



Spelling Spoofs



Intelligence

You may be happy to learn that the ability to spell well has little to do with intelligence. Highly intelligent people can be *lousy* spellers. Regardless, spelling a word incorrectly is one of the *biggest* blunders you can commit, especially in a business letter or résumé.

Miss Pelling

was stunned when she realized she sent an email with a misspelled word!

Music

Spelling ability seems to be on the same order as musical ability. A misspelled word causes the same sense of anxiety and embarrassment in a good speller as a misplayed note causes in a good musician. Of course, in both spelling and music, everyone improves with practice.

Typos

Although spelling and intelligence may have little relationship, you should be intelligent enough *not* to send out a document that contains misspellings. And if occasionally a typo does slip through, just hope your reader is the forgiving sort, or a poor speller!

When
in
doubt,
look
it
up!

Reputation

Whether you use a paper dictionary or a computerized spell checker or have someone else proofread your work, remember that your reputation and career may depend on proper spelling.

Accuracy

Try not to be too blue when an error slips through. If you make 1 error per 1000 words, you're still 99.9% accurate, which is an incredibly high standard!

Perfection

Perfection is not the goal in life...but the constant striving for perfection is.

Misspellings

Review the following misspellings, corrections, and BrainAids. Add your own.

Single vs. Double Consonants		
Misspelled	Correct	BrainAid
accelerate	accelerate	Imagine "l" is a car stickshift between the e's.
acomodate	accommodate	See 'em (<i>cc mm</i>) twice on one <i>date</i> .
antena	antenna	An- <i>ten</i> -nA.
apearance	appearance	Go to the <i>A&P</i> market to buy a <i>pear</i> .
assasin	assassin	Put two donkeys in the barn (<i>ass-ass-in</i>).
bookeeping	bookkeeping	K's=bookends for bookK Keeping.
comited	committed	Commit <i>Ted</i> to the asylum.
comitt	commit	Commit to the fact that <i>M & M</i> candies are <i>it</i> .
comittee	committee	The committee met at the golf <i>tee</i> .
comittment	commitment	His commitment "ment" a lot.
diarea	diarrhea	<u>r</u> umble, <u>h</u> eave
disatisfy	dissatisfy	My brother <i>Dis</i> failed to <i>satisfy</i> .
embarasment	embarrassment	<u>2</u> rattlesnakes embarr <u>ass</u> .
harrasment	harassment	Laughing at someone is Har, har, har-ass-ment.
hemmoroid	hemorrhoid	Either Hem or <u>R</u> hoid did it.
impecable	impeccable	Hungry birds like to "pec <u>c</u> " <u>c</u> able.
miscelaneous	miscellaneous	Miscellaneous has a <i>cell</i> in it.
necessary	necessary	Is it <u>n</u> ecessary to have a <i>cess</i> pool?
ocasion	occasion	Oh, see (<i>o c</i>) <i>Casio</i> .
ocupation	occupation	Oh, see (<i>o c</i>) <i>cup</i> of coffee.
ocurence	occurrence	Oh, see (<i>o c</i>) doves <i>curr</i> (the sound doves make)
oposite	opposite	<u>P</u> eter & <u>P</u> aul sit <u>o</u> pposite.
pallete	palette	Hey <i>Pa</i> , let <i>Te</i> do it!
paralell	parallel	Tell <i>El</i> the golfer: <i>Par all El!</i>
personell	personnel	You're a fine <u>per</u> son, <u>Ne</u> l!
posess	possess	The <u>posse</u> <u>pos</u> sessed the villian, <u>hiss</u> ...
prefered	preferred	I prefer <u>r</u> ed colors.
profesional	professional	<u>Prof</u> essional crooks rarely <i>fess</i> up.
recurent	recurrent	If it recurs, it's <u>curr</u> ent.
refering	referring	Refer <u>r</u> ing to the jeweler.
roomate	roommate	Where's my <u>room</u> , <u>mate</u> ?
sucess	success	<u>2</u> card <u>sharks</u> (<i>cc ss</i>) had <u>su</u> ccess.
supress	suppress	Let's <i>sup</i> with the <i>press</i> tonight.
tommorow	tomorrow	Would you rather beat the <i>tom</i> or <i>row</i> the boat?

I before E except after C?

Many were taught the above rule to help them spell words such as belief and receive. The problem is there are many exceptions to that rule, even if you include its corollary:
 “Or when sounded as ‘a’ as in *neighbor* and *weigh*.”

Some Exceptions to the “Rule”

ancient	either	omniscient
caffeine	fancier	proficient
conscience	foreign	science
counterfeit	forfeit	seize
deficient	height	sufficient
efficient	neither	weird

EI Words

Correct	BrainAid
caffeine	
codeine	What’s the <u>code</u> for <u>codeine</u> ?
counterfeit	
deceive	My cousin <u>Dece</u> lives on <u>Ive</u> St.
either	<u>Ei</u> ther <u>with</u> or <u>without</u> .
forfeit	
freight	The <u>freigh</u> t was <u>free</u> .
height	<i>He</i> and <i>I</i> have <u>height</u> ; H+8.
kaleidoscope	<i>Kale</i> , <i>I do scope</i> .
leisure	
neighbor	<u>Neigh</u> bor lives <u>near</u> you.
neither	<u>Nei</u> ther <i>it</i> nor <i>her</i> .
protein	
receive	My cousin <u>Rece</u> lives on <u>Ive</u> St.
seize	<u>See</u> the whites of their “ <u>ize</u> .”
sovereign	
weigh	Together <u>we</u> <u>weigh</u> a lot.
weird	<u>We</u> were <u>weird</u> on <u>Hallowe</u> en.

IE Words

Correct	BrainAid
achieve	Aim <u>high</u> to <u>achi</u> eve much.
believe	Don't <u>belie</u> ve a <u>lie</u> .
brief	<u>Brief</u> moment in <u>time</u>
chief	A <u>ch</u> ief sits <u>high</u> on the totem pole.
fancier	I fanc“ <u>i</u> ” <u>her</u> .
field	Don't <u>fi</u> ght with <u>eld</u> ers in your field.
financier	
friend	<u>Fri</u> end to the <u>end</u> .
grief	She <u>cri</u> es with <u>gri</u> ef.
hygiene	Hygiene keeps your <u>GI</u> tract clean.
medieval	Many <u>died</u> in <u>medie</u> val times.
mischievous	
niece	<u>Nice</u> <u>nice</u> .
piece	A <u>pie</u> ce of <u>pie</u> .
relieve	To get some <u>relie</u> f, <u>lie</u> down.
retrieve	Adam wanted to “ <u>retri</u> ” <u>Eve</u> in court.
shield	The “ <u>shi</u> ” <u>eld</u> (er) hid behind a shield.
siege	
thief	A <u>thi</u> ef <u>high</u> up on a ledge.
view	<u>V</u> , <u>I</u> see <u>ew</u> !
yield	I <u>yield</u> to my <u>eld</u> ers.

EU Words	
Correct	BrainAid
amateur	The 1 st <u>mate</u> was an <u>amateur</u> .
maneuver	Lion <u>maneuvers</u> his <u>mane</u> .
neutral	Have you seen the “neu” tral?
neutron	I bought a “neu” tron.
pneumatic	Think “p” = pressure.
pneumonia	
rheumatism	RH = medical term.
Imagine neu = new	

UE Words	
Correct	BrainAid
avenue	
cue	
due	
hue	
revenue	
Observe these words end with a silent “e.”	

OR Words	
Correct	BrainAid
actor	
calculator	
contractor	
creator	
editor	
instructor	
protestor	Shall we protest <u>or</u> strike?
visitor	Shall we visit <u>or</u> leave?
Often from base words ending in -ate, -ct, -it	

AR Words	
Correct	BrainAid
calendar	Eat “cale.” Think <u>dar</u> = <u>day</u> .
circular	
grammar	Gramma, “R” you sure?
popular	The <u>popu</u> lation is <u>lar</u> ge.
regular	
similar	
solar	The sun is <u>so lar</u> ge!
Many “ar” words end in “lar.”	

ER Words	
Correct	BrainAid
cleaner	
fighter	
player	
printer	
teacher	
writer	
“er” is much more common than “or/ar” endings.	

RE Words	
Correct	BrainAid
acre	<u>A</u> <u>cre</u> ation of land owners.
cadre	Being a <u>cad</u> results in scorn.
genre	<u>Gen</u> reads from the spy novel <u>gen</u> re.
macabre	
massacre	The <u>massac</u> re occurred over an acre.
mediocre	It was a lousy <u>media</u> <u>cre</u> ation.
ogre	Spare me <u>O</u> <u>gre</u> at monster!



Your Turn!



Circle the letter of the correctly spelled word.

- 1) a. occured b. ocurred c. occurred
- 2) a. acommodate b. accommodate c. accomodate
- 3) a. tommorrow b. tomorrow c. tomorrow
- 4) a. rythym b. rythm c. rhythm
- 5) a. separate b. seperate c. separate
- 6) a. desperate b. desparate c. desporate
- 7) a. recieve b. resceive c. receive
- 8) a. believe b. beleive c. balieve
- 9) a. nuetral b. neutral c. newtral
- 10) a. pneumonia b. pnuemonia c. pnumonia
- 11) a. perservere b. persevere c. pursevere
- 12) a. parallel b. paralell c. parrallel
- 13) a. priviledge b. privelege c. privilege
- 14) a. cemetary b. cemetery c. cemategy
- 15) a. gauge b. guage c. gage

Fill in the blanks with EI / IE or AR / OR / ER / RE.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 16) dec____ve | 19) visit____ |
| 17) hyg____ne | 20) calend____ |
| 18) n____ce | 21) og____ |

Answers: 1c, 2b, 3c, 4c, 5a, 6a, 7c, 8a, 9b, 10a, 11b, 12a, 13c, 14b, 15a/c, 16ei, 17ie, 18ie, 19or, 20ar, 21re