

WORD ENDINGS

Some multisyllable words have endings that should be remembered as a unit.

Using the Reading Reflex programme to spell special word endings

The 'shun' sound



The sound 'shun' can be spelt in 4 ways plus one very unusual way, but remember it is never spelt 'shun' – confusing isn't it? Let's take a look...

sion

extension
dimension

ssion

possession
profession

Generally, if the root word ends in 'ss' or 'mit' then use this ending.

shion

fashion

cushion

This is an unusual spelling and these are the only 2 common words spelt this way.

tion

question

pronunciation

Generally, if the root word ends in a 't' sound then use this ending

cian

magician

politician

If the root words ends in 'c' then just add 'ian'. Most jobs end in 'cian'-ask yourself the question 'can you be it?' Can you think of some more?

The 'shus' sound



Today we will look at the shus' sound which can be spelt in 3 different ways. Can you think of them? Let's take a look...

cious

precious

malicious

Remember if the root word ends in a 's' sound then use this ending.
malice/malicious

scious

conscious

luscious

tious

nutritious

fictitious

Remember if the root word ends in 't', or has a 'tion' ending, then use this ending when turning it into an adjective.

Sometimes we make the sound 'kshus' at the end of a word. Can you think of a word that has this sound in it? How do you think we spell this?

It is spelt 'xious' as in obnoxious and anxious.

The 'cher' sound



Today we will look at the 'cher' sound. This is a common word ending which, when added to a word, turns it into a noun. Can you remember what a noun is? There is only 1 way to spell this sound. Do you know what it is?

ture
signature
temperature

There are a couple of exceptions to this spelling pattern. Firstly, the word '**amateur**'- depending on how you pronounce this word, it can sound like it has the 'cher' sound at the end, but it is spelt 'teur' Secondly, if a word ends in 'ch' like **teach**, **catch** and **scorch** then we just add 'er' to form the noun.

Once you have memorised this spelling pattern you can spell lots of words correctly...furniture, nature, adventure...well done!

The 'zhu' sound



Today we will look at the zhu' sound. It is another very common word ending and there are 2 ways to spell it, but 1 is quite unusual. Do you know what they are? Let's take a look...

sure
treasure
leisure

sia
Asia
amnesia

The 'shu' sound



This is an unusual sound and there aren't many words spelt this way. There are two codes that make this sound and one exception... can you think of them?

tia

dementia

inertia

cia

fascia

alopecia

ssure

pressure

Nearly all words
ending in 'sure' make
the sound 'zhure'

The 'shul' sound



The 'shul' sound is another common word ending and there are two ways to spell this. Can you think of them? Let's take a look...

tial

partial
potential

cial

facial
special

The rule for this ending is similar to previous word endings. Think carefully about the root word, or words in the same family. If they end with a 't' sound, use the ending, 'tial'. If they end with a 's' sound use 'cial'. Words which use the 'cial' ending will usually have a vowel before this is added. Words which use 'tial' will usually have a consonant before this is added.

The 'uble' sound



The final word ending which we will examine is the sound 'uble'. This is a very common word ending and is spelt in 2 different ways. Can you think of them? Let's have a look...

able

available
vegetable

ible

possible
legible

There are a couple of tips to help you know which ending to use. Firstly there are far more words spelt with 'able' than 'ible' and when new words with this sound are added to our language, they will only have the 'able' ending. Secondly, if we take away the ending 'able' there will often be a root word, whereas if we remove 'ible' there is often not a root word, for example, profitable/profit and horrible/horr. However, there are quite a few exceptions to this as in vegetable!