopping	slam	→	slamming
wrap	→	wrapping	nod	→	nodding
step	→	stepping	skip	→	skipping

Try these ...

trap	→	_____	beg	→	_____
rip	→	_____	map	→	_____
chop	→	_____	rub	→	_____

SPELLING RULE FIVE

When a word ends in a silent 'e', drop the 'e' before adding an 'ing' **The magic 'e' runs away!**



Ian loves platform diving on his weekends.

move	→	moving	hide	→	hiding
taste	→	tasting	chase	→	chasing
race	→	racing	wipe	→	wiping

Try these ...

love	→	_____	store	→	_____
change	→	_____	drive	→	_____
hope	→	_____	stare	→	_____

Exception – be → being

SPELLING RULE SIX

When a word ends in double consonant, do not double the last letter before adding an 'ing'



Kellie has been thinking about marrying Ridge.

report	→	report <u>ing</u>	copy	→	copy <u>ing</u>
bump	→	bump <u>ing</u>	work	→	work <u>ing</u>
wash	→	wash <u>ing</u>	dust	→	dust <u>ing</u>

Try these ...

carry	→	_____	hurry	→	_____
spy	→	_____	bend	→	_____
camp	→	_____	scratch	→	_____

For words ending in 'y' leave the 'y' and add 'ing'

SPELLING RULE SEVEN

For action words that end in 'ie', change the 'ie' to a 'y' before adding an 'ing'



Bryan enjoys lying on his back to watch clouds.

Try these ...

- lie → _____
- lie → _____
- die → _____

SPELLING RULE EIGHT

Often 'ly' is added to base words to turn them into adverbs, adjectives or describing words



Rynell bungee jumped carefully from the tower.

love	→	lovely	smart	→	smartly
slow	→	slowly	pure	→	purely
main	→	mainly	nice	→	nicely

Try these ...

rude	→	_____	kind	→	_____
quick	→	_____	loud	→	_____
soft	→	_____	glad	→	_____

SPELLING RULE NINE

When adding 'ly' to words which end in 'y',
change the 'y' to an 'i' before adding the 'ly'



Kirsty scored the goal quite daintily.

happy	→	happily	busy	→	busily
merry	→	merrily	pretty	→	prettily
easy	→	easily	cosy	→	cosily

Try these ...

hungry	→	_____	necessary	→	_____
weary	→	_____	day	→	_____
heavy	→	_____	angry	→	_____

SPELLING RULE TEN

When the suffix 'full' is added to the end of a base word, one of the 'ls' has to be dropped



Janelle paints colourful works of art.

hope	→	hopeful	taste	→	tasteful
cheer	→	cheerful	use	→	useful
thank	→	thankful	force	→	forceful

Try these ...

truth	→	_____	peace	→	_____
play	→	_____	dread	→	_____
fear	→	_____	joy	→	_____

eg; 'thankful' means full of thanks