

Appendix 5

Spelling

5.1 Words + **-s** and **-es** (birds/watches, etc.)

noun + **s** (plural) (see Unit 64)

bird → **birds**

mistake → **mistakes**

hotel → **hotels**

verb + **s** (he/she/it **-s**) (see Unit 5)

think → **thinks**

live → **lives**

remember → **remembers**

but

+ **es** after **-s** / **-sh** / **-ch** / **-x**

bus → **buses**

pass → **passes**

address → **addresses**

dish → **dishes**

wash → **washes**

finish → **finishes**

watch → **watches**

teach → **teaches**

sandwich → **sandwiches**

box → **boxes**

also

potato → **potatoes**

tomato → **tomatoes**

do → **does**

go → **goes**

-f / **-fe** → **-ves**

shelf → **shelves**

knife → **knives**

but roof → **roofs**

5.2 Words ending in **-y** (baby → **babies** / study → **studied**, etc.)

-y → **-ies**

study → **studies** (*not* studys)

family → **families** (*not* familys)

story → **stories**

city → **cities**

baby → **babies**

try → **tries**

marry → **marries**

fly → **flies**

-y → **-ied** (see Unit 11)

study → **studied** (*not* studied)

try → **tried**

marry → **married**

copy → **copied**

-y → **-ier** / **-iest** (see Units 85, 88)

easy → **easier/easiest** (*not* easier/easiest)

happy → **happier/happiest**

lucky → **luckier/luckiest**

heavy → **heavier/heaviest**

funny → **funnier/funniest**

-y → **-ily** (see Unit 84)

easy → **easily** (*not* easily)

happy → **happily**

heavy → **heavily**

lucky → **luckily**

y does not change to **i** if the ending is **-ay/-ey/-oy/-uy**:

holiday → **holidays** (*not* holidais)

enjoy → **enjoys/enjoyed**

stay → **stays/stayed**

buy → **buys**

key → **keys**

but

say → **said**

pay → **paid**

(*irregular verbs*)

5.3 -ing

Verbs that end in **-e** (make/write/drive, etc.) → **-ing**

make → making write → writing come → coming dance → dancing

Verbs that end in **-ie** → **-ying**

lie → lying die → dying tie → tying

5.4 stop → stopped, big → bigger, etc.

Vowels and consonants:

Vowel letters: a e i o u

Consonant letters: b c d f g k l m n p r s t w y

Sometimes a word ends in a *vowel* + a *consonant*. For example: **stop, big, get**.

Before **-ing/-ed/-er/-est, p/g/t**, etc. become **pp/gg/tt**, etc.

For example:

V+C					
stop	ST O P	p → pp	stopping	stopped	
run	R U N	n → nn	running		
get	G E T	t → tt	getting		
swim	SW I M	m → mm	swimming		
big	B I G	g → gg	bigger	biggest	
hot	H O T	t → tt	hotter	hottest	
thin	TH I N	n → nn	thinner	thinnest	

V = vowel

C = consonant

This does *not* happen

(1) if the word ends in *two* consonant letters (C + C):

C+C			
help	HE L P	helping	helped
work	WO R K	working	worked
fast	FA S T	faster	fastest

(2) if the word ends in *two* vowel letters + a consonant letter (V + V + C):

V+V+C			
need	N E E D	needing	needed
wait	W A I T	waiting	waited
cheap	CH E A P	cheaper	cheapest

(3) in longer words (two syllables or more) if the last part of the word is *not* stressed:

stress			
happen	HAP -pen	→	happening/happened (not happenned)
visit	VIS -it	→	visiting/visited
remember	re- MEM -ber	→	remembering/remembered

but

prefer	pre- FER	(stress at the end)	→	preferring/preferred
begin	be- GIN	(stress at the end)	→	beginning

(4) if the word ends in **-y** or **-w**. (At the end of words, **y** and **w** are not consonants.)

enjoy → enjoying/enjoyed snow → snowing/snowed few → fewer/fewest