

Spelling – work for year 2

Revision of work from year 1

As words with new GPCs are introduced, many previously-taught GPCs can be revised at the same time as these words will usually contain them.

New work for year 2

| Statutory requirements | Rules and guidance (non-statutory) | Example words (non-statutory) |
|---|---|--|
| The /dʒ/ sound spelt as ge and dge at the end of words, and sometimes spelt as g elsewhere in words before e, i and y | <p>The letter j is never used for the /dʒ/ sound at the end of English words.</p> <p>At the end of a word, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt -dge straight after the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/, /ʌ/ and /ʊ/ sounds (sometimes called 'short' vowels).</p> <p>After all other sounds, whether vowels or consonants, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt as -ge at the end of a word.</p> <p>In other positions in words, the /dʒ/ sound is often (but not always) spelt as g before e, i, and y. The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as j before a, o and u.</p> | <p>badge, edge, bridge, dodge, fudge</p> <p>age, huge, change, charge, bulge, village</p> <p>gem, giant, magic, giraffe, energy jacket, jar, jog, join, adjust</p> |
| The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y | | race, ice, cell, city, fancy |
| The /n/ sound spelt kn and (less often) gn at the beginning of words | The 'k' and 'g' at the beginning of these words was sounded hundreds of years ago. | knock, know, knee, gnat, gnaw |
| The /r/ sound spelt wr at the beginning of words | This spelling probably also reflects an old pronunciation. | write, written, wrote, wrong, wrap |
| The // or /əl/ sound spelt -le at the end of words | The -le spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words. | table, apple, bottle, little, middle |

| Statutory requirements | Rules and guidance (non-statutory) | Example words (non-statutory) |
|---|--|--|
| The // or /ə/ sound spelt –el at the end of words | The –el spelling is much less common than –le . The –el spelling is used after m, n, r, s, v, w and more often than not after s . | camel, tunnel, squirrel, travel, towel, tinsel |
| The // or /ə/ sound spelt –al at the end of words | Not many nouns end in –al , but many adjectives do. | metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal |
| Words ending –il | There are not many of these words. | pencil, fossil, nostril |
| The /aɪ/ sound spelt –y at the end of words | This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words. | cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July |
| Adding –es to nouns and verbs ending in –y | The y is changed to i before –es is added. | flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries |
| Adding –ed, –ing, –er and –est to a root word ending in –y with a consonant before it | The y is changed to i before –ed, –er and –est are added, but not before –ing as this would result in ii . The only ordinary words with ii are <i>skiing</i> and <i>taxiing</i> . | copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, replied ... but copying, crying, replying |
| Adding the endings –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words ending in –e with a consonant before it | The –e at the end of the root word is dropped before –ing, –ed, –er, –est, –y or any other suffix beginning with a vowel letter is added. Exception: <i>being</i> . | hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny |
| Adding –ing, –ed, –er, –est and –y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter | The last consonant letter of the root word is doubled to keep the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/ and /ʌ/ sound (i.e. to keep the vowel ‘short’). Exception: The letter ‘x’ is never doubled: <i>mixing, mixed, boxer, sixes</i> . | patting, patted, humming, hummed, dropping, dropped, sadder, saddest, fatter, fattest, runner, runny |
| The /ɔ:/ sound spelt a before I and II | The /ɔ:/ sound (‘or’) is usually spelt as a before I and II . | all, ball, call, walk, talk, always |
| The /ʌ/ sound spelt o | | other, mother, brother, nothing, Monday |

| Statutory requirements | Rules and guidance (non-statutory) | Example words (non-statutory) |
|--|---|---|
| The /i:/ sound spelt –ey | The plural of these words is formed by the addition of –s (<i>donkeys, monkeys, etc.</i>). | key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley |
| The /b/ sound spelt a after w and qu | a is the most common spelling for the /b/ ('hot') sound after w and qu . | want, watch, wander, quantity, squash |
| The /ɜ:/ sound spelt or after w | There are not many of these words. | word, work, worm, world, worth |
| The /ɔ:/ sound spelt ar after w | There are not many of these words. | war, warm, towards |
| The /ʒ/ sound spelt s | | television, treasure, usual |
| The suffixes –ment, –ness, –ful, –less and –ly | <p>If a suffix starts with a consonant letter, it is added straight on to most root words without any change to the last letter of those words.</p> <p>Exceptions:</p> <p>(1) <i>argument</i></p> <p>(2) root words ending in –y with a consonant before it but only if the root word has more than one syllable.</p> | <p>enjoyment, sadness, careful, playful, hopeless, plainness (plain + ness), badly</p> <p>merriment, happiness, plentiful, penniless, happily</p> |
| Contractions | <p>In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. <i>can't – cannot</i>).</p> <p><i>It's</i> means <i>it is</i> (e.g. <i>It's</i> raining) or sometimes <i>it has</i> (e.g. <i>It's</i> been raining), but <i>it's</i> is never used for the possessive.</p> | can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's, I'll |
| The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns) | | Megan's, Ravi's, the girl's, the child's, the man's |
| Words ending in –tion | | station, fiction, motion, national, section |

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|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Homophones and near-homophones | It is important to know the difference in meaning between homophones. | there/their/they're, here/hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, sun/son, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, night/knight |
| Common exception words | <p>Some words are exceptions in some accents but not in others – e.g. <i>past</i>, <i>last</i>, <i>fast</i>, <i>path</i> and <i>bath</i> are not exceptions in accents where the a in these words is pronounced /æ/, as in <i>cat</i>.</p> <p><i>Great</i>, <i>break</i> and <i>steak</i> are the only common words where the /eɪ/ sound is spelt ea.</p> | <p>door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children*, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class, grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas – and/or others according to programme used.</p> <p>Note: 'children' is not an exception to what has been taught so far but is included because of its relationship with 'child'.</p> |

International Phonetic Alphabet (non-statutory)

The table below shows each symbol of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and provides examples of the associated grapheme(s).¹ The table is not a comprehensive alphabetic code chart; it is intended simply as guidance for teachers in understanding the IPA symbols used in the spelling appendix. The pronunciations in the table are, by convention, based on Received Pronunciation and could be significantly different in other accents.

| Consonants | | Vowels | |
|------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------------|
| /b/ | bad | /ɑː/ | father, arm |
| /d/ | dog | /ɒ/ | hot |
| /ð/ | this | /æ/ | cat |
| /dʒ/ | gem, jug | /aɪ/ | mind, fine, pie, high |
| /f/ | if, puff, photo | /aʊ/ | out, cow |
| /g/ | gum | /ɛ/ | hen, head |
| /h/ | how | /eɪ/ | say, came, bait |
| /j/ | yes | /ɛə/ | air |
| /k/ | cat, check, key, school | /əʊ/ | cold, boat, cone, blow |
| /l/ | leg, hill | /ɪ/ | hit |
| /m/ | man | /ɪə/ | beer |
| /n/ | man | /iː/ | she, bead, see, scheme, chief |
| /ŋ/ | sing | /ɔː/ | launch, raw, born |
| /θ/ | both | /ɔɪ/ | coin, boy |
| /p/ | pet | /ʊ/ | book |
| /r/ | red | /ʊə/ | tour |
| /s/ | sit, miss, cell | /uː/ | room, you, blue, brute |
| /ʃ/ | she, chef | /ʌ/ | cup |
| /t/ | tea | /ɜː/ | fern, turn, girl |
| /tʃ/ | check | /ə/ | farmer |
| /v/ | vet | | |
| /w/ | wet, when | | |
| /z/ | zip, hens, buzz | | |
| /ʒ/ | pleasure | | |

¹ This chart is adapted slightly from the version provided on the DfE's website to support the Year 1 phonics screening check.