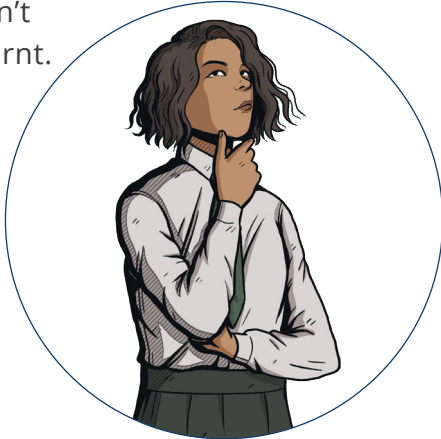


SPaG Starters Tricky Spellings

Some words are trickier to spell than others because they don't follow the expected spelling rules that we have previously learnt.

Here are some useful ways to remember to spell those words that you find trickier than others:



1. Using a mnemonic as a memory aid.
e.g. because = **big** elephants **can** **always** understand **small** elephants
2. Become familiar with prefixes, suffixes and root words to decode meanings
Common prefixes: **dis**appear, **re**direct, **post**natal
Common suffixes: Pretend**ing**, perform**ed**, excitement**ed**, accept**able**
Root words: un**help**ful, rep**aint**ed, dis**appear**ing
3. Muscle memory: Copying the word over and over until you retain the knowledge of the spelling.
4. Quiz yourself on the spellings regularly.
5. Learn and remember common spelling rules.
6. Break the word down into its syllables.
e.g. En-vi-ron-ment, mis-in-ter-pret, bus-i-ness

Look at the following five tricky words. Can you come up with a way to remember the spelling of each one?

accommodate

irrelevant

conscious

necessary

fascinating

Can you think of any spellings that you find tricky? Have a go at using any of the techniques above to see if they help.

Don't forget to check whether you got them right by asking a partner or using a dictionary.