

# Spelling Rules

Spelling Rule	Concerning	Chant	Spalding Rule	LOE Rule
1	q, u	The letter Q is followed by a U and together they say /kw/. Therefore, U, when following a Q, is not considered a vowel. ( <i>queen</i> )	1	11
2	c	C says /s/ before e, i, or y. ( <i>cent, city, cycle</i> ). Otherwise c says /k/. ( <i>cat, cot, cut</i> )	2	1
3	g	G may soften to /j/ before e, i, or y (but not always!). ( <i>page, giant, gym</i> ) Otherwise, g says /g/.	3	2
4	a, e, o, u (open syllables)	At the end of a syllable, A, E, O, U (count 4 fingers) usually say their long sounds. ( <i>navy, me, open, music</i> )	4	4
5	i, y	I and Y usually say /i/ (big, gym) but may say /i/ (silent, my, type)	5	5
6	y at the end	The letter Y (not I) is used at the end of English words. ( <i>my, try</i> )	6	6
7	silent e	7 reasons for a silent final e. (7.1) to make the vowel say its name ( <i>time</i> ) (7.2) English words don't end in i, v or u ( <i>pie, love, blue</i> ) (7.3) to soften g or c ( <i>large, face</i> ) (7.4) to add a vowel to a syllable ( <i>able</i> ) (7.5) to clarify a word is not plural ( <i>tease</i> ) (7.6) to give TH a voiced sound ( <i>breathe</i> ) (7.7) no apparent reason ( <i>come</i> )	7	12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5, 12.7, 12.9
8	/er/	5 ways to spell /er/ ER of her; IR of bird, UR of hurt, EAR of search. OR may say /er/ when following a W ( <i>work</i> )	8	
9	1-1-1 rule	Words of 1 syllable, 1 vowel, with 1 consonant after the vowel ( <i>bop</i> ) need another final consonant before adding an ending that begins with a vowel. ( <i>bopped</i> )	9	14
10	2-1-1 rule	Words of 2 syllables, in which the 2nd syllable is accented and ends with 1 vowel and 1 consonant ( <i>begin</i> ), need another final consonant before adding an ending that begins with a vowel. ( <i>beginning</i> )	10	14
11	silent e + suffix	Words that end in silent final e ( <i>come</i> ) are written without the e before an ending that begins with a vowel. ( <i>com+ing</i> )	11	13
12	ie/ei	i before e except after c ( <i>receive</i> ), or when using the phonogram /ay, ee, igh/ ( <u>EI</u> ). Note: Rule 24 will override this ( <i>fancy - fancies</i> ) and this doesn't apply to the phonogram <u>CI</u>	12	
13	sh	SH spells /sh/ at the beginning of a word or the end of a syllable ( <i>sheep, blush</i> ). SH is never used at the beginning of a syllable after the first one except in the ending -ship. ( <i>friendship</i> )	13	18
14	ti, si, ci	TI, SI, and CI spell /sh/ at the beginning of a syllable after the first one. ( <i>nation, session, facial</i> )	14	17
15	si	Two times when SI says /sh/. (1) When the syllable before it ends in an s ( <i>session</i> ); (2) When the base word has an s where it ( <i>the base word</i> ) changes ( <i>tense/tension</i> )	15	
16	si	SI may also say /zh/ as in vision.	16	
17	floss rule	We often double f, l, and s after a single vowel in a one-syllable word. ( <i>stuff, small, floss</i> )	17	30
18	ay	AY says /ā/ at the end of a base word, never a alone. ( <i>play</i> )	18	9

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19	find gold	I may say /i/ & O may say /ɔ/ when followed by two consonants. (find, gold)	19	8
20	no s after x	Never use s after an x. ( <i>mixes</i> )	20	21
21	all, al-	All, when written alone, always has 2 L's. When used as a prefix, al- only has 1 L. ( <i>always</i> )	21	23
22	till, full	Till and full, when written alone, always have 2 L's. When used with another syllable, -til and -ful only have 1 L. ( <i>until, beautiful</i> )	22	24
23	dge	DGE, 3 letter /j/ is only used after a single vowel which says its short sound. ( <i>badge, edge, ridge, dodge, judge</i> )	23	25
24	y + suffix	Single vowel Y (at the end of a word) changes to I when adding any ending unless the ending begins with an I. ( <i>try, tried, trying</i> )	24	15
25	ck	Use CK, two letter /k/, after a single vowel which says its short sound. ( <i>back, neck, lick, rock, duck</i> )	25	26
26	Capitalization	Capitalize the names or titles of people, places, books, days, or months. ( <i>George Washington, Texas, Goodnight Moon, Friday, October</i> )	26	
27	z	Z, not s, spells /z/ at the beginning of a base word. ( <i>zip</i> )	27	29
28	-ed	The suffix -ED says /ed, d, t/ and is used to make verbs past tense. If the base word ends with /d/ or /t/, it adds another syllable that says /ed/ ( <i>lifted</i> ). Otherwise, it says /d/ or /t/. ( <i>played, stopped</i> )	28	20
29	double consonants	In a base word, syllables are usually divided between double consonants. ( <i>dinner, running</i> )	29	
30	i, u, j, v	English words do not end in I, U, J, or V.		3
31	ä	A may say /ah/ before an L ( <i>always</i> ), after a W ( <i>wash</i> ), and at the end of words. ( <i>spa</i> ).		10
32	tch	TCH, three letter /ch/, is used after a single vowel that says its short or broad sound. ( <i>latch, watch</i> )		27
33	gh	Phonograms ending in GH are only used at the end of a base word or before the letter t. ( <i>laugh, caught, sigh, sight</i> )		28
34	schwa	Any vowel may say schwa /uh/ or /ih/ in an unstressed syllable or unstressed word. ( <i>zebra, the cat</i> )		31.1
35	schwa	O may say schwa /uh/ next to W, TH, M, N, or V. <u>W</u> e <u>T</u> Hink <u>M</u> oms <u>N</u> eed <u>V</u> ans. ( <i>wonder, other, month, cover</i> )		31.2
36	schwa	AR and OR may say schwa /er/ in an unstressed syllable. ( <i>dollar, major</i> )		31.3