

Year 6 Spelling Lists

Autumn Half Term — Weeks 1–6

How to learn your spellings

Use Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check every time you practise:

1. **Look** carefully at the word. Notice the tricky part.
2. **Say** the word out loud, breaking it into syllables.
3. **Cover** the word so you can't see it.
4. **Write** the word from memory.
5. **Check** it against the list. Circle any tricky letters and try again.

Each week has one spelling rule and 10 words that follow it. The bold, coloured letters show the pattern to focus on.

Practise little and often — five minutes a day works better than twenty minutes once a week.

Spellings will be tested on Friday each week. You will not be tested on all 10 spellings but it is important that you learn the rule to be able to apply this to spelling in all of your work and not just for the weekly test.

Week 1 — Adding -able and -ably

This week's spelling rule:

If you take away -able and what's left is still a whole word on its own, use -able (or -ably).
Comfort is a whole word, so we write comfortable.

comfort + able = comfortable

Your 10 spellings:

1. comfortable
2. reasonable
3. enjoyable
4. dependable
5. valuable
6. adorable
7. reliable
8. breakable
9. favourable
10. considerable

Practise it: Cover the word. Say each syllable as you write it: com-fort-able. Uncover and check the -able ending.

Week 2 — Adding -ible and -ibly

This week's spelling rule:

If what's left after taking away -ible is NOT a whole word on its own, use -ible (or -ibly) instead. 'Poss' is not a word, so we write possible.

poss + ible = possible

Your 10 spellings:

1. possible
2. terrible
3. horrible
4. sensible
5. visible
6. incredible
7. responsible
8. flexible
9. invisible
10. legible

Practise it: Ask: is the first part a real word by itself? If not, it needs -ible.

Week 3 — The 'shuhs' sound: -cious or -tious

This week's spelling rule:

If the word is related to a word ending in -ce, use -cious (grace → gracious). If not, try -tious (caution → cautious).

vice → *vicious* / *caution* → *cautious*

Your 10 spellings:

1. vicious
2. precious
3. delicious
4. malicious
5. suspicious
6. cautious
7. ambitious
8. fictitious
9. nutritious
10. infectious

Practise it: Sort the words into two lists as you practise: -cious words and -tious words.

Week 4 — The 'shuhl' sound: -cial or -tial

This week's spelling rule:

Use -cial straight after a vowel sound (spe-cial). Use -tial straight after a consonant sound (essen-tial). Watch out — 'initial' breaks this rule!

special (vowel + cial) / essential (consonant + tial)

Your 10 spellings:

1. officicial
2. speccial
3. social
4. artificial
5. beneficial
6. essential
7. confidential
8. particial
9. initicial
10. potential

Practise it: Clap the syllable just before the ending. Does it end in a vowel sound or a consonant sound?

Week 5 — Silent letters

This week's spelling rule:

Some letters are written but not said out loud. Spotting the silent letter helps you remember the tricky part of the word.

lamb — the b is silent

Your 10 spellings:

1. doubt
2. island
3. lamb
4. solemn
5. autumn
6. condemn
7. rhythm
8. muscle
9. knowledge
10. guarantee

Practise it: Say the word slowly and listen for the letter you *DON'T* hear. Write it in a different colour to help it stick.

Week 6 — Homophones

This week's spelling rule:

Homophones sound the same (or almost the same) but are spelled differently and mean different things. Use the meaning of the sentence to choose the right one.

I practise (verb) my football practice (noun).

Your 10 spellings:

1. practice

2. practise

practice = noun (a thing) — practise = verb (an action)

3. affect

4. effect

affect = verb (to change something) — effect = noun (a result)

5. principal

6. principle

principal = the head of school (pAL is your pal) — principle = a rule you believe in

7. stationary

8. stationery

stationARy = not moving — stationERy = paper and pens

9. desert

10. dessert

desert = hot and sandy, one s — dessert = a pudding, you want two s's (seconds)!

Practise it: Learn these in pairs. Say the mnemonic clue out loud before you write each word.