



## Remembering spellings

To follow are some tips for remembering spellings. Develop a strategy for learning spellings rather than attempting to learn each new word as it comes up. Some people have one strategy that works best for them; others like to try more than one.

### Look, say, cover, write, check

- Look at the word you want to learn; highlight any parts that seem difficult; look at its shape.
- Say the word to yourself, sounding out all the letters.
- Cover the word.
- Write down the word without looking at the original.
- Check to see if you have spelled the word right; if it's wrong, try again.
- Repeat the above as many times as necessary in the next few days.

### Word structure

Learn common prefixes (eg **dis-**, **un-**, **re-**, **pre-**) and suffixes (eg **-able**, **-ful**, **-ness**) and use them to break down words into parts to make them easier to learn:



reported

### Syllables

Break words up into syllables so that you're dealing with the sounds of chunks of words:

num-ber con-tact med-i-cal

### Words within words

Sometimes you'll find words within words - it can help with the tricky parts of the spelling if you isolate these. For example:

present elephant teacher

### Mnemonics

Mnemonics are learning devices that aid memory. They are useful in helping to remember difficult spellings. For example:

**necessary** - one collar (c) and two socks (s)

**rhythm** - rhythm helps your two hips move