

Writing- Spelling - Year 5 and 6

Revise work done in previous years.		
Year 5 and 6		
Statutory Requirements	Rules/guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
Verb prefixes (negative prefixes)	Most prefixes are added to the beginning of root words without any changes in spelling, but see in- below.	
	Like un- , the prefixes dis- and mis- have negative meanings.	dis- : disappoint, disagree, disobey mis- : misbehave, mislead, misspell (mis + spell)
	The prefix in- can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into'. In the words given here it means 'not'.	in- : inactive, incorrect
	The prefix in- can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into'. In the words given here it means 'not'.	in- : inactive, incorrect
	Before a root word starting with l , in- becomes il .	illegal, illegible
	Before a root word starting with m or p , in- becomes im- .	immature, immortal, impossible, impatient, imperfect
	Before a root word starting with r , in- becomes ir- .	irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible
	re- means 'again' or 'back'.	re- : redo, refresh, return, reappear, redecorate
Endings which sound like /shus/ spelt -cious or -tious	Not many common words end like this. If the root word ends in -ce , the /shus/ sound is usually spelt as c - e.g. <i>vice - vicious, grace - gracious, space - spacious, malice - malicious.</i> Exception: anxious.	vicious, precious, conscious, delicious, malicious, suspicious ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious
Endings which sound like /shul/	-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 <i>finance, commerce</i> and <i>province</i>).	official, special, artificial, partial, confidential, essential
Words ending in -ant, -ance/-ancy, -ent, -ence/-ency	Use -ant and -ance/-ancy if there is a related word with /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 guidance does not help. These words just have to be learnt.	observant, observance, (observ <u>at</u> ion), expectant (expect <u>at</u> ion), hesitant, hesitancy (hesit <u>at</u> ion), tolerant, tolerance (toler <u>at</u> ion), substance (subst <u>ant</u> ial) innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, confident, confidence (confidential) assistant, assistance, obedient, obedience, independent, independence
Words ending in -able and -ible Words ending in -ably and -ibly	The -able/-ably endings are far more common than the -ible/-ibly endings. 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	adorable/adorably (adoration), applicable/applicably (application), considerable/considerably (consideration), tolerable/tolerably (toleration) changeable, noticeable, forcible, legible

	<p>the c or g must be kept as those letters would otherwise have their 'hard' sounds (as in <i>cap</i> and <i>gap</i>) before the a of the -able ending.</p> <p>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 <i>reliable</i>, the complete word <i>rely</i> is heard, but the y changes to i in accordance with the rule.</p> <p>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 <i>can</i> be heard (e.g. <i>sensible</i>).</p>	<p>dependable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable</p> <p>possible/possibly, horrible/horribly, terrible/terribly, visible/visibly, incredible/incredibly, sensible/sensibly</p>
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in -fer	<p>The r is doubled if the -fer is still stressed when the ending is added.</p> <p>The r is not doubled if the -fer is no longer stressed.</p>	<p>referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred, transferring, transferred</p> <p>reference, referee, preference, transference</p>
Adding suffixes ise, en, ify, ate (to change nouns/adjectives into verbs)		<p>Deep- deepen, length-lengthen, pollen-pollinate, elastic-elasticate, medicine- medicate, apology, apologise, pure-purify, standard-standardise</p>
Use of the hyphen	<p>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.</p>	<p>co-ordinate, re-enter, co-operate, co-own</p>
Words with the /ee/ sound spelt ei after c	<p>The 'i before e except after c' rule applies to words where the sound spelt by ei is /ee/.</p> <p>Exceptions: <i>protein, caffeine, seize</i> (and <i>either</i> and <i>neither</i> if pronounced with an initial /ee/ sound).</p>	<p>deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling</p>
Words containing the letter-string ough	<p>ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English - it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.</p>	<p>ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought</p> <p>rough, tough, enough</p> <p>cough</p> <p>though, although, dough</p> <p>through</p> <p>thorough, borough</p> <p>plough, bough</p>
Words with 'silent' letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word)	<p>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>.</p>	<p>doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight</p>
Homophones and other words that are often confused	<p>In the pairs of words opposite, nouns end -ce and verbs end -se. <i>Advice</i> and <i>advise</i> provide a useful clue as the word <i>advise</i> (verb) is pronounced with a /z/ sound - which could not be spelt c.</p> <p><u>More examples:</u></p> <p>aisle: a gangway between seats (in a church, train, plane). isle: an island. aloud: out loud.</p>	<p>advice/advise device/devise licence/license practice/practise prophecy/prophesy</p> <p>farther: further father: a male parent</p>

	<p>allowed: permitted.</p> <p>affect: usually a verb (e.g. <i>The weather may affect our plans</i>).</p> <p>effect: usually a noun (e.g. <i>It may have an effect on our plans</i>). If a verb, it means 'bring about' (e.g. <i>He will effect changes in the running of the business</i>).</p> <p>altar: a table-like piece of furniture in a church.</p> <p>alter: to change.</p> <p>ascent: the act of ascending (going up).</p> <p>assent: to agree/agreement (verb and noun).</p> <p>bridal: to do with a bride at a wedding.</p> <p>bridle: reins etc. for controlling a horse.</p> <p>cereal: made from grain (e.g. breakfast cereal).</p> <p>serial: adjective from the noun <i>series</i> - a succession of things one after the other.</p> <p>compliment: to make nice remarks about someone (verb) or the remark that is made (noun).</p> <p>complement: related to the word <i>complete</i> - to make something complete or more complete (e.g. <i>her scarf complemented her outfit</i>).</p> <p>descent: the act of descending (going down).</p> <p>dissent: to disagree/disagreement (verb and noun).</p> <p>desert: as a noun - a barren place (stress on first syllable); as a verb - to abandon (stress on second syllable)</p> <p>dessert: (stress on second syllable) a sweet course after the main course of a meal.</p> <p>draft: noun - a first attempt at writing something; verb - to make the first attempt; also, to draw in someone (e.g. <i>to draft in extra help</i>)</p> <p>draught: a current of air.</p>	<p>guessed: past tense of the verb <i>guess</i></p> <p>guest: visitor</p> <p>heard: past tense of the verb <i>hear</i></p> <p>herd: a group of animals</p> <p>led: past tense of the verb <i>lead</i></p> <p>lead: present tense of that verb, or else the metal which is very heavy (<i>as heavy as lead</i>)</p> <p>morning: before noon</p> <p>mourning: grieving for someone who has died</p> <p>past: noun or adjective referring to a previous time (e.g. <i>In the past</i>) or preposition or adverb showing place (e.g. <i>he walked past me</i>)</p> <p>passed: past tense of the verb 'pass' (e.g. <i>I passed him in the road</i>)</p> <p>precede: go in front of or before</p> <p>proceed: go on</p> <p>principal: adjective - most important (e.g. <i>principal ballerina</i>) noun - important person (e.g. <i>principal of a college</i>)</p> <p>principle: basic truth or belief</p> <p>profit: money that is made in selling things</p> <p>prophet: someone who foretells the future</p> <p>stationary: not moving</p> <p>stationery: paper, envelopes etc.</p> <p>steal: take something that does not belong to you</p> <p>steel: metal</p> <p>wary: cautious</p> <p>weary: tired</p> <p>who's: contraction of <i>who is</i> or <i>who has</i></p> <p>whose: belonging to someone (e.g. <i>Whose jacket is that?</i>)</p>
--	--	--

Word list	<p>accommodate accompany according achieve aggressive amateur ancient apparent appreciate attached available average awkward</p> <p>bargain bruise</p> <p>category cemetery committee communicate community competition conscience* conscious* controversy convenience correspond criticise (critic + ise) curiosity</p> <p>definite desperate determined develop dictionary disastrous</p> <p>embarrass environment equip (-ped, -ment) especially exaggerate excellent existence explanation</p> <p>familiar foreign forty frequently</p> <p>government guarantee</p> <p>harass hindrance</p> <p>identity immediate(ly) individual interfere interrupt</p> <p>language leisure lightning</p> <p>marvelous mischievous muscle</p> <p>necessary neighbour nuisance</p> <p>occupy occur opportunity</p> <p>parliament persuade physical prejudice privilege profession programme pronunciation</p> <p>queue</p> <p>recognize recommend relevant restaurant rhyme rhythm</p> <p>sacrifice secretary shoulder signature sincere(ly) soldier stomach sufficient suggest symbol system</p>
-----------	---

temperature thorough twelfth
variety vegetable vehicle
yacht

