The National Curriculum is specific about what pupils should learn in the areas of spelling. In Years 5 and 6 the programme of study for spelling consists of learning the spelling rules given below as well as a list of statutory words. These are a combination of words frequently used in their writing and words that are commonly misspelt. Some of these words may form part of the spelling element of Key Stage 2 SATs at the end of Year 6. An additional requirement in Key Stage 2 is using dictionaries to check spellings and meanings, and in upper Key Stage 2 pupils are also expected to use thesauruses.

| cious | tious | cial | tial | ant endings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. vicious <br> 2. precious <br> 3. delicious <br> 4. conscious <br> 5. ferocious <br> 6. gracious <br> 7. spacious <br> 8. suspicious <br> 9. luscious <br> 10. atrocious | 1. nutritious <br> 2. cautious <br> 3. ambitious <br> 4. infectious <br> 5. fictitious <br> 6. conscientious <br> 7. repetitious <br> 8. pretentious <br> 9. superstitious <br> 10. scrumptious | 1. official <br> 2. social <br> 3. special <br> 4. crucial <br> 5. artificial <br> 6. commercial <br> 7. facial <br> 8. beneficial <br> 9. superficial <br> 10. sacrificial | 1. essential <br> 2. potential <br> 3. substantial <br> 4. residential <br> 5. partial <br> 6. torrential <br> 7. initial <br> 8. influential <br> 9. confidential <br> 10. martial | 1. observant <br> 2. tolerant <br> 3. important <br> 4. significant <br> 5. relevant <br> 6. pleasant <br> 7. participant <br> 8. distant <br> 9. triumphant <br> 10. disinfectant |


| ance/ance endings | ancy endings | ent endings | ence endings | ency endings |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. tolerance <br> 2. observance <br> 3. performance <br> 4. balance <br> 5. finance <br> 6. advance <br> 7. ambulance | 1. expectancy <br> 2. vibrancy <br> 3. infancy | 1. confident <br> 2. government <br> 3. environment <br> 4. management <br> 5. department <br> 6. treatment <br> 7. equipment <br> 8. parliament <br> 9. argument <br> 10. independent | 1. confidence <br> 2. independence <br> 3. experience <br> 4. evidence <br> 5. difference <br> 6. influence <br> 7. conference <br> 8. intelligence <br> 9. residence <br> 10. indulgence | 1. emergency |


| able endings | ably endings | ible endings | ibly endings | use of a hyphen |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1. adorable <br> 2. suitable <br> 3. considerable <br> 4. available <br> 5. reasonable <br> 6. comfortable <br> 7. acceptable <br> 8. desirable <br> 9. vegetable <br> 10. acceptable | 1. considerably <br> 2. reasonably <br> 3. comfortably <br> 4. Agreeably <br> 5. Laughably <br> 6. Reliably <br> 7. Unbearably <br> 8. Undeniably <br> 9. Remarkably <br> 10. Admirably | 1. responsible <br> 2. possible <br> 3. impossible <br> 4. terrible <br> 5. sensible <br> 6. incredible <br> 7. compatible <br> 8. invisible <br> 9. illegible <br> 10. edible | 1. responsibly <br> 2. possibly <br> 3. impossibly <br> 4. terribly <br> 5. sensibly <br> 6. incredibly <br> 7. flexibly <br> 8. horribly <br> 9. visibly <br> 10. irresistibly | 1. first-class <br> 2. mother-inlaw <br> 3. fine-tune <br> 4. self-evident <br> 5. all-inclusive <br> 6. crossreference <br> 7. well-known <br> 8. co-owner <br> 9. self-assured |


| i before e except after c | Exceptions to the rule! | words containing 'ough' | silent letters (not <br> previously covered) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1. deceive | 1. protein | 1. ought | 1. doubt |
| 2. conceive | 2. seize | 2. bought | 2. island |
| 3. ceiling | 3. species | 3. dough | 3. lamb |
| 4. receipt | 4. science though | 4. solemn |  |
| 5. believe | 5. sufficient | 5. through | 5. thistle |
| 7. chieve | 6. beige | 6. rough | 6. gnome |
| 8. piece | 7. foreign | 8. brought | 7. knife |
| 9. thief | 8. neighbour | 9. enought | 8. wrapper |
| 10. yield | 10. vein | 10. plough | 9. gnash |

more homophones, words that are easily confused

| 1. practise <br> 2. practise <br> 3. device <br> 4. devise <br> 5. licence <br> 6. license <br> 7. prophecy <br> 8. prophesy <br> 9. father <br> 10. farther | 1. mourning <br> 2. morning <br> 3. past <br> 4. passed <br> 5. guest <br> 6. guessed <br> 7. advise <br> 8. advice <br> 9. isle <br> 10. aisle | 1. allowed <br> 2. aloud <br> 3. effect <br> 4. affect <br> 5. altar <br> 6. alter <br> 7. cereal <br> 8. serial <br> 9. assent <br> 10. ascent | 1. bridal <br> 2. bridle <br> 3. compliment <br> 4. complement <br> 5. desert <br> 6. dessert <br> 7. draft <br> 8. draught <br> 9. descent <br> 10. dissent | 1. principal <br> 2. principle <br> 3. profit <br> 4. prophet <br> 5. stationery <br> 6. stationary <br> 7. steal <br> 8. steel <br> 9. wary <br> 10. weary <br> 11. who's <br> 12. whose |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |

