

Patterns

Year 3/4 Spelling

Words with endings like mea-**sure** or furni-**ture**.

Endings that sound like the ending to mea-**sure** are always spelt **-sure**

treasure
pleasure
leisure

Endings that sound like the ending to furni-**ture** are often spelt **-ture** (BUT not if the root word ends with -ch e.g. teach = tea-cher)

picture
nature
creature



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Words with the '**s**' sound spelt **-sc-**
(These words come from Latin.)

Example words:
science, scene, discipline,
fascinate, crescent



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Suffixes

Year 3/4 Spelling

The suffix **-ous**

In some words, the root is clear and the suffix '**ous**' is added onto the end of the root word.

Example words:
poisonous, dangerous, mountainous

In some cases, there is no obvious root.

tremendous
jealous
enormous

-our is changed to **-or** before **-ous** is added.

humour = humorous
glamour = glamorous
vigour = vigorous

A final **e** of the root word must be kept if the '**-dj**' sound of **g** is to be kept.

courage = courageous
outrage = outrageous

If there is an '**ee**' sound before the **-ous** ending, it is spelt as **i** but a few words have **e**.

serious
obvious
hideous



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Words with the '**-ay**' sound spelt **-ei-**, **-eigh-**, or **-ey-**.

Example words:
vein, weigh, eight,
neighbour, they, obey



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Vocabulary

Year 3/4 Spelling

Homophones and
near-homophones.

berry	bury
brake	break
fair	fare



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Possessive apostrophe with plural words. An apostrophe is placed after the plural form of the word.

-s is not added if the plural already ends in -s.

girls'
boys'
tables'

-s is added if the plural does not end in -s (e.g. children).

children's
men's

Singular proper nouns ending in an 's': write the word as we would speak it. For these examples we say the 's' so we add it on.

Jess's
Mr Jones's

Singular proper nouns ending in an 's': write the word as we would speak it. For these examples we don't say the 's' so we don't add it on.

Mr Hastings'
Texas'



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Vocabulary

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Homophones and
near-homophones.

grate	great
groan	grown
here	hear



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Vocabulary

Year 3/4 Spelling

Homophones and
near-homophones.

accept	except
affect	effect
ball	bawl



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Vocabulary

Year 3/4 Spelling

Homophones and
near-homophones.

peace

piece

plain

plane

scene

seen



Vocabulary

Year 3/4 Spelling

Homophones and
near-homophones.

knot

not

mail

male

main

mane



Vocabulary

Year 3/4 Spelling

Homophones and
near-homophones.

weather

whether

whose

who's



Vocabulary

Year 3/4 Spelling

Homophones and
near-homophones.

meat

meet

medal

meddle

missed

mist



Vocabulary

Year 3/4 Spelling

Homophones and
near-homophones.

he'll	heel	heal
rain	reign	rein



Prefixes

Year 3/4 Spelling

The Prefix **'il-'** tends to mean **'not'**.

Example words:

illegal, illiterate, illogical

