BASIC EVERYDAY SPELLING WORKBOOK

patterns and principles of English spelling

H. Elaine Kirn
Summary of Short and Long Vowels

A short vowel sound is usually spelled with one vowel letter.

9. Write \( \hat{u} \) over the vowels in these words.

\[ \text{hat} \quad \text{bed} \quad \text{fish} \quad \text{pot} \quad \text{rug} \]

A long vowel sound is often spelled with two vowel letters together.

9a. Write \( \hat{u} \) over the vowels in these words.

\[ \text{rain} \quad \text{leaf} \quad \text{pie} \quad \text{goat} \quad \text{moon} \]

9b. Listen to these pairs of words. Write \( \sim \) next to words with a short vowel sound; write \( \sim \) next to words with a long vowel sound. Write the missing vowel letters.

\[ \text{mad} \quad \text{maid} \quad \text{e} \_ \text{t} \quad \text{e} \_ \text{t} \quad \text{sch} \_ \_ \_ \text{l} \quad \text{sk} \_ \_ \_ \text{l} \]

\[ \text{criminal} \quad \text{criminal} \quad \text{p} \_ \_ \_ \text{n} \quad \text{p} \_ \_ \_ \text{n} \quad \text{wh} \_ \_ \_ \text{l} \quad \text{w} \_ \_ \_ \text{l} \]

\[ \text{red} \quad \text{red} \quad \text{b} \_ \_ \_ \text{ds} \quad \text{b} \_ \_ \_ \text{ds} \quad \text{p} \_ \_ \_ \text{nts} \quad \text{p} \_ \_ \_ \text{nts} \]

\[ \text{sh} \_ \_ \_ \text{t} \quad \text{sh} \_ \_ \_ \text{t} \quad \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{n} \quad \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{n} \]

9c. Synonyms: Write the missing vowel letters in the second word of each pair of synonyms.

\( \hat{a} \) or \( \hat{a} \)

remain: st \_ \_ \_ \text{ay}

happy: gl \_ \_ \_ \text{d}

meal: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{ck}

letters: m\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{l}

\* simple: pl\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{n}

\* jelly: j\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{m}

\( \hat{e} \) or \( \hat{e} \)

to instruct: t\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{ch}

nervous: t\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{ns} 

plane: j\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{t}

to talk: sp\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{k}

\* to cure: h\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{l}

\* to iron: pr\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \text{ss}
3a. Listen to these words and sentences. Write the missing consonant letters.

- elf  - ief  - eep  - eap  - rone  - ese
- eat  - bru  - roa  - ba e  - ba  - si

Bo ___ Jo ___ and Be ___ are ___ut in for a ___ile wi ___ a ___est cold and a ra __. They ___oved the tra ___ under the cou ___.

A ga ___ of stro ___ you ___ieves ___ased some ___ite ___eep down a lo ___ pa ___.

3b. Categories: Write the missing consonant letters. Choose from these combinations: sh, ch, th, wh, ng. Sometimes there is more than one possible answer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>animals</th>
<th>body parts</th>
<th>pronouns</th>
<th>question words</th>
<th>describing words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>sheep</td>
<td>___in</td>
<td>___ey</td>
<td>___at</td>
<td>___arp</td>
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<td>chick</td>
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<td>* ___ark</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>actions</th>
<th>things</th>
<th>people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>___ave</td>
<td>ru ___</td>
<td>___irt</td>
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<td>___ut</td>
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<td>___ange</td>
<td>brea ___ e</td>
<td>___eck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>___ink</td>
<td>ha ___</td>
<td>___eel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* ___iri</td>
<td>bri ___</td>
<td>___ip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. Listen to the story. Write the missing vowel letters.

M___m ___s s___ck ___n b___d. Her s___x k___ds h___lp.
R___n g___ts her p___lls. G___s ___nd B___b f___x l___veh:
___ggs, h___m, b___ns, j___m, ___nd a c___p of h___t m___lk.
P___m br___ngs her br___sh. P___g h___s a g___ft. D___n
d___nees and s___ngs. J___ck g___ves her a k___ss.
M___m’s gl___d she’s s___ck.

6. Opposites: Write the missing vowel letters.

lose — w___n
east — w___st
foot — h___nd
minus — pl___s
walk — r___n
go — st___p

7. Categories: Write the missing vowel letters.

body parts: b___ck l___ps ch___st sk___ll l___ngs
actions: dr___nk sk___p d___nee s___nd st___nd
things: dr___ss r___ng g___m cl___ck st___mp

YOUR SCORE: _________ + _________ = _________

TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE: 25 75 100
PRACTICAL EVERYDAY SPELLING WORKBOOK

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H. Elaine Kirn
* LESSON THREE

EXCEPTIONAL VOWEL SPELLINGS

Some words have unusual vowel spellings. These words are exceptions to the rules.

The a, e, i, o, and u Sounds

1. Review: Fill in the blanks.

   sound: a e i o u
   letters: __ __ __ __ __
   examples: hat bed fish put rug sm__
             h__d g__m w__n r__gh

1a. Listen to the vowel sounds and the words with those sounds. Notice the exceptional spellings.

   sound: a e i o u
   exceptions: laugh says build calm3 what blood
                aunt1 said been2 palm3 was flood
                plaid friend sieve swap does
                yacht

1b. Correct the spelling errors in the underlined words in the phrases:

   a polm tree palm my best frend stop the flow of blud
   bild a house a pleasure yocht swop phone numbers
   lagh at a joke drain food in a sive That's what I sed!
   my ant and uncle a plad shirt What dus your wife do?

1c. Write the missing letters in the pairs of rhyming words. All the words have short vowel sounds.

   ___nt's pl____nts      g____ves s____ves      m____m's p____lms

1. Some speakers pronounce this word with the a sound.
2. Some speakers pronounce this word with the e sound.
3. The l is silent.
11b. Write the missing vowel letters in the phrases. All the words have the *ou* or *oi* sound.

- **ou**
  - soap p____der
  - a cl____dy day
  - a th____sand dollars
  - to pron____nce a word
  - electric p____er
  - a paper t____el

- **oi**
  - a l____al friend
  - p____son ivy
  - the r____al family
  - an empl____ment agency
  - to av____d work
  - an ann____ing habit

11c. Correct the spelling errors in the underlined words in the story. Some words are correct.

The man was so *angry* he wanted to *destroi* the pig and *saute* the *baicon*. So to *avoid* doing something *foolish*, he sat down on a *cooshion* to drink a cup of *caffe*. There was no *cream*, of course, so he used *only* *soogar*. Meanwhile the *baby* was crawling *around* in the cream on the floor.

Then *saddlenly* the man *remimbered* the *caider* barrel. He rushed down to the *cealler*, but on the way he bumped into a *bushel* of *potatoes* and fell *across* the *lawndry* basket. He soon *discovered* the barrel was *impty* and the cider *couvered* the floor.

To be *continued* . . .
LESSON ELEVEN
SILENT CONSONANTS

Many words have letters that are silent (not pronounced).

1. Listen to these words. Circle the silent letters.
   
   honor  knight  gnome  psalm  ton  hymn  reign
   debt  whole  yacht  sword  two  corps  island

   The letter h is occasionally silent at the beginning of a word.

2. Listen to these words. Circle the letter h when it is silent.
   
   hour  habit  honor  hammer  honest  heir  herb  exhaust

   The n sound is occasionally spelled kn, gn, or pn at the beginning of a word.
The s sound is occasionally spelled ps. The r sound is occasionally spelled wr or rh.

2a. Listen to these words. Circle the silent letters.
   
   knee  knot  gnaw  pneumonia  psychology  rhyme  wrong  wrench

2b. Listen to these words and sentences. Write the missing letters.

   _erb  _ock  _aw  _eumonia  _ychic  _ythm  _eck

   An _onest  _ight  _ows how  Natalie _its a _inkled _ap
   to defend the _onor of his _iers  on the door _ob. A _at is at her
   on his _ees.  _ist.
3a. Listen to the end of the story. Write the missing words and parts of words.

_________ _________ _________ the _________ Lucy
_________ Walter. _________ _________ a _________
_________ a _________ _________ _________
_________ _________ _________ _________ ed with _________ Walter was
_________ _________ _________ _________ _________
of _________ un________ ant _________ But _________ a
_________ _________ _________ ed _________
be _________ she _________ n’t en _________ _________ ing
a _________ the _________ _________ _________ ing the
s_________’s mer _________ So Walter was
_________ a _________ that _________ be _________
_________ he _________ _________ _________ er
_________.

And _________ the _________ _________ ed. Walter
_________ _________ _________ he ap _________ ed the
_________ of his _________, he _________ _________ in his
_________ er, lit up his pipe, and _________ to _________, “It’s
_________ a _________ ful life. It’s _________ s been _________
and _________ _________ thing _________ _________
_________ ened. I’ve always _________ _________
_________ une.”

That _________ the _________ Walter was. And _________
_________ _________ _________ that a _________ _________ him.

The End