

Year one – Top tips for spelling.

Grapheme (letter/s) phoneme (sound)
correspondence.

/ai/ phoneme (sound)

a_e – middle of words *e.g. shape, name*

ai - middle of words often ending in 'l' or 'n' *e.g. rain, snail*

ay - end of word *e.g. play, tray*

Rare spellings: a, eigh, ey, ei, aigh, ea

/ee/ phoneme (sound)

ea – middle of words *e.g. leaf, scream*

ee – middle of words *e.g. feel, street*

y – end of word *e.g. baby, lucky*

e – end of short word *e.g. be, me, he*

Rare spellings: ey, ie, ei, eo, e_e

/igh/ phoneme (sound)

i-e – middle of words *e.g. five, slide*

igh – before a 't' *e.g. bright, right*

ie - end of short words or before a 'd' *e.g. lie, replied*

y – end of short word or before 'ing' *e.g. dry, fly*

Rare spellings: i, eye,

/oa/ phoneme (sound)

ow – end of a word *e.g. grow, window*

oa – middle of a word *e.g. soap, coach*

o-e – middle of a word *e.g. pole, broke*

Rare spellings: oe, ough, o

/oy/ phoneme (sound)

oy – end of words *e.g. boy, annoy*

oi – middle of words *e.g. boil, avoid*

/ow/ phoneme (sound)

ow – end of a word *e.g. now*

OW – middle of words before 'n' or 'l' *e.g. howl, town* or before vowel
e.g. tower

ou – middle of words *e.g. mouth, trousers*

Rare spellings: ough

/oo/ and y/oo/ phoneme (sound)

u-e - middle of words *e.g. huge, prune*

oo – middle of words *e.g. spoon, room*

ue – end of words *e.g. blue, clue*

ew – end of words *e.g. blew, stew*

Year one – Top tips for spelling.

Rare spellings: u, o

/ar/ phoneme (sound)

ar – best bet *e.g. park, start*

Rare spellings: a, al, ear, are

/or/ phoneme (sound)

a – when the 'or' sound comes before the letter 'l', it is often spelt with the letter 'a' *e.g. almost*

/ur/ phoneme (sound)

or – when a 'ur' sound follows the letter 'w' it is usually spelt 'or' *e.g. worst*