

The Spelling Supplement

Self study support material for
the QTS Literacy Skills Test



Creative Openings
Consultancy

Steve Padget

Boost your spelling power

Visual memory.

This is built up by the experience of wide and deep reading which enables the achievement of a feeling for the spelling conventions of the language.

There are quite a few spellings in English that are at best irregular and at worst bizarre, these have to be learnt. When these spellings are part of the lexis of your everyday professional life they become second nature because they are words that you are using all the time.

Approach skills.

Having the confidence to hear a word for the first time and be able to write it down needs certain knowledge – you need to be able to make an educated guess, based on past experience, as to how the word goes together – you need to be able to hear what familiar letter combinations are in the word.

Practice.

- **Chunking problem words**

When you see a word that you know has presented problems in the past chunk it down into smaller units – this very process will help you to see the word as a series of small steps rather than a bit problem.

e.g. **confiscate** – say it slowly to yourself and then break it down → **con – fis – cate** now it is three small easily remembered chunks. This process will help you to remember many words and will certainly have the effect of making them seem a whole lot more manageable.

- **Making personal mnemonics**

Any trick that helps you to remember things is useful – remember, the mnemonic that works for someone else may not work for you, so inventing your own is best.

A great video clip of this can be found at:

<http://www.beatingdyslexia.com/spelling-help.html>

- **Practising Spelling with the ‘Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check’ technique**

There is a technique that has been effective in schools for a while now and it is called Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check. In this process you write a word list of problem words (or you could use the ready prepared ones on the website) and you work like this:

- **The ‘i before e’ rule.**

The full rhyme is: *“i before e, except after c... but only when the sound is ‘ee’.”*

The *only* exceptions to this are:

seize and weird

But note – **science** – this is not an exception, it is because the sound is not ‘ee’

- **Check this link to <http://howtospell.com>**

List 1

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Absence		Accidental	
Achievement		Acquaint	
Advice		Advise	
Analysis		Analyse	
Apparatus		Apparent	
Arguing		Argument	
Athletic		Attendance	
Beginning		Belief	
Benefited		Boundaries	
Calendar		Changeable	
Candidate		Compelled	
Comparison		Conscience	
Conscience		Criticise	
Controversy		Definition	
Desperate		Dictionary	
Disappoint		Disastrous	
Dormitory		Effect	
Eliminate		Embarrass	
Encouraging		Environs	
Exaggerate		Excellence	
Accommodate		Accumulate	
Acquire		Acquitted	
Amateur		Among	
Annual		Apartment	
Appearance		Arctic	
Arithmetic		Ascend	
Balance		Battalion	
Believe		Benefiting	

List 2

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Business		Height	
Committee		Incidentally	
Conferred		Inevitably	
Controversy		Interesting	
Definitive		Lightning	
Descriptively		Manufacture	
Disappearance		Mischievous	
Dissatisfied		Occasionally	
Britain		Opportunity	
Commission		Particularly	
Conceivable		Perspiration	
Conscious		Possibility	
Deferred		Precedence	
Deferentially		Preparation	
Dining		Procedure	
Discipline		Experience	
Eighth		February	
Eminent		Forty	
Equipped		Generally	
Exhilarate		Hindrance	
Eligible		Incredible	
Encouragement		Intellectual	
Especially		Irresistible	
Existential		Loneliness	
Existent		Marriage	
Fascinate		Mysterious	
Formerly		Occurred	
Formally		Optimistic	
Frantically		Performance	

List 3

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Explanation		Familiar	
Fiery		Feign	
Governance		Grievous	
Humorous		Immediately	
Independence		Laboratory	
Intelligence		Manoeuvre	
Knowledge		Miniature	
Maintenance		Noticeable	
Mathematics		Omitted	
Unnecessary		Paralysis	
Occurrence		Personnel	
Parallel		Possession	
Permission		Precede	
Perseverance		Prejudice	
Picnicking		Probably	
Practical		Profession	
Preferred		Quizzes	
Privilege		Reference	
Pursue		Rhythm	
Recommend		Seize	
Physical		Ridiculous	
Possible		Separation	
Preferential		Specifically	
Manifestation		Temperament	
Proceed		Tyranny	
Pronunciation		Usually	
Prominent		Receiving	
Referring		Repetition	
Receive		Sacrilegious	

List 4

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Psychological		Studying	
Pursue		Succession	
Rigorous		Tragedy	
Exaggerated		Undoubtedly	
Regrettably		Sincerely	
Automatically		Succeed	
Embarrassment		Technique	
Pedagogic		Transferring	
Maturity		Unnecessary	
Redundant		Whether	
Supersede		Grandeur	
Ponderous		Hypocritical	
Severely		Immediately	
Specimen		Changing	
Tendency		Weird	
Unanimous		Restaurant	
Weather		Profession	
Rhyme		Quantify	
Schedule		Separate	
Similar		Heroes	
Separate		Scheme	
Impeded		Prestige	
Emergent		Prevail	
Independent		Prevailing	
Equivalent		Psychiatrist	
Excitable		Rhyme	
Excellent		Rhythm	
Remission		Sceptic	
Reminiscence		Schedule	

List 5

This collection of words could cause distress – but not anymore!!

Column 1 - Words with double consonants

Column 2 - 'Awkward' words

Use the 'look, cover, say, write, check' routine on these until you get to know them.

Accommodation		Illuminating	
Apprentice		Independence	
Commitment		Formally	
Success		Procedure	
Succinct		Unnecessary	
Vacillate		Preference	
Professionalism		Ineffective	
Exaggeration		Precursor	
Harass		Acknowledgement	
Assess		Ungrammatical	
Misspell		Anxious	
Occurrence		Exaggeratedly	
Abbreviation		Exhaustion	
Challenging		Justifiable	
Immeasurable		Miscellany	
Disappearance		Implementation	
Curricular		Mathematical	
Grammatical		Perpetrator	
Permission		Commemoration	
Parallel		Relieved	

List 6

-able and -ible words

Rule of thumb:

- If the first part of the word makes sense on its own (break, enjoy .. etc)
add -ABLE
- If the first part of the word does not make sense on its own (divi, feas .. etc)
add -IBLE

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the

'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Comparable		Edible	
Favourable		Indelible	
Lovable		Legible	
Adorable		Credible	
Walkable		Ineligible	
Miserable		Horrible	
Probable		Terrible	
Questionable		Sensible	
Respectable		Possible	
Forgivable		Susceptible	
Disposable		Reversible	
Agreeable		Indestructible	
Enviably		Invincible	
Identifiable		Tangible	
Enjoyable		Flexible	
Valuable		Divisible	
Breakable		Fascination	
Reliable		Inflexible	
Listenable		Incorrigible	
Reasonable		Impossible	

List 7

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Assistant		Experiential	
Assistance		Examination	
Accomplishment		Facilitator	
Advanced		Formulaic	
Consultant		Fulfilment	
Contribution		Forecast	
Conducted		Generation	
Creativity		Generic	
Delegation		Gathering	
Developmental		Guidance	
Delivery		Identifiable	
Designated		Identification	
Define		Implemented	
Diversification		Implementation	
Diverse		Inculcation	
Devotee		Influential	
Devotional		Informative	
Distinguished		Maintained	
Edification		Maintenance	
Encouragement		Management	
Enhancement		Maximise	
Enlightenment		Mediation	
Evaluations		Modernisation	
Approve		Disappear	
Approximate		Dissipate	
Challenge		Profound	
Commit		Excellent	
Commendation		Grammar	
Committed		Gripped	

List 8

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Motivation		Recommended	
Negotiation		Refinement	
Observation		Reorganisation	
Obtain		Representation	
Operational		Restructuring	
Originality		Revision	
Overhaul		Safeguarding	
Participation		Scholarship	
Participatory		Security	
Pedagogy		Selective	
Performance		Specific	
Preparation		Spearhead	
Promotion		Standardised	
Provision		Strengthening	
Publication		Structure	
Publicity		Superseded	
Pursued		Supervision	
Quantified		Targeted	
Qualified		Transformative	
Receiving		Transcendent	
Reception		Validity	
Correspondence		Happily	
Circular		Vegan	
Recur		Correspondent	
Recurrence		Homophone	
Satellite		Pronounce	
Succeed		Pronunciation	
Inefficient		Acclimatise	

List 9

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Existent		Experience	
Fascinate		February	
Fascination		Forty	
Formally		Generally	
Frantically		Hindrance	
Height		Incredible	
Incidentally		Intellectual	
Inevitably		Irresistible	
Interesting		Loneliness	
Lightning		Marriage	
Manufacture		Mysterious	
Mischievously		Questioning	
Occasionally		Optimistic	
Opportunity		Performance	
Particularly		Physical	
Perspiration		Possible	
Possibility		Preference	
Precedence		Predisposition	
Preparation		Proceed	
Procedure		Pronunciation	
Quartile		Accumulated	
Committee		Abbreviate	
Professional		Acclimatise	
Idiosyncrasy		Allowed	
Sixth		Apparent	
Quadrant		Appear	
Consensual		Approach	
Impracticable		Appropriate	
Emergent		Parallel	

List 10

Use these word lists to practise spelling with the
'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check' technique

Miscellany		Eighth	
Philosophical		Fifth	
Omit		Half	
Omission		Halves	
Opportunity		Heroes	
Curiosity		Humorous	
Curious		Suspicion	
Passage		Table	
Permissible		Thorough	
Possess		Tried	
Proceed		Twelfth	
Meticulous		Unanimous	
Recommend		Vicious	
Questionnaire		Confident	
Humour		Impatient	
Ideology		Judgement	
Succinct		Label	
Terrible		Ladle	
Truthful		Merit	
Until		Mileage	
Naïve		Monotonous	
Occasion		Prejudice	
Effect		Demonstrable	
Jeopardy		Assessor	
Awe		Adolescence	
Awful		Pursue	
Queue		Stories	
Repertoire		Fuelled	
Inclusivity		Responsibly	