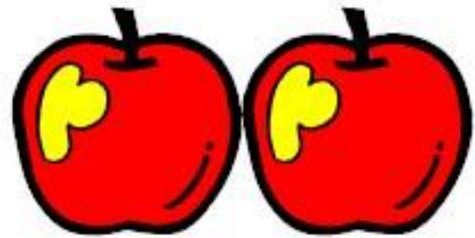


# PLURAL RULE ONE

Most words add 's' to make the plural



one apple



two apples

desk → desks

name → names

town → towns

card → cards

teacher → teachers

park → parks

month → months

truck → trucks

Try these ...

pencil →

book →

tree →

cup →

pad →

plant →

# PLURAL RULE TWO

Add 'es' to words ending in 'ch', 'sh',  
's', 'ss', 'x' or 'z' to make the plural



one box



many boxes

beach → beaches

fox → foxes

cross → crosses

pitch → pitches

wish → wishes

bus → buses

waltz → waltzes

hutch → hutches

Try these ...

church → \_\_\_\_\_

gas → \_\_\_\_\_

class → \_\_\_\_\_

quiz → \_\_\_\_\_

wax → \_\_\_\_\_

dish → \_\_\_\_\_

# PLURAL RULE THREE

When the letter before a 'y' is a consonant, change the 'y' to an 'i' before adding an 'es'



one baby



two babies

city → cities

pony → ponies

filly → fillies

berry → berries

reply → replies

belly → bellies

Try these ...

family → \_\_\_\_\_

daisy → \_\_\_\_\_

army → \_\_\_\_\_

nappy → \_\_\_\_\_

lady → \_\_\_\_\_

jelly → \_\_\_\_\_

party → \_\_\_\_\_

cherry → \_\_\_\_\_



# PLURAL RULE FOUR

When words end in 'ay', 'ey', 'iy', 'oy' and 'uy' add an 's' to make the plural



one donkey



two donkeys

boy → boys  
pulley → pulleys  
relay → relays

play → plays  
grey → greys  
alley → alleys

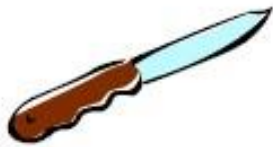
Try these ...

day → \_\_\_\_\_  
monkey → \_\_\_\_\_  
tray → \_\_\_\_\_  
trolley → \_\_\_\_\_

satay → \_\_\_\_\_  
valley → \_\_\_\_\_  
delay → \_\_\_\_\_  
key → \_\_\_\_\_

# PLURAL RULE FIVE

When words end in 'f' or 'fe' change the 'f' or 'fe' to a 'v' before adding 'es'



one knife



two knives

leaf → leaves

wolf → wolves

wife → wives

elf → elves

thief → thieves

life → lives

Try these ...

half → \_\_\_\_\_

hoof → \_\_\_\_\_

loaf → \_\_\_\_\_

shelf → \_\_\_\_\_

self → \_\_\_\_\_

calf → \_\_\_\_\_

Exceptions – cliffs, chiefs, roofs, dwarfs & handkerchiefs

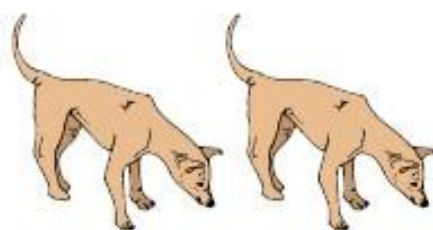


# PLURAL RULE SIX

When a word ends in 'o' and comes after a consonant, add 'es' to make the plural



one dingo



two dingoes

cargo	→	cargoes	mango	→	mangoes
potato	→	potatoes	hero	→	heroes
avocado	→	avocados	buffalo	→	buffaloes

Try these ...

volcano	→	_____	tomato	→	_____
domino	→	_____	echo	→	_____
mosquito	→	_____	torpedo	→	_____

Exceptions – pianos, solos, banjos, Eskimos and radios

# PLURAL RULE SEVEN

Sometimes, a word may completely change its form when a plural is made



one child



two children

person → people

goose → geese

fungus → fungi

criterion → criteria

nucleus → nuclei

man → men

Try these ...

foot → \_\_\_\_\_

mouse → \_\_\_\_\_

tooth → \_\_\_\_\_

woman → \_\_\_\_\_

cactus → \_\_\_\_\_

dice → \_\_\_\_\_

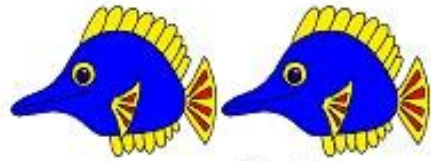


# PLURAL RULE EIGHT

Sometimes, a word may stay the same in both its singular and plural form



one fish



two fish

bream → bream

series → series

aircraft → aircraft

trout → trout

salmon → salmon

moose → moose

Try these ...

species → \_\_\_\_\_

sheep → \_\_\_\_\_

deer → \_\_\_\_\_

perch → \_\_\_\_\_

offspring → \_\_\_\_\_

tuna → \_\_\_\_\_

# 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	→	dro <u>pped</u>	trim	→	trim <u>med</u>
admit	→	admit <u>ted</u>	shop	→	shop <u>ped</u>
occur	→	occur <u>red</u>	flip	→	flip <u>ped</u>

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	→	crosses	catch	→	catches
wax	→	waxes	relax	→	relaxes
fish	→	fishes	reach	→	reaches

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 ...

- |     |   |       |
|-----|---|-------|
| tie | → | _____ |
| 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



# SPELLING RULE ELEVEN

Before adding 'er' and 'est' to words ending in a consonant, followed by a 'y', change the 'y' to an 'i'



Dean is the skinniest member at the local gym.

lazy	→	lazier	salty	→	saltiest
lovely	→	loveliest	funny	→	funnier
mighty	→	mightier	heavy	→	heaviest

Try these ...

sandy	→	_____	crazy	→	_____
happy	→	_____	fancy	→	_____
curly	→	_____	dry	→	_____

These new words are called degrees of comparison

# SPELLING RULE TWELVE

Double the last letter before adding 'er' or 'est' to words that have a short vowel followed a single consonant



Lyne has become a great ocean swimmer.

fit	→	fittest	travel	→	traveller
slim	→	slimmest	win	→	winner
rob	→	robber	slip	→	slipper

Try these ...

spin	→	_____	run	→	_____
sit	→	_____	begin	→	_____
drum	→	_____	stop	→	_____

# SPELLING RULE THIRTEEN

Double the last letter of words ending in a short vowel followed by a single consonant before adding a 'y'



Ricky enjoys lying back on a sunny day.

rag	→	raggy	wit	→	witty
shag	→	shaggy	fog	→	foggy
cat	→	catty	fun	→	funny

Try these ...

run	→	_____	mud	→	_____
wool	→	_____	skin	→	_____
fur	→	_____	bad	→	_____

# SPELLING RULE FOURTEEN

Just add a 'y' to words ending in two consonants to form describing words



The last few days have been quite windy in Moura.

dirt	→	dirty	trick	→	tricky
might	→	mighty	health	→	healthy
thirst	→	thirsty	sand	→	sandy

Try these ...

rock	→	_____	filth	→	_____
wealth	→	_____	smart	→	_____
chill	→	_____	fuss	→	_____



# SPELLING RULE FIFTEEN

For words ending in a silent 'e', you must first drop the 'e' before adding a 'y'



Kookaburras are very noisy birds.

bone	→	bony	smoke	→	smoky
ice	→	icy	stone	→	stony
rose	→	rosy	race	→	racy

Try these ...

flake	→	_____	scare	→	_____
taste	→	_____	nose	→	_____
spike	→	_____	laze	→	_____

# SPELLING RULE SIXTEEN

To indicate possession or ownership by a person or object, an apostrophe (') followed by an 's' is added



Billy's horse bucked him at the rodeo.

horse	→	horse's	Billy	→	Billy's
Jenny	→	Jenny's	bird	→	Bird's
office	→	office's	Nigel	→	Nigel's

Try these ...

Santa	→	_____	car	→	_____
Moura	→	_____	Mary	→	_____
Peter	→	_____	shoe	→	_____



# SPELLING RULE SEVENTEEN

To indicate **ownership** by a person whose name ends in an 's' or a plural noun, just add an apostrophe (')



Camilla rubbed the sunscreen on Charles' chest.

poets → poets'

Gladys → Gladys'

gases → gases'

babies → babies'

Lewis → Lewis'

Ross → Ross'

Try these ...

flowers → \_\_\_\_\_

Chris → \_\_\_\_\_

Dennis → \_\_\_\_\_

bottles → \_\_\_\_\_

class → \_\_\_\_\_

boss → \_\_\_\_\_

# SPELLING RULE EIGHTEEN

An apostrophe (') is also used to create a contraction, indicating where a letter or letters have been left out



She's really looking forward to the ballet recital.

I am	→	I'm	they had	→	they'd
she would	→	she'd	do not	→	don't
who is	→	who's	let us	→	let's

Try these ...

you are	→	_____	where is	→	_____
it is	→	_____	he is	→	_____
can not	→	_____	she will	→	_____

# SPELLING RULE NINETEEN

'i' before 'e' except after 'c'



Many people believe unicorns exist.

rel__ve	→	rel <u>i</u> eve	c__ling	→	ce <u>i</u> ling
dec__t	→	de <u>c</u> eit	v__n	→	ve <u>i</u> n
w__rd	→	w <u>i</u> erd	glac__r	→	glac <u>i</u> er

Try these ...

rec__ve	→	_____	th__r	→	_____
n__ghbour	→	_____	fr__nd	→	_____
anc__nt	→	_____	rec__pt	→	_____

Remember ... there are **ALWAYS** exceptions !

# SPELLING RULE TWENTY

CAPITAL LETTERS are used at the beginning of names and places



Uluru is a well known Australian landmark.

brisbane	→	<u>B</u> risbane	rebecca	→	<u>R</u> ebecca
luke	→	<u>L</u> uke	yeppoon	→	<u>Y</u> eppoon
moura	→	<u>M</u> oura	mikarla	→	<u>M</u> ikarla

Try these ...

adelaide	→	_____	phillip	→	_____
donald	→	_____	gladstone	→	_____
mackay	→	_____	alex	→	_____



# SPELLING RULE TWENTY ONE

Prefixes can be added to base words to create new words.  
Prefixes ending in vowels are added directly to base words.



It is important to try to recycle any items we can.

re+move	→	<u>r</u> emove	tele+vision	→	<u>t</u> elevision
de+frost	→	<u>d</u> efrost	re+gain	→	<u>r</u> egain
<u>p</u> ara+chute	→	<u>p</u> arachute	giga+byte	→	<u>g</u> igabyte

Try these ...

<u>t</u> ri+angle	→	_____	de+void	→	_____
<u>k</u> ilo+metre	→	_____	re+align	→	_____
auto+graph	→	_____	multi+age	→	_____

# SPELLING RULE TWENTY TWO

Sometimes negative prefixes are added to words to create new words and change their meaning



Some people say it's impossible for cows to talk.

<u>un</u> +well	→	unwell	<u>mis</u> +spell	→	misspell
<u>dis</u> +miss	→	dismiss	<u>im</u> +patient	→	impatient
<u>in</u> +ferior	→	inferior	<u>mal</u> +treat	→	maltreat

Create new words using these prefixes ...

non+	→	_____	anti+	→	_____
sub+	→	_____	dys+	→	_____
ab+	→	_____	mis+	→	_____



# SPELLING RULE TWENTY THREE

Prefixes can be added to roots to form new words.  
Roots often have meanings from other languages.



Mr Smith may predict \* a hot summer again.

di+vide	→	divide	inter+cept	→	intercept
audi+ble	→	audible	de+tach	→	detach
pro+ceed	→	proceed	auto+matic	→	automatic

Try these ...

chron+ic	→	_____	ex+ceed	→	_____
cred+ible	→	_____	per+mit	→	_____
meta+phor	→	_____	poly+gon	→	_____

\* 'pre' means 'before' and 'dict' means 'speak'

# SPELLING RULE TWENTY FOUR

When adding a vowel suffix to words ending in a silent 'e', drop the 'e' and add the suffix.



Vikings liveded many, many years ago.

store+ <u>age</u>	→	storage	live+ <u>ed</u>	→	lived
forgive+ <u>en</u>	→	forgiven	manage+ <u>er</u>	→	manager
pale+ <u>est</u>	→	palest	amaze+ <u>ing</u>	→	amazing

Try these ...

nice+ <u>est</u>	→	_____	like+ <u>en</u>	→	_____
grave+ <u>ity</u>	→	_____	use+ <u>ing</u>	→	_____
arrive+ <u>al</u>	→	_____	forge+ <u>ery</u>	→	_____

Remember ... there are always exceptions to the rule!

# SPELLING RULE TWENTY FIVE

The letter 'g' may have a soft or hard sound.

A soft 'g' is usually followed by an 'i' or 'e'.

A hard 'g' is usually followed by a consonant or an 'a', 'o' or 'u'



'g' in 'golf' is hard



'g' in 'gem' is soft

gypsy → soft

goat → hard

goose → hard

general → Soft

gel → Soft

goblet → Hard

Which are hard and which are soft ?

gym → \_\_\_\_\_

ginger → \_\_\_\_\_

gas → \_\_\_\_\_

gutter → \_\_\_\_\_

giant → \_\_\_\_\_

gather → \_\_\_\_\_



# SPELLING RULE TWENTY SIX

The letter 'c' may have a soft or hard sound.  
When 'c' meets an 'a', 'o' or 'u' its sound is hard.  
When 'c' meets an 'e', 'i' or 'y' its sound is soft.



cards (hard c)



centipede (soft c)

candle → hard c

cuddle → hard c

cymbals → soft c

circus → soft c

cave → hard c

curly → hard c

Identify which are hard and soft ?

caring → \_\_\_\_\_

cycle → \_\_\_\_\_

citizen → \_\_\_\_\_

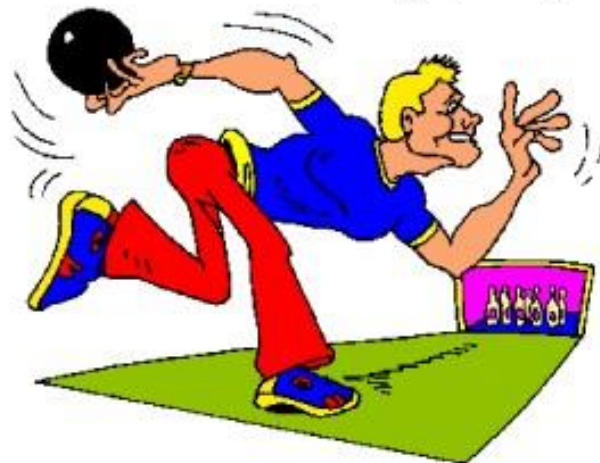
cat → \_\_\_\_\_

comedy → \_\_\_\_\_

circle → \_\_\_\_\_

# SPELLING RULE TWENTY SEVEN

CAPITAL letters are used to spell the names of proper nouns, including people and places



Lloyd is an accomplished bowler in Moura.

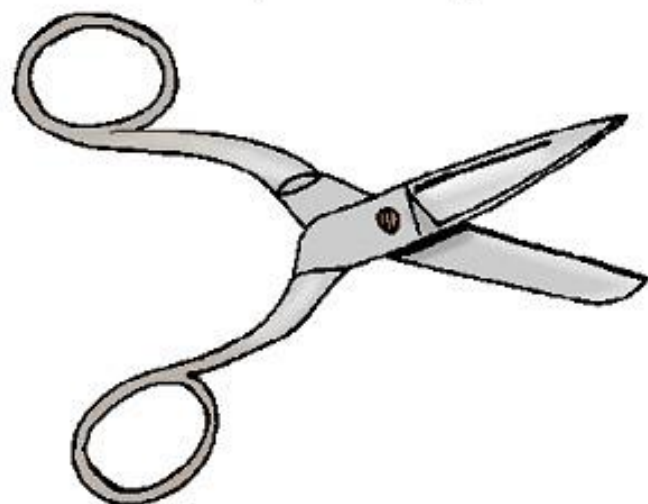
adelaide	→	<u>A</u> delaide	qantas	→	<u>Q</u> antas
luke	→	<u>L</u> uke	mazda	→	<u>M</u> azda
lion's park	→	<u>L</u> ion's <u>P</u> ark	english	→	<u>E</u> nglish

Try these ...

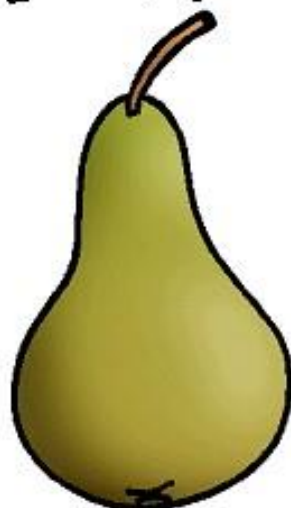
biloea	→	_____	jessica	→	_____
christmas	→	_____	july	→	_____
rover	→	_____	australia	→	_____

# SPELLING RULE TWENTY EIGHT

Homophones are words that have the same sound but a different meaning and spelling.



A pair of scissors.



The pear is a sweet fruit.

route → root  
allowed → aloud  
pause → paws

principal → principle  
maid → made  
days → daze

Write another word that sounds the same as ...

practise	→	_____	main	→	_____
male	→	_____	threw	→	_____
four	→	_____	not	→	_____



# SPELLING RULE TWENTY NINE

A homograph is a word that may have more than one meaning or pronunciation.



A calculator is a useful object. The Lawyer said, "I object!"

Other examples ...

bow → The front of a ship; to bend or a knot

wind → A breeze or to turn around

desert → To leave people or a dry, arid place

Can you identify the different meanings ?

close → \_\_\_\_\_

excuse → \_\_\_\_\_

wound → \_\_\_\_\_

# SPELLING RULE THIRTY

Sometimes when writing, words may be shortened. These are known as abbreviations.



I need to make an appointment to see Dr Phillips.

## Other examples ...

kilometre	→	km	Street	→	St
centimetre	→	cm	Anonymous	→	anon
Australia	→	Aust	ante meridian	→	a.m.

## Try these ...

kilogram	→	_____	page	→	_____
example	→	_____	Queensland	→	_____
approximately	→	_____	second	→	_____