


















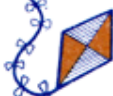




























Minimal
Phonic
Cues

Spelling Workbook

Margaret Sanders

My name is

ā 	ē 	ī 	ō 	ū 	b 	c 	d 	f 
a 	e 	i 	o 	u 	g 	h 	j 	k 
āh 	ēr 	ōi 	ōō 	āu 	l 	m 	n 	p 
air 	qū 	ng 	ōō 	ōw 	r 	s 	t 	v 
th 	sh 	wh 	ch 	th the	w 	x 	y 	z 

1. Silent letters

Look at this word little

What do the crosses mean?

You don't sound those letters.

Find six words which end with e.

Write them down:

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Put a cross above the letters you don't sound.

Now find six words which have two letters the same together, like egg.

- | | |
|----|----|
| 1. | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

Fill the gaps:

The li__le bird came out of an egg.
A robin's e__ is only li__le.

2. Final ē

Sometimes ē at the end of a word makes

a into ā

e into ē

i into ī

o into ō

u into ū

Read these words:

1. mat mā^xtē 3. kit kītē^x 5. cut cūtē^x

2. her hērē^x 4. hop hōpē^x 6. tub tūbē^x

Fill each gap with one of the words:

A bird can ____.

I h____ you are well.

The cat sat on the m____.

Come h__r__ and see my car.

My k__t__ is red and blue.

Fill the gaps:

bak__ a cak__

rid__ a bik__

Read the words and put a cross above the letters you don't sound.

3. 'ōw' and 'ōu'; 'ōi' and 'ōy'

Look at this word house^{ow}^x

ow sounds like ou

They often sound the same.

1. cōw

2. hōw

3. dōwn

4.

5.

1. hōuse

2. out^{ow}

3. abōut^{ow}

4.

5.

Can you find two more of eā^xch?

Look at these words bōy^{oi} cōin^{oi}

ōy and ōi sound the same.

ōy is used at the end of a word and ōi inside a word.

1. jōy^{oi}

2. cōy^{oi}

3.

4.

1. pōint^{oi}

2. sōil^{oi}

3.

4.

Can you find two more of each?

4. The 'au' sound

Look at these words paw maul

aw and au sound the same.

Look at this word all

This sounds the same, too.

- | | | | |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. paw | 1. maul | 1. all | 1. walk |
| 2. straw | 2. haul | 2. call | 2. talk |
| 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. |

Can you find some more of each?

or and ore sound quite like au

- | | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|----|
| 1. for | 3. core | 5. door | 7. |
| 2. nor | 4. more | 6. poor | 8. |

Can you find some more? You may not, as there are not many words like this.

Four (4) and sure also have this sound.

5. 'c' sounding 's'

Look at this word

nice

The **c** sounds the same as **s**.
e or **i** after **c** makes it sound like **s**.

Read these words:

can scene city cap face call

Put them into two lists.

- c**
1. catch
2.
3.
4.

- c**
1. mice
2.
3.
4.

Read this. Put **s** above **c** if it sounds like **s**.

The city is hot in the sun today.
Come to my nice place in the country.

6. 'g' and 'j' sounds

Sometimes **g** sounds like **j**.

1. leg
2. egg^x
3. pig
4. get
5. gāmes^{xz}

1. cāge^{jx}
2. hedge^{xjx}
3. fudge^{xjx}
4. gāol^{jx}
5. gentle^{jx}

Fill these gaps from the words above:

You don't kēp^x a pi_ in a ca__.

You don't play many _ames in _aol.

Put **j** above **g** if it sounds like **j**.

pig cage gaol

give age gem

Read this:

Don't put your legs on the windōw^x ledge.

7. 'gh'

Look at this word

right

Which letters do you sound?

Which do you not sound?

Write the ones you don't sound.

In many words, these letters are not sounded.

Read these words:

1. right

2. tight

3. fright

4. night

5. sit

6. sight

7. fit

8. fight

9. though

10. bough

11. high

12. plough

Fill these gaps with **gh**.

One ni__t I was in the woods. It was not
li__t enough to see, and I hit a low
bou__ as I cau__t my foot in a hole.

Now read what you have written.

8. 'ch' sounding 'c'

Look at this word **school**

ch does not sound like **ch** because of the **s** in front of it.

Sometimes **ch** sounds like **c** not **ch**.

There are not many words like this, but here is one: **scheme**

sch sounds like **sc** in **school**, and in **scheme**.

Can you find any more?

The name of your school may be on a notice-board outside. If so, have a look at it and copy it down, or ask your teacher to help you.

My school is

9. The 'er' sound

Look at this word **murder**

The sound **er** is spelt in two ways. What are they? Write them down.

Look at this word **farmer**
Here the **er** sound is spelt **ir**.

All these words have the sound **er**.

her turn word sir earn other
burn world fir learn

Write the **er** sound above these:

Every day the world turns round.
We saw the fir tree first.
Even a worm will turn.

Can you find any more words with **er** sounds?

1.

3.

5.

2.

4.

6.

10. Silent consonants: g, k, w

Read these words:

We don't sound the , or .

Put these words in three lists. Write the silent letters after each word:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

-
-
-
-

Fill these gaps:

When I si_n my name, I don't _rite my name with a _nife.

When I go for a walk, I don't wear a _napsack on my _nee. That would be _rong.

11. 's' sounding 'z'

Read this word **sun^zs**
One **s** sounds like **z**.

Read these:

plāy^{xz} gōē^{xz} nōē^{zx} has^z

If there is only one **s** at the end of a word it often sounds like **z**.

Put **z** above **s** if it sounds like z:

comes thinks boys miss bus is
was ways horses fuss

Write s in each gap:

La _ t _ unday I wa _ cro _ _ ing a _ tream
by a thin plank. _ ome bird _ made me
jump with their _ hriek _ and I nearly lo _ t
my balance and fell into the _ tream.

Now read the sentences.

12. Vowel sounds

These are the names of the vowels:

a e i o u

Vowel sounds are made by the way we open and shut our mouths.

When we say e our mouths are like this:
Try it.



When we say ah our mouths are like this:
Try it.



These are vowel sounds, too:

a e i o u

Say them.

The other vowel sounds are

ah er oi oo au oo ow

Can you say them all?

There are a lot of different ways to spell vowel sounds, so they are sometimes hard to read.

13. Guessing vowel pronunciation

Sometimes we can guess the vowel sound from the letters round it.

Can you read this? Write in the vowel sounds.

I w _ nt f _ r a w _ lk on S _ nday.
C _ me _ nd h _ ve a sw _ ng.

It is easier to read than to spell.
You can often guess the vowels.

If you guess them when you write, you may spell them wrongly. There are many ways a sound can be spelt.

You can look words up in a word book to make sure you are right.

Make lists of words that have the same vowel sounds.

Start with words that have the sound [a

14. Spelling ā, ē, ī sounds

The names of the vowels are ā ē ī ō ū.

To make a sound ā another letter is added. It is not sounded itself, but it turns a into the sound ā.

āi āy ā-e usually sound ā.
ēi sometimes sounds ā too.

Read: dāy^x māke^x lādīⁱ tāil^x weigh^ā^x

To make e sound ē another letter is added, except in short words.

Read: fēel^x nēar^x cēilingⁱ piēcē^s^x hē

To make i sound ī another letter is added, usually e or gh.

y sometimes sounds ī too.

i-e y igh ēi

Read: kitē^x piē^x whyⁱ right^x height^x

Find more words with each sound.

15. Spelling \bar{o} and \bar{u} sounds

To make \bar{o} sound \bar{o} another letter is added, often w , a or e .

$\bar{o}w$ $\bar{o}a$ $\bar{o}-e$ $\bar{o}e$

Read: $\widehat{th\bar{o}w}$ $\bar{c}o\bar{a}t$ $\bar{h}o\bar{p}e$ $\bar{t}h\bar{o}u\bar{g}h$ $\bar{g}o\bar{e}s$

Remember: lost and $\bar{p}o\bar{s}t$ are spelt alike, but the letter \bar{o} sounds different.

To make \bar{u} sound \bar{u} , e is often added.

$\bar{u}e$ $\bar{e}\bar{u}$ $\bar{u}-e$

Read: $\bar{c}\bar{u}e$ $\bar{u}s\bar{e}$ $\bar{h}\bar{u}\bar{g}e$ $\bar{f}\bar{e}\bar{u}d$

Another way to spell \bar{u} is $\widehat{e}w$.

Read: $\widehat{f}ew$ $\widehat{m}ew$

\bar{u} can sound a bit like $\bar{o}o$.

\bar{o} with another vowel or even on its own may sound like $\bar{o}o$.

Read: $\widehat{m}o\bar{v}e$ $\bar{b}o\bar{o}t$ $\widehat{sh}o\bar{e}$ $\bar{t}o$ $\bar{t}o\bar{o}$ $\widehat{t}wo$
 $\widehat{w}ho$ $\widehat{t}hr\bar{o}u\bar{g}h$ $\bar{b}l\bar{u}e$

16. Accent; variable vowels

People do not all speak in the same way. In the South of England, people say **ah** rather than **a**. They say **u** rather than **u**.

Read: ah car half heart last laugh
bus bun come funny hug sum

Do you say **dance** or **dance**?
Do you say **bus** or **bus**?

Either can be right. It depends on where you live. It is hard to mark words like these. It is best to read them the way you speak.

Look at this word **mother**
mo could sound like **mo** or **mo** but we can guess that it is **mu**.

o sounds like **u** in words like these:

Monday month tongue one once

17. Vowels that ^hch^gange

When you meet a new word, look at the others near it. This helps you to guess how the vowels are sounded.

We say I can ^ere^ad my book.
or I have ^ere^ad my book.

read is spelt the same way each time but you know how to sound it by the other words. You can try more than one way and see which makes sense.

Can you guess these vowels?

My h__rt felt like l__d.

Write them in.

Can you guess these vowels?

Fl__s don't have many fr__nds.

Write them in.

18. f as v, ph and gh as f

f can sound like v as in of.

Sometimes it changes to v as in

knife half calf self
knives halves calves selves

ph makes one sound f.

It is always the same. Read these:

phone elephant graph

gh sometimes sounds like f.

Read these words:

enough cough laugh tough

Fill these gaps:

Don't eat any more, you've had _____.

Now read the sentence.

19. 'Bits' added to words

Look at these words. Can you read them?

plā^x plā^{xz} plā^{xx}ed plā^xing displā^x

They are all alike. Can you see how?

Bits are put on to the word plā^x.

Fill these gaps:

As I was play ___ in my gā^hrden, a boy said 'You shouldn't have play ___ on the grā^hss.' I said 'Why not? I always pl ___ here.' He said 'It is too wet. Your sister play _ on the dry pā^hth when it is wet.'

Put the word walk into these gaps:

My uncle is a kē^xn ___ er. He ___ s for hō^wrs. Once he ___ ed from York to Der^hby in one day. I like ___ ing, too, but I couldn't ___ as far as that.

20. Words within words

It helps you to read a word if you can see the small word inside it.

Find the small word inside these.

Write it here:

end^z ended ending^g dēscend^x tend

Find the small word inside these.

Write it here:

tend^z tending^g tended distend distended
prētend prētending^g

Is there another one?

Find it. Write it here:

How many small words can you find here?

bitūmen pōtentatē^x capacities^{xz}

Write them down. Who has most?

21. Chānging: take off the ě

Sometimes the small word changes though it means the same. A letter may be put on or taken off.

Read these words:

have^x having^g goēs^{xz} going^g
cōmē^x cōming^g tākē^x tāking^g

What letter is left off each small word?

Fill these gaps:

tāking^g tāk__ māking^g māk__
having^g hav__ bāking^g bāk__

likē^x lī__ing^g ridē^x rī__ing^g
shīnē^x shī__ing^g īcē^x ī__ing^g

hōpē^x hōp____ dōzē^x dōz____
clōsē^{xz} clōs____ cūrē^x cūr____

Read the words.

22. Changing: double letter

Read these words:

hit	sit	get	run
hit ^x ting	sit ^x ting	get ^x ting	run ^x ning

What is done to each small word?

Fill in the gaps:

set	set_ing	mat	mat_ing
leg	leg_ing	hum	hum_ing
bit	bit_en	hot	hot_er

If there are two letters the same after a vowel, it sounds **a e i o u** not **ā ē ī ō ū**.

Read these words:

fuss ^x	funny ^x	sitter ^x	fatter ^x	batting ^x
patting ^x	cunning ^x	letter ^x	hated	tuning ^x
miner ^x	fever ^x	cōsy ^x		

A few words are different: **level^x rebel^x**

23. Rhyming sounds: same spelling

Jack and Jill went up the hill.

Jill and hill rhyme.

These sounds rhyme. Read them.

lid hid slid kid

Only part of each word is the same.
Write the part here.

You may be able to guess a new word if
you know what rhymes with it.

The mouse lived in a house.

mouse and house are nearly the same.
Only the first letter is different. So, if you
know h-ouse is house, you can guess
m-ouse is mouse.

Fill the gaps with words that rhyme:

Ding dong bell

Lucy Locket

Pussy's in the _____.

Lost her _____.

24. Rhyming sounds: different spellings

Baa baa black sheep have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir, three bags ooll.

Which two words rhyme? Write them here:

They sound the same but are not spelt the same way.

Find words that rhyme with these:

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. <u>l</u> igh <u>t</u> | 1. <u>c</u> oa <u>t</u> | 1. <u>s</u> ing | 1. <u>b</u> ack | 1. <u>d</u> ig |
| 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. |
| 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. |

There once was a little boy who
Came to school with a hole in his shoe
The boys said 'Hi you!
Your toe's peeping through
And your sock's got a hole in it, oo.'

Underline the words that rhyme.

Write the sound. How is it spelt?

25. Syllables

Big words are made up of smaller bits.

Read these: can + not = cannot

Two small words make one bigger word.

Read these: to + day = today

down + stairs = downstairs

Look for smaller words inside big words.

These bits are called syllables.

A syllable is a word or part of a word with one vowel sound.

Read these: gap man gan

Two of them are words.

Which one is not a word?

But gan is a syllable.

Can you read this? began

There are two syllables, be and gan.

Read these: fat jam jat nip tid nid

26. Reading syllables

Read these:	cot	on	con	1
	men	net	nec	2
	bed	ten	ted	3

The ones in boxes are only syllables.

Now read them: 1 2 3

Read them quickly, and again.

Now can you read this word: connected

Now read this:

My hand's connected to my arm.

Read these: tin win gin sing ring ning

Now read this: bē-gin-ning

Read it faster. And again!

Read this: I am bēginning to feel tired.

Are you? You can stop now!

27. Adding -tion

Can you read these?

station action fiction connection

-tion makes the sound shon .

Fill these gaps with -tion and read the sentences:

A train came into the sta_____.
I know that, now you men_____ it
My home is in that direc_____.
I didn't break my leg inten_____ally.

Try reading these words in syllables.

The people next door drove me to
dis-trac-tion by using their rec-ord
play-er after mid-night sev-er-al times a
week, par-tic-ū-lar-ly on Sat-ur-day .

28. -sion and -cian

-sion and -cian also sound like shon .

You can read these, but it is not so easy to spell them.

Put these words in the right lists:

correction fiction tension action pension
invention politician technician mention

-tion

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

-sion

- 1.
- 2.

-cian

- 1.
 - 2.
- (Note that these are people.)

Fill in the missing letters:

This book is fic _____. When the techni _____
meets the politi _____ and men _____s her
inven _____ the ac _____ is full of ten _____.

29. Alphabetical order; letter-names

If you want to know how to spell a word, you look it up in a dictionary. To use a dictionary, you must know the order of the 26 letters of the alphabet.

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

Learn this order if you do not know it. Say the letters through, then try to write them in order without looking. See if you are right. If not, try again.

Words beginning with **a** are at the front of a dictionary. Words beginning with **z** are at the back.

Which word in each group would come first in a dictionary?

- | | | |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| 1. bēgin | action | zēal |
| 2. junk | master | kitchen |
| 3. van | windōw | yellow |
| 4. dreadful | away | people |
| 5. money | negative | umbrella |

30. Alphabetical order: second and third letters

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

If two or more words begin with the same letter, you look at the second letter to help you find the word.

Look at these words: bitter bright bother

They all start with **b** so look at the second letters. What are they?

Which comes first?

So they would be in this order:

bi bo br 1. bitter 2. bother 3. bright

Put these words in the right order (**called** al-pha-bet-ic-al order):

collect	action	change	beneath
1.	2.	3.	4.

quick	torrent	verse	tumour
1.	2.	3.	4.

31. Capital letters: do you know them?

Same as small letters: C O P S U V W X Z

Nearly the same: F I J K L M T Y

Different: A B D E G H N Q R

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z

The **MPC Spelling Workbook** teaches the main rules of English spelling, using MPC to aid and clarify. Emphasis is placed on understanding the principles of spelling rather than on learning individual examples detached from context. The pupil's active

involvement and comprehension are ensured by the exercises which form an integral part of each lesson.

A vocabulary of about 150 basic words is required.

Checklist

Key: pupil doing this ✓ lesson completed and understood ✓ later revision test passed ✓

Lesson	Rule or skill	Lesson	Rule or skill
1	Silent letters: e, tt, dd, etc.	17	Using context: read or read; o or o
2	Final e	18	f as v, ph and gh as f.
3	ow, ou; oi, oy.	19	'Bits' of words: s, es, ed, ing, er.
4	au, aw, all, or, oor, ore.	20	Small words in large.
5	c sounding s.	21	Omitting e: have, having, etc.
6	g sounding j.	22	Doubling last letter: sit, sitting, etc.
7	-gh	23	Rhyming: house, m-ouse, etc.
8	ch sounding c.	24	Spellings of oo (rhyming).
9	er sound.	25	Reading syllables.
10	Silent consonants: kn, gn, wr.	26	Syllables which are not words.
11	s sounding z.	27	-tion.
12	Vowels (names).	28	-sion, -cian.
13	Guessing vowel pronunciation.	29	Alphabetical order and letter-names.
14	Spellings of a, e and i	30	Using second and third letters.
15	Spellings of o and u.	31	Capitals known and written.
16	Accent and variable vowels.		

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