

Years 5 and 6				
Week	Spelling Pattern (info)	Suggested words for pupils to learn	WORD LIST FOR SPELLING TEST (INCLUDING APPLICATION WHERE POSSIBLE)	Additional back-up words
1	<p>Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt –cious or –tious Not many common words end like this. If the root word ends in –ce, the /ʃ/ sound is usually spelt as c <i>vice – vicious, grace – gracious, space – spacious, malice – malicious.</i> Exception: <i>anxious</i></p>	vice, vicious, grace, gracious, space, spacious, malice, malicious, conscious, anxious	vicious, gracious, spacious, malicious, conscious, anxious, precious, delicious, suspicious, ferocious	unconscious, vivacious, luscious, atrocious, subconscious
2	<p>Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt –cious or –tious Not many common words end like this. If the root word ends in –ce, the /ʃ/ sound is usually spelt as c <i>vice – vicious, grace – gracious, space – spacious, malice – malicious.</i> Exception: <i>anxious</i></p>	ambition, ambitious, caution, cautious, fiction, fictitious, infection, infectious, nutrition, nutritious	ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious, unambitious, superstitious, fractious	pretentious, repetitious, superstitious,
3	<p>Endings which sound like /ʃəl/ –cial is common after a vowel letter, but there are some exceptions. Exceptions: financial, commercial, provincial (the spelling is clearly related to <i>finance, commerce</i> and <i>province</i>).</p>	social, special, official, artificial, finance, financial, commerce, commercial, province, provincial	social, special, official, artificial, financial, commercial, provincial, antisocial, crucial, facial	glacial, racial, special, superficial
4	<p>Endings which sound like /ʃəl/ –tial after a consonant letter, but there are some exceptions (initial).</p>	partial, impartial, confidence, confidential, essence, essential, initial, inference, inferential, potential	partial, impartial, confidential, essential, initial, inferential, potential, credential, residential, torrential	differential, martial, prudential, substantial,
5	<p>Words ending in –ant, –ance/–ancy Use –ant and –ance/–ancy if there is a related word with a /æ/ or /eɪ/ sound in the right position; –ation endings are often a clue. There are many words, however, where the above guidelines don't help. These words just have to be learnt.</p>	observant, observance, expectant, expectance, expectancy, hesitant, hesitancy, tolerant, tolerance, substance	observant, observance, expectant, expectance, expectancy, hesitancy, tolerance, attendance, assistance, appearance	acceptance, avoidance, clearance, compliance, compliant, defiance, defiant, dependence, disturbance,
6	<p>Words ending in –ent, –ence/–ency Use –ent and –ence/–ency after soft c (/s/ sound), soft g (/dʒ/ sound) and qu, or if there is a related word with a clear /ɛ/ sound in the right position. There are many words, however, where the above guidelines don't help. These words just have to be learnt.</p>	innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, obedient, obedience, independent, independence	innocent, innocence, decency, frequent, frequency, obedient, independence, confidence, consistent, consistency	tendency, emergence, emergency, evidence, inconsistent, inconsistency, persistent, persistency

7	<p>Words ending in –able</p> <p>The –able ending is far more common than the –ible ending. As with –ant and –ance/–ancy, the –able ending is used if there is a related word ending in –ation.</p> <p>If the –able ending is added to a word ending in –ce or –ge, the e after the c or g must be kept as those letters would otherwise have their ‘hard’ sounds (as in <i>cap</i> and <i>gap</i>) before the a of the –able ending.</p> <p>The –able ending is usually but not always used if a complete root word can be heard before it, even if there is no related word ending in –ation. The first five examples opposite are obvious; in <i>reliable</i>, the complete word <i>rely</i> is heard, but the y changes to i in accordance with the rule.</p>	applicable, adore, consider, change, notice, comfort, understand, reason, rely, enjoyable	applicable, adorable, considerable, changeable, noticeable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, reliable, dependable	acceptable, achievable, adjustable, attainable, avoidable, believable, knowledgeable, likeable, tolerable, unreliable
8	<p>Words ending in –ably</p>	adorable, avoidable, believable, considerable, noticeable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable	adorably, avoidably, believably, considerably, noticeably, comfortably, understandably, reasonably, enjoyably, reliably	
9	<p>Words ending in –ible</p> <p>The –able ending is far more common than the –ible ending. The –ible ending is common if a complete root word can’t be heard before it but it also sometimes occurs when a complete word <i>can</i> be heard (e.g. <i>sensible</i>).</p>	edible, eligible, legible, possible, horrible, terrible, incredible, force, response, sense	possible, horrible, terrible, incredible, forcible, responsible, sensible, visible, collectible, impossible,	accessible, collapsible, illegible, inaudible, incomprehensible, irresistible, defensible
10	<p>Words ending in –ibly</p>	eligible, forcible, legible, illegible, possible, horrible, terrible, visible, incredible, sensible	eligibly, forcibly, legibly, illegibly, possibly, horribly, terribly, visibly, incredibly, sensibly	
11	<p>Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer</p> <p>The r is doubled if the –fer is still stressed when the ending is added.</p>	refer, referring, referred, referral, prefer, preferring, preferred, transfer, transferring, transferred	AS LIST	
12	<p>Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer</p> <p>The r is not doubled if the –fer is no longer stressed.</p>	reference, referee, preference, transference, circumference, confer, differ, infer, conference, inference	reference, referee, preference, transference, circumference, confer, infer, conference, , inference, difference	
13	<p>Words containing the letter-string ough</p> <p>ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.</p>	ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought, rough, tough, enough, cough	AS LIST	
14	<p>Words containing the letter-string ough</p>	though, although, dough,	AS LIST	

	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	through, thorough, borough, plough, ploughed, bough, Slough		
15	Words with the /i:/ sound spelt ei after c The ‘i before e except after c’ rule applies to words where the sound spelt by ei is /i:/. Exceptions: <i>protein, caffeine, seize</i> (and <i>either</i> and <i>neither</i> if pronounced with an initial /i:/ sound).	deceit, deceive, conceive, receive, receipt, perceive, ceiling, conceit, weird, either,	deceit, deceive, conceive, receive, receipt, perceive, ceiling, conceit, weird, neither	
16	Words with ‘silent’ letters (i.e. letters whose presence cannot be predicted from the pronunciation of the word) Some letters which are no longer sounded used to be sounded hundreds of years ago: e.g. in <i>knight</i> , there was a /k/ sound before the /n/, and the gh used to represent the sound that ‘ch’ now represents in the Scottish word <i>loch</i> .	doubt, island, bomb, lamb, limb, solemn, thistle, knight, knife, loch	doubt, island, bomb, lamb, limb, solemn, thistle, knight, knife, loch	
17	Use of the hyphen Hyphens can be used to join a prefix to a root word, especially if the prefix ends in a vowel letter and the root word also begins with one.	co-ordinate, re-enter, co-operate, co-own, tip-top, back-up, fast-flowing, non-chronological, non-fiction, kind-hearted	co-ordinate, co-operate, tip-top, back-up, fast-flowing, non-chronological, non-fiction, re-draft, co-exist, cold-hearted	
18	Homophones and other words that are often confused In these pairs of words, nouns end -ce and verbs end -se . <i>Advice</i> and <i>advise</i> provide a useful clue as the word <i>advise</i> (verb) is pronounced with a /z/ sound – which could not be spelt c .	aisle, isle, aloud, allowed, affect, effect, altar, alter, ascent, assent,	AS LIST	
19	aisle: a gangway between seats (in a church, train, plane) isle: an island aloud: out loud allowed: permitted	bridal, bridle, cereal, serial, compliment, complement, descent, dissent, desert, dessert	AS LIST	
20	affect: usually a verb (e.g. <i>The weather may affect our plans.</i>) effect: usually a noun (e.g. <i>It may have an effect on our plans.</i>). If a verb, it means ‘bring about’ (e.g. <i>He will effect changes in the running of the business.</i>).	advice, advise, device, devise, license, licence, practise, practice, prophecy, prophesy	AS LIST	
21	altar: a table-like piece of furniture in a church alter: to change ascent: the act of ascending (going up) assent: to agree/agreement (verb and noun)	eligible, illegible, eliminate, illuminate, farther, father, guessed, guest, heard, herd	AS LIST	
22	bridal: to do with a bride at a wedding bridle: reins etc. for controlling a horse	lead, led, morning, mourning, past, passed, proceed, precede,	AS LIST	

				<p>led: past tense of the verb <i>lead</i> lead: present tense of that verb, or else the metal which is very heavy (<i>as heavy as lead</i>) morning: before noon</p>
			<p>cereal: made from grain (e.g. breakfast cereal) serial: adjective from the noun <i>series</i> – a succession of things one after the other compliment: to make nice remarks about someone (verb) or the remark that is made (noun) complement: related to the word <i>complete</i> – to make something complete or more complete (e.g. <i>her scarf complemented her outfit</i>) descent: the act of descending (going down) dissent: to disagree/disagreement (verb and noun) desert: as a noun – a barren place (stress on first syllable); as a verb – to abandon (stress on second syllable) dessert: (stress on second syllable) a sweet course after the main course of a meal disinterested: not having a personal stake in the matter (a World Cup referee must be disinterested – i.e. must not be from one of the countries playing in the match) uninterested: not interested, bored (a referee should be interested, not uninterested, in football) draft: noun – a first attempt at writing something; verb – to make the first attempt; also, to draw in someone (e.g. <i>to draft in extra help</i>) draught: a current of air</p>	<p>mourning: grieving for someone who has died past: noun or adjective referring to a previous time (e.g. <i>In the past</i>) or preposition or adverb showing place (e.g. <i>he walked past me</i>) passed: past tense of the verb 'pass' (e.g. <i>I passed him in the road</i>) precede: go in front of or before proceed: go on principal: adjective – most important (e.g. <i>principal ballerina</i>) noun – important person (e.g. <i>principal of a college</i>) principle: basic truth or belief profit: money that is made in selling things prophet: someone who foretells the future stationary: not moving stationery: paper, envelopes etc. steal: take something that does not belong to you steel: metal wary: cautious weary: tired who's: contraction of <i>who is</i> or <i>who has</i> whose: belonging to someone (e.g. <i>Whose jacket is that?</i>)</p>

	<p>Word list for Years 5 and 6</p>	<p>accommodate accompany according achieve aggressive amateur ancient apparent appreciate attached available average awkward bargain bruise category cemetery</p>	<p>committee communicate community competition conscience* conscious* controversy convenience correspond criticise (critic + ise) curiosity definite desperate determined develop dictionary disastrous</p>	<p>embarrass environment equip (–ped, –ment) especially exaggerate excellent existence explanation familiar foreign forty frequently government guarantee harass hindrance</p>	<p>identity immediate(ly) individual interfere interrupt language leisure lightning marvellous mischievous muscle necessary neighbour nuisance occupy occur opportunity</p>	<p>parliament persuade physical prejudice privilege profession programme pronunciation queue recognise recommend relevant restaurant rhyme rhythm sacrifice</p>	<p>secretary shoulder sincere(ly) soldier stomach sufficient suggest symbol system temperature thorough twelfth variety vegetable vehicle yacht</p>
	<p>Many of these words can be used for practice in adding suffixes. *Conscience and conscious are related to science – all come from the Latin word meaning 'to know'. Conscience is simply science with the prefix con– added. Conscious also contains the 'sci' of science.</p>						