

Rules on Spelling Correction in English Grammar

Rule 1: When the suffix “full” is added to a word, one “l” is removed.

Eg-

- Faith + full = faithful
- Use + full = useful
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Rule 2: If the word to which the suffix “full” is added ends in “ll”, one “l” is removed from the word also.

Eg:

- Skill + full = skilful
- Will + full = willful

Rule 3: Words of two or three syllables ending in single vowel + single consonant - double the final consonant if the last syllable is stressed.

- Permit + ed = permitted
- Occur + ing = occurring
- Control + ed = controlled
- Begin + ing = beginning

Rule 4: Consonant ‘l’ is doubled in the words ending in single vowel + ‘l’ before a suffix beginning with a vowel.

- Signal + ing = signalling
- Repel + ent = repellent
- Quarrel + ed = quarrelled
- Travel + er = traveler

Rule 5: Words ending in silent “e”, drop the “e” before a suffix beginning with a vowel.

- Hope + ing = hoping
- Live + ed = lived
- Drive + er = driver
- Tire + ing = tiring

Rule 6: If the suffix begins with a consonant, “e” is not dropped.

- Hope + full = hopeful
- Sincere + ly = sincerely

But,

- True + ly = truly
- Nine + th = ninth
- Argue + ment = argument

Rule 7: A final “y” following a consonant changes to “i” before a suffix except “ing”.

- Carry + ed = carried
- Happy + ly = happily
- Marry + age = marriage
- Beauty + ful = beautiful

But,

- Marry + ing = marrying
- Carry + ing = carrying

Rule 8: A final “y” following a vowel does not change before a suffix.

- Obey + ed = obeyed
- Play + er = player
- Pray + ed = prayed

Rule 9: When the suffix “ous” is added to a word ending in “ce”, “e” is changed to “i”.

Eg:

- Space + ous = Spacious
- Vice + ous = Vicious (violent)
- Malice + ous = Malicious
- Grace + ous = Gracious (polite)

Rule 10: When the suffix ing; is added to a word ending in “ie”, “ie” is changed to “y”.

- Lie + ing = lying
- Die + ing = dying
- Tie + ing = tying

Rule 11: The letter “q” is always followed by u.

quiz, bouquet, acquire

Rule 12: All the word with prefix self are hyphenated.

- self-assured
- self-respect
- self-addressed

Rule 13: All words with “over” are one word.

- Example: overcast, overcharge, overhear

Rule 14: Words ending in “y” preceded by a consonant, change the “y” to “i” and add “es” or ed.

- puppy – puppies
- supply – supplies
- party – parties
- rely – relies
- theory – theories
- apply – applies
- army – armies
- sky – skies
- library – libraries
- marry – marries
- study – studies

Rule 15: Words ending in “y” preceded by a vowel, just add “s”

- boy – boys
- toy – toys
- employ – employs
- valley – valleys
- delay – delays
- convey – conveys
- pray – prays
- stay – stays