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1

Short Vowel Spellings

READ AND THINK Read each sentence. Think about the meaning and spelling of the underlined word.

switch
policy
avalanche
plump
gossip
ridicule
strategy
positive
abandon
method
adjust
steady
prompt
measure
attempt
luxury
resolve
champion
evaporate
dentist

Please switch to another radio station.
What is the policy on returning tickets?
Skiers were warned about the avalanche.
Our plump puppy eats too much food.
My friends never spread gossip.
Praise helps me more than ridicule does.
What strategy do you use to study?
I am positive that I locked the door.
Most cats do not abandon their kittens.
What method do you use to make soup?
I learned to adjust to this cold weather.
You need a steady hand to fix the clock.
Good students try to be prompt.
Always measure the salt carefully.
Never be afraid to attempt new things.
This store sells high-priced luxury items.
What did you resolve to do this year?
Becoming a champion takes hard work.
Morning sun will evaporate the dew.
I asked the dentist to check my teeth.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____

20. _____

STUDY AND SORT Most short vowel sounds are followed by a consonant and are spelled with a single letter. However, there are exceptions.

1.–5. Write the words with a short **a** sound. Circle the letters that spell this sound.

6.–10. Write the words with a short **e** sound. Circle the words that spell this sound with two letters.

11.–20. Write the other words. Circle the letters that spell the short vowel sound.

REMEMBER: Short vowel sounds are usually spelled with a single letter, but the short **e** sound is sometimes spelled **ea**. Always note the spelling of these sounds.

USE THE CLUES Write the word or words that fit each clue.

1. It begins with a short **a** sound and ends with a silent **e**.
2. It has one syllable and rhymes with **ditch**.
3. It has three syllables and begins like **change**.
4. It has a short **u** sound and begins and ends with a consonant cluster.
- 5.–7. They have three syllables and end with a long **e** sound spelled **y**.
8. It has four syllables and has both a short and a long **a** sound.
9. It begins and ends with a consonant and has a double consonant in its spelling.
10. It rhymes with **ready**.
11. Add a prefix to the word **just**.
12. You see the word **band** in this word.
13. You see the word **sure** in this word.
14. It means the opposite of **negative**.
15. It comes from the French word **dent**, meaning “tooth.”

16.–20. PROOFREAD This list of New Year’s resolutions has some spelling errors. Draw a line through the words that are misspelled. Write the correct spelling.

Beginning January 1

- ✓ I resolve not to gossip about anyone.
- ✓ I’ll attmpt to learn a new method for studying.
- ✓ I’ll be prompt for all of my classes.
- ✓ I’ll never ridicule others for any reason.

CHECK THE SPELLING Check the spelling of each word you wrote. Write any misspelled words correctly on the **Words for Extra Study** list on page 22.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____