

Year Five and Six Spelling

Rule	Examples
Endings spelt –cious or –tious	vicious, precious, conscious, delicious, malicious, suspicious ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious
Endings spelt -al	official, special, artificial, partial, confidential, essential
Words ending in –ant, –ance/–ancy, –ent, –ence/–ency	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 Words ending in –ably and –ibly	adorable/adorably (adoration), applicable/applicably (application), considerable/considerably (consideration), tolerable/tolerably (toleration) changeable, noticeable, forcible, legible dependable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable possible/possibly, horrible/horribly, terrible/terribly, visible/visibly, incredible/incredibly, sensible/sensibly Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred,
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer	referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred, transferring, transferred reference, referee, preference, transference
Use of the hyphen	co-ordinate, re-enter, co-operate, co-own
Words with the ‘e’ sound	deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling

spelt ei after c	
Words containing the letterstring ough	ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought rough, tough, enough cough though, although, dough through thorough, borough plough, bough
Words with 'silent' letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word)	doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight
Homophones and other words that are often confused	profit: money that is made in selling things prophet: someone who foretells the future steal: take something that does not belong to you steel: metal who's: contraction of who is or who has whose: belonging to someone (e.g. Whose jacket is that?)