



Revise work done in previous years

Statutory Requirements	Rules/Guidelines(Non-statutory)	Example Words (non-statutory)
Endings which sound like /shus/ spelt –cious or –tious	Not many common words end like this. If the root word ends in –ce, the /sh/ sound is 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
Words ending in –ant, –ance/ –ancy, –ent, –ence/–ency	Use –ant and –ance/–ancy if there is a related word with a clear /a/ or /ai/ sound in the right position – –ation endings are often a clue. Use –ent and –ence/–ency after soft c (/s/ sound), soft g (/j/ sound) and qu, or if there is a related word with a clear /e/ sound in the right position. There are many words, however, where the above guidelines don't help. These words just have to be learned.	observant, observance, (observation), expectant (expectation) hesitant, hesitancy (hesitation), tolerant, tolerance (toleration), substance (substantial) innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, confident, confidence (confidential), 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 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 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.	adorable (adoration), applicable (application), considerable (consideration), tolerable (toleration) changeable, noticeable, forcible, legible dependable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable



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New Work	Rules/Guidelines	Example Words
	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 (eg sensible)	Possible/possibly, horrible/horribly, terrible/terribly, visible/visibly incredible,/incredibly Sensible/sensibly
Words with the /ee/ sound spelt ei after c	The 'i before e except after c' rule applies to words where the sound spelt by ei is a clear /ee/. Exceptions: protein, caffeine, seize.	deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling
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, borough Plough, bough



Word List

ancient	familiar	sufficient
apparent	foreign	suggest
attached	forty	temperature
available	government	thorough
average	hindrance	twelfth
bargain	immediately	variety
bruise	individual	vegetable
communicate	leisure	vehicle
community	lightning	yacht
competition	marvellous	
conscience	mischievous	<p>Teachers should continue to emphasise to pupils the relationships between sounds and letters, even when the relationships are unusual. Once root words are learnt in this way, longer words can be spelt correctly, if the rules and guidance for adding prefixes and suffixes are also known. Many of the words in the list above can be used for practice in adding suffixes.</p>
conscious	muscle	
convenience	nuisance	
develop	opportunity	
environment	parliament	
equip(-ped,-ment)	persuade	
especially	queue	
excellent	relevant	
existence	rhyme	
explanation	rhythm	