

No Nonsense Spelling Facts

Year 4 – Spelling

By the end of Year 4, children are expected to be able to spell...

- Words containing suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable e.g. forgetting, forgotten, beginning, beginner, prefer, preferred, gardening, gardener, limiting, limited, limitation
- Words containing the 'i' sound spelt –y elsewhere than at the ends of words e.g. myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery
- Words containing the 'u' sound spelt 'ou' e.g. young, touch, double, trouble, country
- Words containing prefixes
 - Before a root word starting with 'l' in- becomes il- e.g. illegal, illegible
 - Before a root word starting with 'm' or 'p,' in- becomes im- e.g. immature, impossible, impatient
 - Before a root word starting with 'r,' in- becomes ir- e.g. irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible
 - Sub- means 'under' e.g. submarine, submerge, subheading, subdivide
 - Inter- means 'between' or 'among' e.g. interact, intercity, international
 - Super- means 'above' e.g. supermarket, superman, superstar
 - Anti- means 'against' e.g. antiseptic, anticlockwise, antisocial
 - Auto- means 'self' or 'own' e.g. autobiography, autograph
- Words containing the suffix – ation e.g. information, adoration, sensation, preparation, admiration
- Words containing the suffix –ly
- Words ending in –sure or –ture e.g. measure, treasure, pleasure, enclosure / creature, furniture, picture, nature, adventure
- Words ending in –sion e.g. division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television
- Words containing the suffix –ous
 - Sometimes the root word is obvious, so usual rules apply e.g. poisonous, dangerous, mountainous
 - Sometimes there is no obvious root word e.g. tremendous, enormous, jealous,
 - Sometimes 'our' is changed to 'or' before 'ous' is added e.g. humorous, glamorous, vigorous
 - The final 'e' of the root word must be kept if the sound of 'g' is to be kept e.g. courageous, outrageous
 - If there is an 'i' sound before the 'ous' ending, it is usually spelt as 'i,' a few words have 'e' e.g. serious, obvious, curious / hideous, spontaneous, courteous
- Words ending in –tion, -sion, -ssion, -cian e.g. invention, injection, action, hesitation, completion / expression, discussion, confession, permission, admission / expansion, extension, comprehension, tension / musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician
- Words containing the 'k' sound spelt 'ch' e.g. scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character
- Words containing the 'sh' sound spelt 'ch' e.g. chef, chalet, machine, brochure
- Words containing the 'g' sound spelt 'gue' and the 'k' sound spelt 'que' e.g. league, tongue, antique, unique
- Words containing the 's' sound spelt 'sc' e.g. science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent
- Words containing the 'ei,' 'eigh' or 'ey' sound e.g. vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey
- Words containing the possessive apostrophe with plural words e.g. girls', boys', babies', children's, men's
- Homophones or near-homophones e.g. accept, except / affect, effect / ball, bawl / berry, bury / brake, break / fair, fare / grate, great / groan, grown / heel, heal, he'll / knot, not / medal, meddle / missed, mist / peace, piece

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- Words from the Year 3 / 4 Statutory Word List**

accident (ally)	century	enough	heard	medicine	position	sentence	woman
actual (ly)	certain	exercise	heart	mention	possess (ion)	separate	women
address	circle	experience	height	minute	possible	special	
answer	complete	experiment	history	natural	potatoes	straight	
appear	consider	extreme	imagine	naughty	pressure	strange	
arrive	continue	famous	increase	notice	probably	strength	
believe	decide	favourite	important	occasion (ally)	promise	suppose	
bicycle	describe	February	interest	often	purpose	surprise	
breath	different	forward (s)	island	opposite	quarter	therefore	
build	difficult	fruit	knowledge	ordinary	question	though / although	
busy / business	disappear	grammar	learn	particular	recent	thought	
calendar	early	group	length	peculiar	regular	through	
caught	earth	guard	library	perhaps	reign	various	
centre	eight / eighth	guide	material	popular	remember	weight	