

Spelling – Year 4

1. General revision of Year 1 and 2 work

- Pay special attention to the rules for adding suffixes.
- Cover HF words not yet secure.

2. Revision of work in Year 3

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidance	Example words
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable	If the last syllable of a word is stressed and ends with one consonant letter which has just one vowel letter before it, the final consonant letter is doubled before any ending beginning with a vowel letter is added. The consonant letter is not doubled if the syllable is unstressed.	forgetting, forgotten, beginning, beginner, prefer, preferred gardening, gardener, limiting, limited, limitation
The /ɪ/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words	These words should be learnt as needed.	myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery
The /ʌ/ sound spelt ou	These words should be learnt as needed.	young, touch, double, trouble, country
Prefixes I	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. The prefix in- can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into'. In the words given here it means 'not'.	dis- : disappoint, disagree, disobey mis- : misbehave, mislead, misspell (mis + spell) in- : inactive, incorrect
Prefixes II	Before a root word starting with l , in- becomes il . Before a root word starting with m or p , in- becomes im- . Before a root word starting with r , in- becomes ir- . re- means 'again' or 'back'.	illegal, illegible immature, immortal, impossible, impatient, imperfect irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible re- : redo, refresh, return, reappear, redecorate sub- : subdivide, subheading, submarine, submerge

	<p>sub- means 'under'.</p> <p>inter- means 'between' or 'among'.</p> <p>super- means 'above'. anti- means 'against'.</p> <p>auto- means 'self' or 'own'.</p>	<p>inter-: interact, intercity, international, interrelated (inter + related)</p> <p>super-: supermarket, superman, superstar</p> <p>anti-: antiseptic, anti-clockwise, antisocial</p> <p>auto-: autobiography, autograph</p>
Prefixes III - exceptions	<p>Exceptions:</p> <p>(1) If the root word ends in -y with a consonant letter before it, the y is changed to i, but only if the root word has more than one syllable.</p> <p>(2) If the root word ends with -le, the -le is changed to -ly.</p> <p>(3) If the root word ends with -ic, -ally is added rather than just -ly, except in the word <i>publicly</i>.</p> <p>(4) The words <i>truly, duly, wholly</i>.</p>	<p>happily, angrily</p> <p>gently, simply, humbly, nobly</p> <p>basically, frantically, dramatically</p>
Words with endings sounding like /ʒə/ or /tʃə/	<p>The ending sounding like /ʒə/ is always spelt – sure.</p> <p>The ending sounding like /tʃə/ is often spelt -ture, but check that the word is not a root word ending in (t)ch with an er ending – e.g. <i>teacher, catcher, richer, stretcher</i>.</p>	<p>measure, treasure, pleasure, enclosure</p> <p>creature, furniture, picture, nature, adventure</p>
Endings which sound like /ʒən/	<p>If the ending sounds like /ʒən/, it is spelt as -sion.</p>	<p>division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television</p>
The suffix -ous	<p>Sometimes the root word is obvious and the usual rules apply for adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters.</p> <p>Sometimes there is no obvious root word.</p>	<p>poisonous, dangerous, mountainous, famous, various</p> <p>tremendous, enormous, jealous</p> <p>humorous, glamorous, vigorous</p> <p>courageous, outrageous</p>

	<p>-our is changed to -or before -ous is added.</p> <p>A final 'e' of the root word must be kept if the /dʒ/ sound of 'g' is to be kept.</p> <p>If there is an /i:/ sound before the -ous ending, it is usually spelt as i, but a few words have e.</p>	<p>serious, obvious, curious hideous, spontaneous, courteous</p>
<p>Endings which sound like /ʃən/, spelt -tion, -sion, -ssion, -cian</p>	<p>Strictly speaking, the suffixes are -ion and -ian. Clues about whether to put t, s, ss or c before these suffixes often come from the last letter or letters of the root word.</p> <p>-tion is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in t or te.</p> <p>-ssion is used if the root word ends in ss or -mit.</p> <p>-sion is used if the root word ends in d or se.</p> <p>Exceptions: <i>attend – attention, intend – intention.</i></p> <p>-cian is used if the root word ends in c or cs.</p>	<p>invention, injection, action, hesitation, completion expression, discussion, confession, permission, admission expansion, extension, comprehension, tension</p> <p>musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician</p>
Other sounds		
Words with the /k/ sound spelt ch (Greek in origin)		scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character
Words with the /ʃ/ sound spelt ch (mostly French in origin)		chef, chalet, machine, brochure
Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt -gue and the /k/ sound spelt -que (French in origin)		league, tongue, antique, unique
Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin in origin)	In the Latin words from which these words come, the Romans probably pronounced the c and the k as two sounds rather than one – /s/ /k/.	science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent
Words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt ei , eigh , or ey		vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey
Possessive apostrophe with plural words	The apostrophe is placed after the plural form of the word; -s is not added if the plural already ends in	girls', boys', babies', children's, men's, mice's (Note: singular proper nouns

	<p>–s, but <i>is</i> added if the plural does not end in –s (i.e. is an irregular plural – e.g. <i>children's</i>).</p>	<p>ending in an s use the 's suffix e.g. Cyprus's population)</p>
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Statutory requirements	Example words
<p>Homophones and near-homophones</p>	<p>accept/except, affect/effect, ball/bawl, berry/bury, brake/break, fair/fare, grate/great, groan/grown, here/hear, heel/heal/he'll, knot/not, mail/male, main/mane, meat/meet, medal/meddle, missed/mist, peace/piece, plain/plane, rain/rein/reign, scene/seen, weather/whether, whose/who's</p>

Word list – Year 4

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

