# Year 1

Work for Year 1			
Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)	
Revision of Reception work  The boundary between revision of work covered in Reception and the introduction of new work may vary according to the programme used, but basic revision should include:  • all grapheme-phoneme correspondences which have been taught  • the process of segmenting spoken words into sounds before choosing graphemes to represent the sounds  • words with adjacent consonants;  • rules and guidelines which have been taught  • vowel digraphs which have been taught		No example words are suggested because the selection will vary according to the programme used, particularly where vowel digraphs are concerned.	
The sounds /f/, /l/, /s/, /z/ and /k/ spelt ff, II, ss, zz and ck	The /f/, /l/, /s/, /z/ and /k/ sounds are usually spelt as <b>ff</b> , <b>II</b> , <b>ss</b> , <b>zz</b> and <b>ck</b> if they come straight after a single vowel letter in short words. <b>Exceptions</b> : if, pal, us, bus, yes.	off, well, miss, buzz, back	
The /ŋ/ sound spelt n before k		bank, think, honk, sunk	
Division of words into syllables	Each syllable is like a 'beat' in the spoken word. Words of more than one syllable often have an unstressed syllable in which the vowel is unclear so the spelling of this vowel may need to be learnt.	pocket, rabbit, carrot, thunder, sunset	
-tch	The /tʃ/ sound is usually spelt as <b>tch</b> if it comes straight after a single vowel letter. <b>Exceptions</b> : rich, which, much, such.	catch, fetch, kitchen, notch, hutch	
The /v/ sound at the end of words	English words hardly ever end with the letter <b>v</b> , so if a word ends with a /v/ sound, the letter <b>e</b> usually needs to be added after the 'v'.	have, live, give	
Adding s and es to words (plural of nouns and the third person singular of verbs)	If the ending sounds like /s/ or /z/, it is spelt as <b>-s</b> . If the ending sounds like /ɪz/ and forms an extra syllable or 'beat' in the word, it is spelt as <b>-es</b> .	cats, dogs, spends, rocks, thanks, catches	

Adding the endings –ing, –ed and –er to verbs where no change is needed to the root word	-ing and -er always add an extra syllable to the word and -ed sometimes does. The past tense of some verbs may sound as if it ends in /id/ (extra syllable), /d/ or /t/ (no extra syllable), but all these endings are spelt -ed.	hunting, hunted, hunter, buzzing, buzzed, buzzer, jumping, jumped, jumper
	If the verb ends in two consonant letters (the same or different), the ending is simply added on.	
Adding –er and –est to adjectives where no change is needed to the root word	As with verbs (see above), if the adjective ends in two consonant letters (the same or different), the ending is simply added on.	grander, grandest, fresher, freshest, quicker, quickest
Vowel digraphs and trigraphs	Some may already be known, depending on the programmes used in reception, but some will be new. The endings <b>-ing</b> , <b>-ed</b> , <b>-er</b> and <b>-est</b> , if relevant, can be added straight on to all the words which can function as verbs or adjectives, except for those in italics.	
ai oi	The digraphs <b>ai</b> and <b>oi</b> are never used at the end of English words.	rain, wait, train, paid, afraid oil, join, coin, point, soil
ay oy	ay and oy are used for those sounds at the end of words and at the end of syllables.	day, play, say, way, stay boy, toy, enjoy, annoy
a <b>–e</b>		made, came, same, take, safe
e-e		these, theme, complete
i–e		five, ride, like, time, side
o–e		home, those, woke, hope, hole
u–e	Both the /u:/ and /ju:/ sounds can be spelt <b>u-e</b>	June, rule, rude, use, tube, tune
ar		car, start, park, arm, garden
ee		see, tree, green, meet, week
ea (/i:/)		sea, dream, meat, each, read (present tense)
ea (/ɛ/)		head, bread, meant, instead, read (past tense)
er (/3:/)		(stressed sound): her, term, verb, person
er (/ə/)		(unstressed <i>schwa</i> sound): better, under, summer, winter, sister
ir		girl, bird, shirt, first, third
ur		turn, hurt, church, burst, Thursday
00	Very few words end with the letters <b>oo</b> .	food, pool, moon, zoo, soon
00		book, took, foot, wood, good
oa	The digraph <b>oa</b> is very rare at the end of an English word.	boat, coat, road, coach, goal
oe		toe, goes
ou	The only common English word ending in <b>ou</b> is <i>you</i> .	out, about, mouth, around, sound

ow (/aʊ/) ow (/aʊ/) ue ew ie (/aɪ/) ie (/i:/) igh or ore aw au air ear ear (/ɛə/) are (/ɛə/)	Both the /u:/ and /ju:/ ("oo" and "yoo") sounds can be spelt as <b>u-e</b> , <b>ue</b> and <b>ew</b> . If words end in the /oo/ sound, <b>ue</b> and <b>ew</b> are more common spellings than <b>oo</b> .	now, how, brown, down, town own, blow, snow, grow, show blue, clue, true, rescue, Tuesday new, few, grew, flew, drew, threw lie, tie, pie, cried, tried, dried chief, field, thief high, night, light, bright, right for, short, born, horse, morning more, score, before, wore, shore saw, draw, yawn, crawl author, August, dinosaur, astronaut air, fair, pair, hair, chair dear, hear, beard, near, year bear, pear, wear bare, dare, care, share, scared very, happy, funny, party, family
on accent)  New consonant spellings ph and wh	The /f/ sound is not usually spelt as <b>ph</b> in short everyday words (e.g.	dolphin, alphabet, phonics, elephant
	fat, fill, fun).	when, where, which, wheel, while
Using k for the /k/ sound	The /k/ sound is spelt as <b>k</b> rather than as <b>c</b> before <b>e</b> , <b>i</b> and <b>y</b> .	Kent, sketch, kit, skin, frisky
Adding the prefix –un	The prefix <b>un</b> – is added to the beginning of a word without any change to the spelling of the root word.	unhappy, undo, unload, unfair, unlock
Compound words	Compound words are two words joined together. Each part of the longer word is spelt as it would be if it were on its own.	football, playground, farmyard, bedroom, blackberry
Common exception words		the, a, do, to, today, of, said, says, are, were, was, is, his, has, I, you, your, they, be, he, me, she, we, no, go, so, by, my, here, there, where, love, come, some, one, once, ask, friend, school, put, push, pull, full, house, our, and/or others, according to the programme used

# Year 2

Revision of work from Year 1	As words with new GPCs are introduced, many previously-taught GPCs can be revised at the same time as these words will usually
	contain them.

New work for Year 2			
Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)	
The /dʒ/ sound spelt as ge and dge at the end of words, and sometimes spelt as g elsewhere in words before e, i and y	The letter <b>j</b> is never used for the /dʒ/ ("dge") sound at the end of English words. At the end of a word, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt <b>–dge</b> straight after the /æ/, /ɛ/, /ɪ/, /ɒ/ and /ʌ/ sounds (sometimes called "short" vowels). After all other sounds, whether vowels or consonants, the /dʒ/ sound is spelt as <b>–ge</b> at the end of a word. In other positions in words, the /dʒ/ sound is often (but not always) spelt as <b>g</b> before <b>e</b> , <b>i</b> , and <b>y</b> . The /dʒ/ sound is always spelt as <b>j</b> before <b>a</b> , <b>o</b> and <b>u</b> .	badge, edge, bridge, dodge, fudge age, huge, change, charge, bulge, village gem, giant, magic, giraffe, energy	
The /s/ sound spelt c before e, i and y		race, ice, cell, city, fancy	
The /n/ sound spelt kn and (less often) gn at the beginning of words	The 'k' and 'g' at the beginning of these words was sounded hundreds of years ago.	knock, know, knee, gnat, gnaw	
The /ɹ/ sound spelt wr at the beginning of words	This spelling probably also reflects an old pronunciation.	write, written, wrote, wrong, wrap	
The /I/ or /əl/ sound spelt –le at the end of words	The <b>-le</b> spelling is the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	table, apple, bottle, little, middle	
The /I/ or /əl/ sound spelt –el at the end of words	The <b>-el</b> spelling is much less common than <b>-le</b> . The <b>-el</b> spelling is used after <b>m</b> , <b>n</b> , <b>r</b> , <b>s</b> , <b>v</b> , <b>w</b> .	camel, tunnel, squirrel, tinsel, travel, towel	
The /l/ or /əl/ sound spelt –al at the end of words	Not many nouns end in -al, but many adjectives do.	metal, pedal, capital, hospital, animal	
Words ending –il	There are not many of these words.	pencil, fossil, nostril	
The /aɪ/ sound spelt -y at the end of words	This is by far the most common spelling for this sound at the end of words.	cry, fly, dry, try, reply, July	
Adding –es to nouns and verbs ending in consonant-letter–y	The <b>y</b> is changed to <b>i</b> before <b>-es</b> is added.	flies, tries, replies, copies, babies, carries	
Adding -ed, -ing, -er and -est to root words ending in consonant-letter-y	The <b>y</b> is changed to <b>i</b> before <b>-ed</b> , <b>-er</b> and <b>-est</b> are added, but not before <b>-ing</b> as this would result in <b>ii</b> . The only ordinary words with <b>ii</b> are <i>skiing</i> and <i>taxiing</i> .	copied, copier, happier, happiest, cried, repliedbut copying, crying, replying	
Adding the endings –ing, –ed, –er, – est and –y to words ending in vowel-letter–consonant-letter–e	The <b>-e</b> at the end of the root word is dropped before <b>-ing</b> , <b>-ed</b> , <b>-er</b> , <b>-est</b> , <b>-y</b> or any other suffix beginning with a vowel letter is added.	hiking, hiked, hiker, nicer, nicest, shiny	

Adding -ing, -ed, -er, -est and -y to words of one syllable ending in a single consonant letter after a single vowel letter	The last consonant letter of the root word is doubled to keep the $/æ/$ , $/ε/$ , $/ɪ/$ , $/p/$ and $/n/$ sound (i.e. to keep the vowel 'short'). <b>Exception</b> : The letter 'x' is never doubled: <i>mixing</i> , <i>mixed</i> , <i>boxer</i> , <i>sixes</i> .	patting, patted, humming, hummed, dropping, dropped, sadder, saddest, fatter, fattest, runner, runny	
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt a before I and II	The /ɔ:/ sound ("or") is usually spelt as a before I and II.	all, ball, call, walk, talk, always	
The /ʌ/ sound spelt o		other, mother, brother, nothing, Monday	
The /i:/ sound spelt -ey	The plural of these words is formed by the addition of <b>-s</b> ( <i>donkeys</i> , <i>monkeys</i> etc.).	key, donkey, monkey, chimney, valley	
The /p/ sound spelt a after w and qu	<b>a</b> is the most common spelling for the /o/ ("hot") sound after <b>w</b> and <b>qu</b> .	want, watch, wander, quantity, squash	
The /3:/ sound spelt or after w	Very few words spell the /3:/ sound ("b <u>ur</u> n") this way.	word, work, worm, world, worth	
The /ɔ:/ sound spelt ar after w	Very few words spell the /o:/ sound ("or") this way.	war, warm, towards	
The /ʒ/ sound spelt s		television, treasure, usual	
The suffixes -ment, -ness, -ful and - less	If a suffix starts with a consonant letter, it is added straight on to most root words without any change to the last letter of those words.  Exceptions: (1) argument (2) root words ending in a consonant letter followed by y – see above.	enjoyment, sadness, careful, playful, hopeless, plainness (plain + ness)	
Contractions	In contractions, the apostrophe shows where a letter or letters would be if the words were written in full (e.g. $can't - cannot$ ).  It's means it is (e.g. It's raining) or sometimes it has (e.g. It's been raining), but it's is never used for the possessive.	can't, didn't, hasn't, couldn't, it's, I'll	
The possessive apostrophe (singular nouns)		Megan's, Ravi's, the girl's, the child's, the man's	
Words ending in -tion		station, fiction, motion, national, section	
Homophones and near-homophones	It is important to know the difference in meaning between homophones.	there/their/they're, here/hear, quite/quiet, see/sea, bare/bear, one/won, sun/son, to/too/two, be/bee, blue/blew, night/knight	
Common exception words	Some words are exceptions in some accents but not in others – e.g. past, last, fast, path and bath are not exceptions in accents where the a in these words is pronounced /æ/, as in cat.  Great, break and steak are the only common words where the /eɪ/ sound is spelt ea.  Note 'children' is not an exception, but is included for convenience with 'child'.	door, floor, poor, because, find, kind, mind, behind, child, children*, wild, climb, most, only, both, old, cold, gold, hold, told, every, everybody, even, great, break, steak, pretty, beautiful, after, fast, last, past, father, class, grass, pass, plant, path, bath, hour, move, prove, improve, sure, sugar, eye, could, should, would, who, whole, any, many, clothes, busy, people, water, again, half, money, Mr, Mrs, parents, Christmas – and/or others according to programme used.	

## Years 3 and 4

Revision of work from Years 1 and 2	Pay special attention to the rules for adding suffixes.
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New work for Years 3 and 4			
Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)	
Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words of more than one syllable	If the last syllable of a word is stressed and ends with one consonant letter which has just one vowel letter before it, the final consonant letter is doubled before any ending beginning with a vowel letter is added. The consonant letter is not doubled if the syllable is unstressed.	forgetting, forgotten, beginning, beginner, prefer, preferred gardening, gardener, limiting, limited, limitation	
The /ɪ/ sound spelt y elsewhere than at the end of words	These words should be learnt as needed.	myth, gym, Egypt, pyramid, mystery	
The /ʌ/ sound spelt ou	These words should be learnt as needed.	young, touch, double, trouble, country	
More prefixes	Most prefixes are added to the beginning of root words without any changes in spelling, but see in— below.  Like un—, the prefixes dis— and mis— have negative meanings.  The prefix in— can mean both 'not' and 'in'/'into'. In the words given here it means 'not'.  Before a root word starting with I, in— becomes il  Before a root word starting with m or p, in— becomes im—.  Before a root word starting with r, in— becomes ir—.  re— means 'again' or 'back'.  sub— means 'under'.  inter— means 'between' or 'among'.  super— means 'above'.  anti— means 'against'.  auto— means 'self' or 'own'.	dis-, mis-, in- disappoint, disagree, disobey misbehave, mislead, misspell (mis + spell) inactive, incorrect illegal, illegible immature, immortal, impossible, impatient, imperfect irregular, irrelevant, irresponsible re-: redo, refresh, return, reappear, redecorate sub-: subdivide, subheading, submarine, submerge inter-: interact, intercity, international, interrelated (inter + related) super-: supermarket, superman, superstar anti-: antiseptic, anti-clockwise, antidote auto-: automatic, autograph	
The suffix -ation	The suffix <b>–ation</b> is added to verbs to form nouns. The rules already learnt still apply.	information, adoration, sensation, preparation, admiration	

The suffix -ly	The suffix <b>-ly</b> is added to an adjective to form an adverb. The rules	
The Sullix –iy	already learnt still apply.	
	alleady learnt still apply.	
	The <b>-ly</b> suffix starts with a consonant letter, so it is added straight on to	sadly, completely, usually (usual + ly), finally (final + ly),
	most root words unless they end with <b>y</b> .	comically (comical + ly)
	If the root word ends with <b>y</b> , the <b>y</b> is changed to <b>i</b> .	happily, angrily
	Exceptions:	
	1. If the root word ends with <b>-le</b> , the <b>-le</b> is changed to <b>-ly</b> .	gently, simply, humbly, nobly
	2. If the root word ends with <b>-ic</b> , <b>-ally</b> is added rather than just <b>-ly</b> ,	
	except in the word <i>publicly</i> .	account, name and, aramansany
	3. The words <i>truly</i> , <i>duly</i> , <i>wholly</i> .	
Words with endings sounding like	The ending sounding like /ʒə/ is always spelt -sure.	measure, treasure, pleasure, enclosure
/ʒə/ or /tʃə/		
	The ending sounding like /tʃə/ is often spelt -ture, but check that the	creature, furniture, picture, nature, adventure
	word is not a root word ending in <b>(t)ch</b> with an <b>er</b> ending, e.g. <i>teacher</i> ,	
	catcher, richer, stretcher.	
Endings which sound like /ʒən/	If the ending sounds like /ʒən/, it is spelt as -sion.	division, invasion, confusion, decision, collision, television
The suffix -ous	Sometimes the root word is obvious and the usual rules apply for	poisonous, dangerous, mountainous, famous, various
	adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters.	
	Sometimes there is no obvious root word.	tremendous, enormous, jealous
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	-our is changed to -or before -ous is added.	humorous, glamorous, vigorous
	A final 'e' must be kept if the /dʒ/ sound of 'g' is to be kept.	courageous, outrageous
	If there is an /i:/ sound before the <b>-ous</b> ending, it is usually spelt as <b>i</b> ,	serious, obvious, curious
	but a few words have <b>e</b> .	hideous, spontaneous, courteous
Endings which sound like /[en/, spelt	Strictly speaking, the endings are <b>-ion</b> and <b>-ian</b> . Clues about whether	, I
-tion, -sion, -ssion, -cian	to put <b>t</b> , <b>s</b> , <b>ss</b> or <b>c</b> before these endings often come from the last letter	
	or letters of the root word.	
	<b>-tion</b> is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in t	invention, injection, action, hesitation, completion
	(invent) or <b>te</b> (hesitate).	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	<b>-ssion</b> is used if the root word ends in <b>ss</b> or <b>-mit</b> .	expression, discussion, confession, permission, admission
	-sion is used if the root word ends in d or se.	expansion, extension, comprehension, tension
	Exceptions: attend – attention, intend – intention	
	-cian is used if the root word ends in c or cs.	musician, electrician, magician, politician, mathematician
Words with the /k/ sound spelt ch		scheme, chorus, chemist, echo, character
(Greek in origin)		
· ,	I .	

Words with the /ʃ/ sound spelt ch (mostly French in origin)		chef, chalet, machine, brochure
Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt –gue and the /k/ sound spelt – que (French in origin)		league, tongue, antique, unique
Words with the /s/ sound spelt sc (Latin in origin)		science, scene, discipline, fascinate, crescent
Words with the /eɪ/ sound spelt ei, eigh, or ey		vein, weigh, eight, neighbour, they, obey
Possessive apostrophe with plural words	The apostrophe is placed after the plural form of the word; <b>-s</b> is not added if the plural already ends in <b>-s</b> , but <i>is</i> added if the plural does not end in <b>-s</b> (i.e. is an irregular plural – e.g. <i>children's</i> ).	girls', boys', babies', children's, men's, mice's (Note: singular proper nouns ending in an s use the 's suffix e.g. Cyprus's population.)
Homophones or near-homophones		accept/except, affect/effect, ball/bawl, berry/bury, brake/break, fair/fare, grate/great, groan/grown, here/hear, heel/heal/he'll, knot/not, mail/male, main/mane, meat/meet, medal/meddle, missed/mist, peace/piece, plain/plane, rain/rein/reign, scene/seen, weather/whether, whose/who's

#### Word list for Years 3 and 4

accident(ally)	circle	famous	island	peculiar	sentence
actual(ly)	complete	favourite	knowledge	perhaps	separate
address	consider	February	learn	popular	special
answer	continue	forward(s)	length	position	straight
appear	decide	fruit	library	possess(ion)	strange
arrive	describe	grammar	material	possible	strength
believe	different	group	medicine	potatoes	suppose
bicycle	difficult	guard	mention	pressure	surprise
breath	disappear	guide	minute	probably	therefore
breathe	early	heard	natural	promise	though/although
build	earth	heart	naughty	purpose	thought
business	eight/eighth	height	notice	quarter	through
calendar	enough	history	occasion(ally)	question	various
caught	exercise	imagine	often	recent	weight
centre	experience	increase	opposite	regular	woman
century	experiment	important	ordinary	reign	women
certain	extreme	interest	particular	remember	

Many root words simply need to be learnt, but once they are learnt, and the rules and guidelines for adding prefixes and suffixes are known, many longer words can be spelt correctly. Examples:

business (busy + ness, with the y of busy changed to i according to the rule). disappear (just add dis- to appear).

Understanding relationships between words can also help with spelling. Examples:

bicycle is cycle (from the Greek for wheel) with **bi-** (meaning two) before it. medicine is related to medical so the /s/ sound is spelt as **c**. opposite is related to oppose, so the schwa sound in opposite is spelt as **o**.

## Years 5 and 6

### Revise work done in previous years

Statutory requirements	Rules and guidelines (non-statutory)	Example words (non-statutory)
Endings which sound like /ʃəs/ spelt -cious or -tious	Not many common words end like this. If the root word ends in <b>-ce</b> , the /ʃ/ sound is usually spelt as <b>c</b> - e.g. <i>vice</i> - <i>vicious</i> , <i>grace</i> - <i>gracious</i> , <i>space</i> - <i>spacious</i> , <i>malice</i> - <i>malicious</i> . <b>Exception</b> : <i>anxious</i>	vicious, precious, conscious, delicious, malicious, suspicious ambitious, cautious, fictitious, infectious, nutritious
Endings which sound like /ʃəl/	<b>-cial</b> is common after a vowel letter and <b>-tial</b> after a consonant letter, but there are some exceptions. <b>Exceptions</b> : initial, financial, commercial, provincial (the spelling of the last three is clearly related to <i>finance</i> , <i>commerce</i> and <i>province</i> ).	official, special, artificial, partial, confidential, essential
Words ending in -ant, -ance/- ancy, -ent, -ence/-ency	Use <b>-ant</b> and <b>-ance/-ancy</b> if there is a related word with a /æ/ or /eɪ/ sound in the right position; <b>-ation</b> endings are often a clue.	observant, observance, (observ <u>a</u> tion), expectant (expect <u>a</u> tion), hesitant, hesitancy (hesit <u>a</u> tion), tolerant, tolerance (toler <u>a</u> tion), substance (subst <u>a</u> ntial)
	Use <b>-ent</b> and <b>-ence/-ency</b> after soft <b>c</b> (/s/ sound), soft <b>g</b> (/dʒ/ sound) and <b>qu</b> , or if there is a related word with a clear /ɛ/ sound in the right position.	innocent, innocence, decent, decency, frequent, frequency, confident, confidence (confidential)
	There are many words, however, where the above guidelines don't help. These words just have to be learnt.	assistant, assistance, obedient, obedience, independent, independence
Words ending in -able and -ible	The <b>-able</b> ending is far more common than the <b>-ible</b> ending.  As with <b>-ant</b> and <b>-ance/-ancy</b> , the <b>-able</b> ending is used if there is a	adorable (adoration), applicable (application), considerable (consideration), tolerable (toleration)
	related word ending in <b>—ation</b> . If the <b>—able</b> ending is added to a word ending in <b>—ce</b> or <b>—ge</b> , the <b>e</b> after the <b>c</b> or <b>g</b> must be kept as those letters would otherwise have their 'hard' sounds (as in <i>cap</i> and <i>gap</i> ) before the <b>a</b> of the <b>—able</b> ending. The <b>—able</b> 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 <b>—ation</b> .	changeable, noticeable, forcible, legible
	The first five examples opposite are obvious; in <i>reliable</i> , the complete word <i>rely</i> is heard, but the <b>y</b> changes to <b>i</b> in accordance with the rule. The <b>–ible</b> ending is common if a complete root word can't be heard	dependable, comfortable, understandable, reasonable, enjoyable, reliable
	before it but it also sometimes occurs when a complete word <i>can</i> be heard (e.g. <i>sensible</i> ).	possible, horrible, terrible, visible, incredible, sensible

Adding suffixes beginning with vowel letters to words ending in –fer	The <b>r</b> is doubled if the <b>-fer</b> is still stressed when the ending is added.  The <b>r</b> is not doubled if the <b>-fer</b> is no longer stressed.	referring, referred, referral, preferring, preferred, transferring, transferred reference, referee, preference, transference		
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		
Words with the /i:/ sound spelt ei after c	The 'i before <b>e</b> except after <b>c</b> ' rule applies to words where the sound spelt by <b>ei</b> is /i:/.  Exceptions: protein, caffeine, seize (and either and neither if pronounced with an initial /i:/ sound).	deceive, conceive, receive, perceive, ceiling		
Words containing the letter- string ough	ough is one of the trickiest spellings in English – it can be used to spell a number of different sounds.	ought, bought, thought, nought, brought, fought rough, tough, enough cough though, although, dough through thorough, borough plough		
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 <b>gh</b> used to represent the sound that 'ch' now represents in the Scottish word <i>loch</i> .	doubt, island, lamb, solemn, thistle, knight		
Homophones and other words that are often confused	In these pairs of words, nouns end <b>-ce</b> and verbs end <b>-se</b> . Advice and advise provide a useful clue as the word advise (verb) is pronounced with a /z/ sound – which could not be spelt <b>c</b> .  aisle: a gangway between seats (in a church, train, plane) isle: an island  aloud: out loud allowed: permitted  affect: usually a verb (e.g. The weather may affect our plans.) effect: usually a noun (e.g. It may have an effect on our plans.). If a verb, it means 'bring about' (e.g. He will effect changes in the running of the business.).  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)  bridal: to do with a bride at a wedding	advice/advise device/devise licence/license practice/practise prophecy/prophesy eligible: suitable to be chosen or elected illegible: not legible (i.e. unreadable) eliminate: get rid of/exclude illuminate: light up farther: further father: a male parent guessed: past tense of the verb guess guest: visitor heard: past tense of the verb hear herd: a group of animals led: past tense of the verb lead lead: present tense of that verb, or else the metal which is very heavy (as heavy as lead) morning: before noon		

bridle: reins etc. for controlling a horse

cereal: made from grain (e.g. breakfast cereal)

serial: adjective from the noun series – 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 *complete* – to make something complete or more complete (e.g. *her scarf complemented her outfit*)

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. *to draft in extra help*) draught: a current of air

mourning: grieving for someone who has died

past: noun or adjective referring to a previous time (e.g. *In the past*) or preposition or adverb showing place (e.g. *he walked past me*)

passed: past tense of the verb 'pass' (e.g. I passed him in the road)

precede: go in front of or before

proceed: go on

principal: adjective - most important (e.g. principal ballerina)

noun – important person (e.g. principal of a college)

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 who is or who has

whose: belonging to someone (e.g. Whose jacket is that?)

### Word list for Years 5 and 6

accommodate	communicate	equip (–ped, –ment)	interrupt	profession
accompany	community	especially	language	programme
according	competition	exaggerate	leisure	pronunciation
achieve	conscience*	excellent	lightning	queue
aggressive	conscious*	existence	marvellous	recognise
amateur	controversy	explanation	mischievous	recommend
ancient	convenience	familiar	muscle	relevant
apparent	correspond	foreign	necessary	restaurant
appreciate	criticise (critic + ise)	forty	neighbour	rhyme
attached	curiosity	frequently	nuisance	rhythm
available	definite	government	occupy	sacrifice
average	desperate	guarantee	occur	secretary
awkward	determined	harass	opportunity	shoulder
bargain	develop	hindrance	parliament	sincere(ly)
bruise	dictionary	identity	persuade	soldier
category	disastrous	immediate(ly)	physical	stomach
cemetery	embarrass	individual	prejudice	sufficient
committee	environment	interfere	privilege	suggest

symbol system temperature thorough twelfth variety vegetable vehicle yacht

Many of these words can be used for practice in adding suffixes.

<sup>\*</sup>Conscience and conscious are related to science – all come from the Latin word meaning 'to know'. Conscience is simply science with the prefix conadded. Conscious also contains the 'sci' of science.