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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.

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**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. \_\_\_\_\_
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