



Revision of Year 1 and 2.  
In Year 3 and 4 pay special attention to the rules for adding suffixes.

Year 3 and 4

Statutory Requirements	Rules/guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
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 /i/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words	These words should be learnt as needed.	myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery
The /u/ sound spelt ou	These words should be learnt as needed.	young, touch, double, trouble, country
More prefixes	Most prefixes are added to the beginning of root words without any changes in spelling, but see <b>in-</b> below.	
	Like <b>un-</b> , the prefixes <b>dis-</b> and <b>mis-</b> have negative meanings.	<b>dis-</b> : disappoint, disagree, disobey <b>mis-</b> : misbehave, mislead, misspell (mis + spell)
	The prefix <b>in-</b> can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into'. In the words given here it means 'not'.	<b>in-</b> : inactive, incorrect
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	Before a root word starting with <b>l</b> , <b>in-</b> becomes <b>il</b> .	illegal, illegible
	Before a root word starting with <b>m</b> or <b>p</b> , <b>in-</b> becomes <b>im-</b> .	immature, immortal, impossible, impatient, imperfect
	Before a root word starting with <b>r</b> , <b>in-</b> becomes <b>ir-</b> .	irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible
	<b>re-</b> means 'again' or 'back'.	<b>re-</b> : redo, refresh, return, reappear, redecorate
	<b>sub-</b> means 'under'.	<b>sub-</b> : subdivide, subheading, submarine, submerge
	<b>inter-</b> means 'between' or 'among'.	<b>inter-</b> : interact, intercity, international, interrelated (inter + related)
	<b>super-</b> means 'above'.	<b>super-</b> : supermarket, superman, superstar
	<b>anti-</b> means 'against'.	<b>anti-</b> : antiseptic, anti-clockwise, antisocial
	<b>auto-</b> means 'self' or 'own'.	<b>auto-</b> : autobiography, autograph
The suffix -ation	The suffix <b>-ation</b> is added to verbs to form nouns. The rules already learnt still apply.	information, adoration, sensation, preparation, admiration
The suffix -ly	The suffix <b>-ly</b> is added to an adjective to form an adverb. The rules already learnt still apply. The suffix <b>-ly</b> starts with a consonant letter, so it is added straight on to most root words. <b>Exceptions:</b> (1) If the root word ends in <b>-y</b> with a consonant letter before it, the <b>y</b> is changed to <b>i</b> , but only if the root word has more than one syllable. (2) If the root word ends with <b>-le</b> , the <b>-le</b> is changed to <b>-ly</b> .	sadly, completely, usually (usual + ly), finally (final + ly), comically (comical + ly)  happily, angrily  gently, simply, humbly, nobly

	(3) If the root word ends with <b>-ic</b> , <b>-ally</b> is added rather than just <b>-ly</b> , except in the word <i>publicly</i> . (4) The words <i>truly, duly, wholly</i> .	basically, frantically, dramatically
Words with endings sounding like /zhuh/ or /chuh/	The ending sounding like /zhuh/ is always spelt <b>-sure</b> . The ending sounding like /chuh/ is often spelt <b>-ture</b> , but check that the word is not a root word ending in <b>(t)ch</b> with an <b>er</b> ending - e.g. <i>teacher, catcher, richer, stretcher</i> .	measure, treasure, pleasure, enclosure creature, furniture, picture, nature, adventure
Endings which sound like /zhun/	If the ending sounds like /zhun/, it is spelt as <b>-sion</b> .	division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television
The suffix <b>-ous</b>	Sometimes the root word is obvious and the usual rules apply for adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters. Sometimes there is no obvious root word. <b>-our</b> is changed to <b>-or</b> before <b>-ous</b> is added. A final 'e' of the root word must be kept if the /dʒ/ sound of 'g' is to be kept. If there is an /ee/ sound before the <b>-ous</b> ending, it is usually spelt as <b>i</b> , but a few words have <b>e</b> .	poisonous, dangerous, mountainous, famous, various  tremendous, enormous, jealous humorous, glamorous, vigorous courageous, outrageous  serious, obvious, curious hideous, spontaneous, courteous
Endings which sound like /shun/, spelt <b>-tion, -sion, -ssion, -cian</b>	Strictly speaking, the suffixes are <b>-ion</b> and <b>-ian</b> . Clues about whether to put <b>t, s, ss</b> or <b>c</b> before these suffixes often come from the last letter or letters of the root word. <b>-tion</b> is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in <b>t</b> or <b>te</b> . <b>-ssion</b> is used if the root word ends in <b>ss</b> or <b>-mit</b> . <b>-sion</b> is used if the root word ends in <b>d</b> or <b>se</b> . <b>Exceptions: attend - attention, intend - intention.</b> <b>-cian</b> is used if the root word ends in <b>c</b> or <b>cs</b> .	invention, injection, action, hesitation, completion  expression, discussion, confession, permission, admission expansion, extension, comprehension, tension  musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician
Words with the /k/ sound spelt <b>ch</b> (Greek in origin)		scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character
Words with the /sh/ sound spelt <b>ch</b> (mostly French in origin)		chef, chalet, machine, brochure
Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt <b>-gue</b> and the /k/ sound spelt <b>-que</b> (French in origin)		league, tongue, antique, unique
Words with the /s/ sound spelt <b>sc</b> (Latin in origin)	In the Latin words from which these words come, the Romans probably pronounced the <b>c</b> and the <b>k</b> as two sounds rather than one - /s/ /k/.	science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent
Words with the /ai/ sound spelt <b>ei, eigh, or ey</b>		vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey
Possessive apostrophe with plural words	The apostrophe is placed after the plural form of the word; <b>-s</b> is not added if the plural already ends in <b>-s</b> , but <b>'s</b> is added if the plural does not end in <b>-s</b> (i.e. is an irregular plural - e.g. <i>children's</i> ).	girls', boys', babies', children's, men's, mice's ( <b>Note:</b> singular proper nouns ending in an <i>s</i> use the 's suffix e.g. Cyprus's population)
Homophones and near-homophones		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
Word list	accident(ally) actual(ly) address answer appear arrive believe bicycle breath breathe build busy/business calendar caught centre century certain circle complete consider continue decide describe different difficult disappear early earth eight/eighth enough exercise experience experiment extreme	

famous favourite February forward(s) fruit  
grammar group guard guide  
heard heart height history  
imagine increase important interest island  
knowledge  
learn length library  
material medicine mention minute  
natural naughty notice  
occasion(ally) often opposite ordinary  
particular peculiar perhaps popular position possess(ion) possible potatoes pressure probably promise purpose  
quarter question  
recent regular reign remember  
sentence separate special straight strange strength suppose surprise  
therefore though/although thought through  
various  
weight woman/women