

Spelling



Topics Include:

Foundations of Spelling, Spelling Patterns, Irregular Spellings, Spelling and Punctuation, Everyday Spelling Words, Spelling Demons, My Personal Spelling Demons

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LEGIBLE HANDWRITING

There are 26 letters in the English alphabet. Every English word is made up of one or more of these letters. It is important to form each letter correctly. Why? Sloppy handwriting often looks like careless spelling.

A

Write each capital and lowercase letter as perfectly as you can.

Aa _____	Hh _____	Oo _____	Uu _____
Bb _____	Ii _____	Pp _____	Vv _____
Cc _____	Jj _____	Qq _____	Ww _____
Dd _____	Kk _____	Rr _____	Xx _____
Ee _____	Ll _____	Ss _____	Yy _____
Ff _____	Mm _____	Tt _____	Zz _____
Gg _____	Nn _____		

B

Can you form all the letters clearly and connect them correctly?
Is your usual handwriting too big or too small? Practice writing the words below in your best cursive handwriting.

youth _____	flatter _____
mountain _____	bread _____
friendly _____	kindness _____

C

**Practice writing the names of these interesting people and places.
Be sure to space your letters evenly.**

1. Michael Jordan

6. Ernest Hemingway

2. Walla Walla, Washington

7. Pike's Peak

3. Barbra Streisand

8. Abigail Adams

4. Albuquerque, New Mexico

9. Niagara Falls

5. Yosemite National Park

10. Tara Lipinsky

D

**Read the tongue twister silently. Then write
it out neatly on the lines below.**

Betty bought a bit of butter.
But, she said, this butter's bitter.
If I'd bought a bit of better butter
it would have made my batter better.

TRY IT OUT!
**Read the tongue
twister aloud as fast
as you can.**



ALPHABETICAL ORDER

The customary order of letters in any language is alphabetical. Alphabetical order in English begins with **A** and ends with **Z**.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Words in the dictionary are arranged alphabetically. To quickly find the word you want, you must be thoroughly familiar with alphabetical order.

A

Write the letter of the alphabet that comes just before and just after each letter below.

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. ____ P ____ | 4. ____ G ____ | 7. ____ Y ____ |
| 2. ____ O ____ | 5. ____ N ____ | 8. ____ E ____ |
| 3. ____ I ____ | 6. ____ D ____ | 9. ____ K ____ |

B

Number the words in each list to show alphabetical order.

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. ____ crowd | 2. ____ idle | 3. ____ success |
| ____ friend | ____ false | ____ vicious |
| ____ neighbor | ____ jolly | ____ permanent |

C

First letters do not always show alphabetical order. Read the word lists below. Use the *second* or *third* letter in each word to decide which word comes first. Then write numbers to alphabetize the words in each list.

- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. ____ useful | 2. ____ plentiful | 3. ____ tremendous |
| ____ unhappy | ____ plight | ____ translation |
| ____ usually | ____ plum | ____ tournament |

USING A DICTIONARY

3

People with good spelling skills also have good dictionary skills.

A

Notice the different kinds of information in the dictionary entry below.

ac•quaint•ance (ə kwānt' ns) *n.* **1.** knowledge of a thing or person gotten from one's own experience [I have some *acquaintance* with modern art.] **2.** a person one knows but not as a close friend [My sister is an *acquaintance* of your brother.]

LOOK IT UP!



How can you look up a word you can't spell? If you know the first two or three letters, you won't have trouble finding it. Remember that most words are spelled the way they sound!

Use information in the dictionary entry to answer the questions.

1. How many syllables are in the word *acquaintance*? _____
2. The accent mark (´) shows that which syllable is stressed in pronunciation? _____
3. Which part of speech is the word *acquaintance*? _____
4. How many meanings are given? _____
5. Write a sentence in which you use the word *acquaintance*.

B

Read the statements below. Write *T* if the statement is true and *F* if the statement is false.

1. ____ Knowing alphabetical order is an important dictionary skill.
2. ____ A dictionary entry defines a word but does not show you how the word is used.
3. ____ The dictionary entry on this page would be found at the front of the book.
4. ____ Dividing a word into syllables will never help you spell the word.

4

PRONOUNCING CONSONANTS AND VOWELS

All the letters of the alphabet are symbols for sounds. There are two major groups of letter sounds in English. These two groups are called *consonants* and *vowels*.

VOWELS — a, e, i, o, u, and sometimes y

Vowels are *open* mouth sounds. You make vowel sounds with an open flow of breath.

CONSONANTS — b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z

Consonants are *closed* mouth sounds. You make these sounds by blocking your breath with your teeth, lips, or tongue.

A

Pay attention to the consonant sound as you read the practice words aloud. Then circle the word that correctly completes the sentence.

	SOUND	PRACTICE WORDS	
1.	d	dad, bed	To make this sound I block my breath with my (tongue / lips).
2.	b	baby, sob	To make this sound I block my breath with my (teeth / lips).
3.	f	fun, awful	I use my bottom lip and my (tongue / teeth) to make this sound.
4.	k	kick, bike	I make this sound in the (front / back) of my mouth.
5.	v	van, oven	I make this sound in the (front / back) of my mouth.
6.	l	lip, pal	I could not make this sound without using my (tongue / lips).
7.	w	wish, wet	I could not make this sound without using my (lips / teeth).
8.	p	pen, wipe	When I make this sound my breath goes (out / in).

Q. Why is it important to learn letter sounds?



CHOMP

Ribbit...



A. Because **most** words in English are spelled the way they sound.

B

Write a letter from the box to correctly complete each statement.

h	m	r	s	t
---	---	---	---	---

1. To pronounce the letter ____, I place my tongue just behind my top teeth.
2. I let out a quick puff of air to make the letter ____.
3. My lips are closed when I pronounce the letter ____.
4. I make the sound of ____ in the back of my mouth.
5. When I pronounce the letter ____, my tongue touches my bottom teeth.

C

Listen carefully as you say the words aloud. Circle two words in each group that have the same *vowel sound*.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. ball hand bell mad | 6. hoop got sock hope |
| 2. desk task cent deed | 7. fan fun top pup |
| 3. hid hall hide did | 8. toy try two spy |
| 4. plate great pleat plan | 9. mutt push flute strut |
| 5. kite crisp might brief | 10. home come prove roam |

5

CONSONANTS

All the letters in the alphabet are either consonants or vowels. The vowels are **a, e, i, o, and u**. The letter **y** can be either a consonant or a vowel depending on the sound it makes. All the other letters are consonants. In most English words, a consonant makes its own sound.

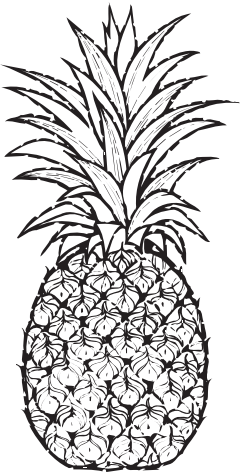
A

Next to each word listed below, write two more words that begin with the same consonant.

1. **b**ed _____
2. **c**ap _____
3. **d**ot _____

B

Now add consonants to complete the words in each category.



1. ____lum o____ange g____ape
 peac____ ____anana water____elon
 app____e a____ricot ____ineapple
2. ____omato s____inach carro____
 o____ion bee____ ce____ery
 cor____ lettu____e ____ea

C

Write your full name on the line. Then tell how many consonants are in your name.

name: _____

number of consonants: _____