

Year 4 Spelling Rules

Unit 1: Prefixes – ‘mis’, ‘un’, ‘in’ and ‘dis’

Adding ‘mis’, ‘un’, ‘in’ and ‘dis’ to root words e.g. misplace, unwell, incomplete, dislike etc

Unit 2: ‘Zhuh’ sound spelt ‘sure’

Words ending in ‘sure’ that make the ‘zhuh’ sound e.g. pleasure, treasure etc.

Special Focus 1: ‘Uh’ sound spelt ‘ou’

Words containing a letters ou that make ‘uh’ sound e.g. double, trouble etc.

Unit 3: Prefixes – ‘auto’

Adding ‘auto’ to root words e.g. autograph, autopilot etc.

Unit 4: Suffixes – ‘ly’

Adding ‘ly’ to root words that end in ‘y’ e.g. happy - happily - etc.

Unit 5: Prefixes – ‘inter’

Adding ‘inter’ to root words e.g. interact, international etc.

Special Focus 2: Homophones

Words with the same sound but different spelling/meaning e.g. main & mane

Unit 6: ‘Ay’ sound spelt ‘eigh’, ‘ei’ or ‘ey’

e.g. weight, veil, obey etc.

Unit 6: ‘Ous’

Words ending in ‘ous’ and ‘ous’ used as a suffix e.g. serious, dangerous etc.

Unit 7: ‘S’ sound spelt ‘sc’

Words containing ‘sc’ as ‘s’ sound e.g. scent, science etc.

Special Focus 3: Possessive apostrophes

Plural words using possessive apostrophes e.g. boys’, women’s etc.

Unit 8: ‘Zhun’ sound spelt ‘sion’

Words ending in ‘sion’ that make the ‘zhun’ sound e.g. confusion, explosion etc.

Unit 9: Prefixes - ‘il’, ‘un’, ‘in’, ‘mis’ and ‘dis’

Adding ‘il’, ‘un’, ‘in’, ‘mis’ and ‘dis’ to root words e.g. illegal, unavailable, inactive, misheard, dislike etc.

Unit 10: 'C' sound spelt 'que' and 'g' sound spelt 'gue'

e.g. unique, fatigue etc.

Special Focus 4: Homophones

Words with the same sound but different spelling/meaning e.g. heal & heel

Unit 11: Prefixes – 'ir'

Adding 'ir' to root words beginning with 'r' e.g. irregular, irresponsible etc.

Unit 12: Suffixes - 'ion'

Adding 'ion' to root words ending in 'ss' and 't' e.g. express - expression, submit - submission - etc.

Unit 13: Suffixes – 'ion'

Adding 'ion' to root words ending in 'ss' and 't' e.g. discuss - discussion, admit - admission - etc.