



Mill Hill Community Primary School

Year 6 spelling rules	
Spelling rules	Example words
<p>Prefixes A prefix is a letter or group of letters that can be added to the beginning of a word to make a new word. They can tell us useful information about a root word.</p>	
trans (means across, beyond or through) bi (means two) tri (means three) semi (means half or partly) aero (relates to the air) micro (means small) tele (refers to distance) photo (refers to light) circum (means around or about) Prefixes with hyphens to avoid confusion with similar words or to separate vowels.	transfusion / transaction / transcribe bicycle / biannual / bilingual triangle / tricycle / triangulate semi-circular, semi-colon aeroplane / aerodynamic / aerospace microscope / microwave / microscopic teleport / televise / telegram / telepathy photocopy / photosynthesis / photograph circumference / circumnavigate re-sent (to send again) resent (be grudge) co-operate / re-establish / pre-install
<p>Suffixes A suffix is a letter or group of letters that can be added to the end of a word to make a new word.</p>	
cious / tious / xious If the root words ends in '-ce', the /shus/ sound is spelt '-cious)	gracious / ferocious / conscious / spacious infectious / cautious / scrumptious / anxious / noxious
cial / tial The '-cial' spelling is common after a vowel. The '-tial' spelling is common after a consonant.	special / social / artificial / commercial / crucial / glacial / facial confidential / impartial / essential / influential / unsubstantial
Words ending with the sounds 'unt', 'unce' and 'uncy' These suffixes sound similar and there is no particular rule, so the words just need to be learned. Here are some examples.	observant / hesitant / inhabitant permanent / instrument / frequent observance / tolerance / substance / insurance patience / experience / intelligence / difference hesitancy / buoyancy / vacancy / tenancy currency / frequency / decency / absorbency
able / ible The '-able' spelling is common when a complete root word can be heard before it. The '-ible' spelling is common when a complete root word can't be heard before it.	reliable / applicable / justifiable / fashionable / comfortable / questionable / reasonable incredible / visible / possible / terrible / edible / irresponsible / horrible