

WAYS TO IMPROVE YOUR SPELLING

Take an interest in words.

Many people who do poorly in spelling have just given up!

Look for patterns.

English is absolutely full of them!

Learn how syllables work.

There are only six different kinds – and they play a big role in spelling.

Use multi-sensory practice strategies.

Some good ones can be found here: www.thrive4kids.ca/spelling-strategies.html

Practice with a sympathetic friend.

Play word games like Boggle, Hangman and Scrabble.

Keep this dictionary handy while you write.

Look up words (or lists) that you need! Personalize the pages! Make it your own!

Practice often and review previously-learned words.

Research proves that it's more effective to study regularly than to cram for tests.

Learn about prefixes and suffixes.

They can help you to figure out the spelling and meaning of all kinds of words!

My Spelling Dictionary

NAME: _____

Created by Tyson Schoeber for use in THRIVE but freely shared with anyone who can make use of it! Feedback and suggestions are welcome.
Check us out online at: www.thrive4kids.co

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Spelling Dictionary	2-24
Colors, Months, Days of the Week, Seasons, Titles	25
Numbers	26
Ordinals, Fractions, Percent & Time	27
Common Contractions	28
Canadian Provinces, Territories & Cities	29
Countries & Continents	30
Common Names for Boys	31
Common Names for Girls	32
Homonyms	33-34
The 100 Most Common Words In English	35-36
Some Popular Kinds of Food	37
Mnemonic Tricks	38

MNEMONIC TRICKS

Some people find that silly sentences and memory tricks like the ones on this page can help them to remember hard-to-spell words! Do any of these work for you, too?

I lose an e in every **argument**.

because: Big elephants can't always understand small elephants!

Never **believe** a lie!

That strange **business** started on a bus!

I found three e's in the **cemetery**.

Emma faced a **dilemma**.

That liar looks **familiar**.

An **island** is land surrounded by water.

friend: Friday ends the week.

You **hear** with an ear!

You can be sure of the results if you **measure** carefully!

necessary: Never eat candy — eat some salad and remain young!

Do you want a **piece** of pie?

rhythm: Rhythm helps your two hips move

said: Sam ate ice-cream daily.

They left all of **their** money to their son and heir.

Did you know that **there** is a place just like here?

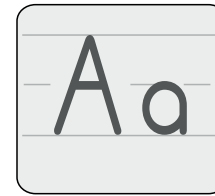
It's Mom's birthday! Let's go to the mall **together** to get her a gift.

SOME POPULAR KINDS OF FOOD

bacon
 bread
whole wheat, white, rye
 butter
 cake
 casserole
 celery
 cereal
 cheese
cheddar, mozzarella, Swiss
 chicken
barbecued, fried, grilled
 chocolate
 coffee
 cookies
 fish
salmon, tuna, trout
 french fries
 fried eggs
 fruit
apple, banana, orange
 granola bar
 hamburger
 hot dog
ketchup, mustard, relish

ice cream
neapolitan, vanilla, Oreo
 jam
strawberry, raspberry
 juice
grape, lemonade, orange
 lettuce
 macaroni
 margarine
 milk
 muffin
 noodles
 oatmeal
 omelette
 pancakes
 pastry
 peanut butter
 pizza
Pepperoni, Hawaiian
 potato chips
 rice
 rolls
 salad
Caesar, dressing
 sandwich

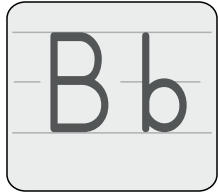
sausages
 scrambled eggs
 shrimp
 smoothie
 soup
 soy milk
 steak
 stew
 sushi
 syrup
 tea
 toast
 turkey
 vegetables
 vegetarian
 whole wheat
 yoghurt



able
ability, abilities
 about
 above
 accident
accidentally
 according
 across
 act
acted, actor, action
 actually
 add
adding, added
 affect
affected
 afraid
 afternoon
 again
against
 age
ageless
 ago
 ahead

air
 alive
 allowed
 almost
 alone
 aloud
 already
 also
 although
 always
 am
 America
American
 amount
 ancient
 angry
anger, angrily
 animal
 another
 answer
 anyone
 anything
 apartment
 appear
appearance

apple
 are
were
 area
 argue
argument
 arm
 army
armies
 around
 arrive
arrival, arrived
 art
artistic
 Asia
Asian
 ate
 attention
 aunt
 average
 away



back
 bag
 baggy
 band
 bank
 baseball
 basic
 basically
 beat
 beautiful
 beautifully
 become
 became
 because
 been
 before
 begin
 beginning, began
 behind
 being
 believe
 believing, believed, belief
 below

beneath
 beside
 better
 between
 beyond
 biology
 biologist
 bird
 birth
 birthday
 black
 blood
 bloody
 board
 boat
 body
 bodies
 book
 born
 both
 bottle
 bottom
 boys
 bread
 break
 broke, broken

breakfast
 breath (noun)
 breathe (verb)
 bright
 brighter, brightest
 bring
 brought
 brother
 brown
 build
 building, built
 bully
 bullying, bullied, bullies
 business
 busy
 buy
 bought
 by
 bye

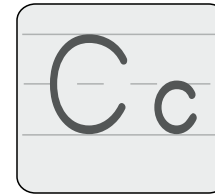
many
 may
 more
 most
 my
 no
 now
 number
 of
 on
 one
 or
 other
 out
 over
 people
 said
 see
 she

side
 so
 some
 sound
 than
 that
 the
 their
 them
 then
 there
 these
 they
 thing
 this
 time
 to
 two
 up

use
 was
 water
 way
 we
 were
 what
 when
 which
 who
 will
 with
 word
 would
 write
 you
 your

THE MOST COMMON WORDS IN ENGLISH

<u>a</u>	come	her
about	could	him
all	day	<u>his</u>
an	did	hot
each	do	how
<u>and</u>	down	<u>I</u>
<u>are</u>	find	if
<u>as</u>	first	<u>in</u>
<u>at</u>	<u>for</u>	<u>is</u>
<u>be</u>	from	<u>it</u>
been	go	know
but	had	like
by	has	long
call	<u>have</u>	look
can	<u>he</u>	make



can't
cannot

capital

care
careful, carefully

carry

catch
caught

cent

center

century
centuries

certain
certainly, certainty

chair

chance

change
changing

chart

chemical
chemist, chemistry

chicken

child
children

China
Chinese

choose
chose

Christian

Christmas

church

circle
circular

circumference

city
cities

class

clear
cleared

climb
climbed, climbing

close
closing, closed, closure

clothes
clothing

coast
coastal

cold
coldest

color
colorful

column

come
came

community

company
companies

compare
compared

complete
completed

contain
container

copy
copies, copying, copied,

corner

could
couldn't

count

country
countries

cousin

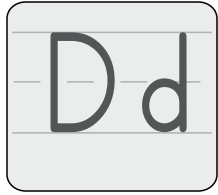
cross

crowd
crowded

cry
cries, crying, cried

current

These words are used constantly in spoken and written English. Indeed, the 25 underlined words make up about one-third of all printed material! Only 100 words account for half of the words that we ever speak or write! At the same time, many of them are easily misspelled – so a list like this can be handy.



dance
dancing

danger
dangerous

dark
darkness

daylight

dead
deadly, death

deaf

deal
dealt

decide
deciding, decided, decision

deep
deeper, deeply

democracy
democratic

dentist

describe
description

desert
deserting, deserted

desk

dessert

develop
development

didn't
did not

diameter

die
dying, died

different
difference

difficult
difficulty

dilemma

dinner

dinosaur

direction

disability

discover
discovered, discovery

disrupt
disrupted, disruption

distance
distant

divide
division

divorce
divorced

doctor

does
do, doing, done, doesn't

dollar

don't

door

double

down

draft
drafty, drafts

draw
drawing, drew

dress
dressing, dressed

drink
drinking, drank, drunk

drive
driving, drove, driven

drop
dropped

drug

dry
drying, dried

during

dust
dusting, dusted, dusty

dyslexia
dyslexic

hour / our

- Sixty minutes equals one hour.
- We should paint our house in the summer!

one / won

- I already have one of the blue ones!
- Our team won the cup this year.

peace / piece

- We must all work for peace in the world.
- Could I have another piece of cake?

right / write

- That's the right answer! I knew you could do it!
- The teacher asked us to write a report.

than / then

- Five pounds is just a little more than two kilograms.
- We've got one more stop to make and then we can go home.

their / there / they're

- Turn right! It's over there! That's their house!
- I'm glad to hear that they're kind to the students at this school.

to / two / too

- I'm going to the library to study for the test this afternoon.
- She ate two pieces of pie last night.
- Can I go too?

weather / whether

- The weather is expected to be nice tomorrow.
- We're going whether you like it or not!

your / you're

- Maybe we could go to your house to study this weekend.
- Are you sure you're allowed to have that?

SOME COMMON HOMONYMS

accept / except

- Do you accept his apology?
- They brought gifts for everyone except me.

affect / effect

- What would be the affect of adding a bit more salt to that solution?
- The medicine can cure the disease but it also has some side effects.

bear / bare

- We saw a mother bear and her cubs beside the road.
- The old chair had to be sanded bare before it could be repainted.

board / bored

- I replaced a rotten board in the fence.
- How can you say that you're bored? There's so much to do here!

brake / break

- I pulled on the brake handle to slow down my bike.
- We'll take a fifteen minute break after working for an hour.

by / buy

- I rode by your place yesterday.
- Can we buy that new book on the weekend?

for / four

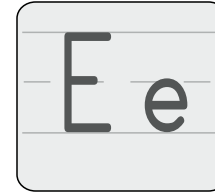
- Is that present for me?
- There are four quarters in a dollar.

knew/ new

- She raised her hand because she knew the answer.
- I got a new bike for my birthday.

hole / whole

- My dad twisted his ankle when he fell into that hole in the yard!
- I can't believe you ate the whole thing!



each

early
earlier, earliest

Earth

east
eastern

Easter

easy
easier, easiest

eat
ate, eaten

ecology
ecological

edge

effect
effective

egg

either

electric
electricity

element
elementary

else

e-mail

empty
empties, emptied

end
ending, ended

energy
energetic

engine

engineer

English

enjoy
enjoyment

enough

enter
entrance

environment
environmental

episode

equal
equality

equation

equipment

equals
equivalent

especially

essay

even

evening

eventually

every
everything everywhere

everybody
everyone

example
(e.g. _____)

except
exception, exceptional

excite
exciting, excited, excitement

exclude
excluding, excluded, exclusion

exercise
exercising

expect
expected

experience

experiment
experimental

explain
explaining, explained, explanation

express
expression, expressive

extreme
extremely, extremist

eyes
eyesight

COMMON NAMES FOR BOYS

Aaron	Greg	Patrick
Adam	Harold	Paul
Albert	Henry	Peter
Alexander	Jacob	Raymond
Andrew	James	Richard
Anthony	Jason	Robert
Arthur	Jeffrey	Roger
Benjamin	Jerry	Ronald
Brandon	John	Ryan
Brian	Jonathan	Samuel
Charles	José	Scott
Christopher	Joshua	Steven
Daniel	Justin	Thomas
David	Keith	Timothy
Dennis	Kevin	Tyler
Donald	Kyle	Walter
Doug	Larry	William
Edward	Mark	Zachary
Eric	Matthew	_____
Frank	Michael	_____
Gary	Nathan	_____
George	Nicholas	_____



- game**
games
- garbage**
- garden**
gardening
- gas**
gasoline
- generally**
general
- gentle**
gently
- geography**
- germ**
germs
- get**
getting, got
- girl**
girlish
- giant**
gigantic
- giggle**
giggles, giggling, giggled
- give**
giving, gave
- glad**
gladly

- glass**
glasses
- gleaming**
- global**
globe, globally
- goes**
going, gone, went
- gold**
- good**
better, best
- government**
govern, governmental
- grace**
graceful
- grade**
- grain**
- gram**
kilogram, milligram
- grandparents**
grandma, grandpa
- grass**
grassy
- grateful**
- gray**
- great**
greater, greatest
- grind**
ground
- groceries**
- group**

- grumpy**
- grow**
growing, grew, grown
- guess**
guessing, guessed
- guest**
- guide**
guided, guidance
- gym**
gymnastics

PROVINCES AND CITIES OF CANADA

Alberta

Calgary
Edmonton
Fort McMurray
Lethbridge
Red Deer

British Columbia

Kelowna
Prince George
Richmond
Surrey
Vancouver
Victoria

Saskatchewan

Moose Jaw
Prince Albert
Regina
Saskatoon

Manitoba

Brandon
Selkirk
Thompson
Winnipeg

Ontario

Hamilton
Kitchener
London
Mississauga
Niagara
Ottawa
Sudbury
Thunder Bay
Toronto
Waterloo

Quebec

Drummondville
Gatineau
Guelph
Laval
Montreal
Quebec City
Sherbrooke
Trois-Rivieres

Newfoundland And Labrador

St. John's
Mount Pearl
Corner Brook

New Brunswick

Fredericton
Moncton
Saint John

Nova Scotia

Glace Bay
Halifax
Sydney

Prince Edward Island

Charlottetown
Summerside
Stratford

Northwest Territories

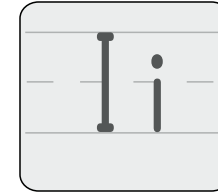
Yellowknife

Nunavut

Iqaluit

Yukon

Whitehorse



ice cream

idea
ideas

ideal
idealist, idealistic

identify
identified, identification

igneous

ignorance
ignorant

illegal
illegally

illustrate
illustrator, illustration

imagine
imaginary, imagination

immunize
immunization

impaired

impatient

imperfect
imperfection

important
importance

impossible

improvise

impulsive

inadequate

inappropriate

inch
inches

include
included, inclusion

indeed

index

individual
individualized

indoors

industry
industries, industrial

ineffective

infant

infect
infected, infection

ink

innocent
innocence, innocently

insecure

instrument

insurance
insured

information
informative, informed

injury
injured

insect
insecticide

inside

institution
institutional

instead

intelligent
intelligence

intend
intention, intended

interest
interesting, interested

international

Internet

invent
invented, invention

iron

island

Islamic

itch
itchy, itching, itchiness

itself

COLORS

beige
black
blue
brown
gold
green
grey
indigo
lavender
magenta
orange
peach
pink
purple
red
silver
white
yellow

MONTHS OF THE YEAR

January
February
March
April
May
June
July
August
September
October
November
December

SEASONS

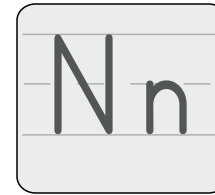
Winter
Spring
Summer
Fall
Autumn

DAYS OF THE WEEK

Sunday
Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday
Saturday

TITLES

Dr.
Miss
Mr.
Mrs.
Ms.

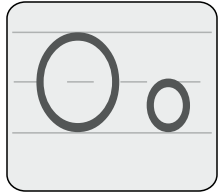


nail
nailed
name
narrow
narrowly
nation
national
nature
natural
naughty
near
nearly, nearer
necessary
neck
need
needing, needed
neighbor
neighborhood
neither
nephew
nerves
nervous
nest
network

never
new
newer, newest
news
newspaper, newscast
next
nickel
niece
night
nighttime, nightmare
nobody
noise
noisy
none
north
northern
nose
note
noted, notes
nothing
notice
notices, noticed
noun
now
nowhere
nuclear
number
nurse

Sounds Like /n/

gnaw
gnarled
knee
knife
knight
knock
know



obey
obeying, obeyed

object
objection

ocean

o'clock

odd

of

off

office

officer

official
officially

often

oil
oily, petroleum

old
older, oldest

once

online

only

onto

open
opening, opened

opportunity

opposite

order
ordering, ordered

original
originally

other
others

our

out
outdoors, outside

over

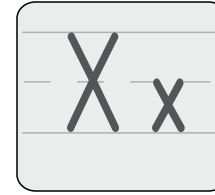
owner

Sounds Like /o/

honor

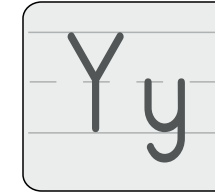
hour

Handwriting practice lines for the /o/ sound, consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated five times.



x-rays
xylophone

Handwriting practice lines for the letter X, consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated five times.



yard
yawn
yawning, yawned

year

yell

yes

yesterday

yet

you

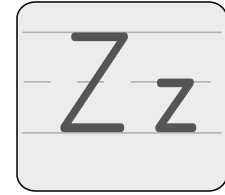
young
younger, youngest

your
yourself

you'll

you're

Handwriting practice lines for the letter Y, consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated five times.



zebra

zero

zip

zipper

zone

zoo

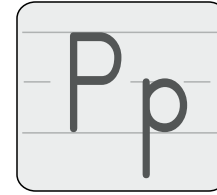
Handwriting practice lines for the letter Z, consisting of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, repeated five times.



wagon
 wait
 waiting, waited
 wake
 woke
 walk
 walking, walked
 wall
 want
 wanting, wanted
 war
 warm
 watch
 watched
 water
 waterfall, watery
 way
 wear
 wearing, wore
 weather
 website
 weekend
 weight
 weighing

went
 were
 weren't
 west
 western
 what
 wheel
 when
 where
 whether
 which
 while
 who
 whole
 whose
 why
 wide
 wife
 wives
 wild
 window
 winter
 wire
 wiry
 wish
 wishing, wished

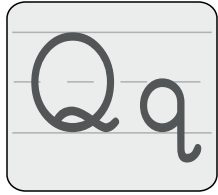
with
 within, without
 wolf
 wolves
 woman
 women
 won
 wonder
 wonderful
 wood
 wooden
 work
 working, worked
 world
 worth
 would
 wouldn't
 write
 writing, wrote, written
 wrong
 wrestle



page
 pain
 painful
 pair
 paragraph
 parents
 patient
 patiently, patience
 pattern
 pay
 paying, paid
 peace
 peaceful
 pencil
 penny
 pennies
 people
 perhaps
 person
 phrase
 photo
 photograph
 picture

pie
 piece
 pieces
 pizza
 place
 play
 plain
 planet
 planetary
 please
 poem
 poetry
 point
 pointy, pointed
 police
 pollute
 polluted, pollution
 poor
 poorly, poverty
 popular
 population
 possible
 possibility
 potato
 potatoes
 power
 powerful
 practice
 practicing, practiced

prairies
 present
 pressure
 pretty
 prettier, prettiest
 principal
 proud
 probably
 problem
 problematic
 process
 processor
 produce
 product, production
 proper
 properly
 protect
 protecting
 provide
 public
 purpose
 push



quiet
quieter, quietest, quietly

quilt

quit

quite

quiz
quizzes

quote
quotation

quotient

quack

quaint

quake

qualify
qualified

quality
qualities

quantity

quarrel
quarrelsome

quart

quarter

queasy
queasiness

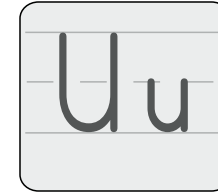
queen

quest

question
questioning

quibble

quick
quicker, quickest



umbrella

uncle

under

understand
understood

unhappy
unhappiness

United States
American

unit

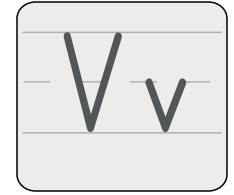
unless

until

upon

use
using, used, useful

usual
unusual, usually



vacation

vaccine

valley

value

variety

various

vegetable
vegetarian

verb

verse

very

village

virus

visit
visiting, visited

voice

vowel

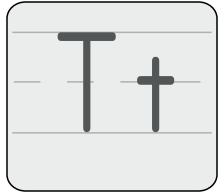
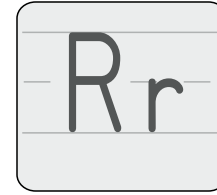


table
 tail
 take
taking, took
 talk
talking, talked
 tall
taller, tallest
 taste
 teach
teaching, taught, teacher
 team
 temperature
 terror
terrorism, terrorist
 text
 than
 thank
thankful
 Thanksgiving
 that's
 their
 themselves

there
 therefore
 these
 those
 though
 thought
thoughtful
 thousand
 threat
threaten, threatening
 through
 throughout
 throw
throwing, threw
 tiny
 today
 together
 tomorrow
 tooth
teeth
 total
 touch
touching, touched
 toward
 town
 toy

track
 trade
trading, traded
 train
 travel
traveling, travelled
 treat
 tree
 trick
 trip
 trouble
 truck
 true
 try
trying, tried
 tsunami
 tube
 turkey
 turn
 twice
 type



rabbit
 race
racism, racial
 radio
 radius
 rain
rainy
 raise
raising, raised
 ring
rang
 range
 rate
rating, rated
 rather
 reach
reaching, reached
 read
reading
 ready
 real
really
 reason
reasonable

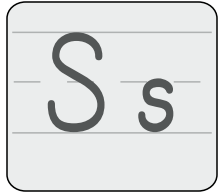
receive
received
 record
recording
 region
regional
 regular
regularly
 remember
remembered
 report
reporter
 represent
representative
 responsible
responsibility, responsibilities
 rest
 result
resulting
 return
returning
 rhyme
 rhythm
 rich
richly
 ride
riding, rode
 right
 rise
rising, risen, rose
 river

road
 rock
rock 'n roll
 rocket
 roll
rolled, rolling
 rough
 round
rounded
 row
 rubber
rubbery
 rule
ruler
 Sounds Like /r/

write

wrong

wrestle



safe
safety

say
said

salt
salty

save
saving, saved

scale

scare
scary, scared

school

science
scientist

scream

season
seasonal

seat

second

section

send
sent

sense
sensitive

sentence

separate
separated, separately

several

share
sharing, shared

sharp
sharpen, sharpest

shoes

shake
shaking, shook

shore

short
shorter, shortest

should

shoulder

show
showing, shown

shut

sick
sicker, sickest, sickness

sign

similar
similarity

simple
simplicity

since

sister

size

skate
skating, skated

skin
skinny

sky

sleep
slept

slide
slid

slow
slower, slowly slowest

small
smaller, smallest

smoke

snow

social

soft
softer, softest

soil
soiled

solid

solution

solve

someone

something

sometimes

sorry

sort
sorting, sorted

sound

soup

south
southern

space

Spain
Spanish

speak
speaking, spoke, spoken

special

speech

speed
speeding, sped

spend
spent

spot
spotting, spotted

spread

square

stage

stand
standing, stood

star

start
starting, started

statement

station

stay

steal
stole

steam

stone
stony

storm
stormy

story

straight

strange

stream

strength

strong

study
studies, studied

subject

such

sudden
suddenly

sugar
sugary

supply
supplies

support
supporter

suppose
supposedly

sure

surface

surprise
surprising

swim
swimming, swam

syllable

symbol
symbolic

Sounds Like /s/

cemetery

center

century

circle

circumference

city

cyclone
