



Basic Rules for Markings

Basic mnemonic aids our school uses for spelling in kindergarten and beyond.

1. No markings for a phonogram's first sound.
2. Underline single vowels that say their names (long vowel sounds) in a word.
3. Underline multiple-letter phonograms.
(This does not apply to blends in which each letter is heard as in br or str.)
4. Place a small numeral above phonograms to indicate which sound is being said only if it is not the first sound, the long vowel sound, or a spelling rule does not explain its use.
(More on this one later.)
5. Some words will be bracketed to show similarity or peculiarity of spelling .
6. Carets are used to indicate "think to spell" phonograms. Many words in English are pronounced with a schwa sound ("uh"). That can make it difficult to hear the sound/spelling relationship properly, so we call those words "think to spell" words.
6. Double underline silent letters.
7. Silent Final e Rules

(write the job number as a subscript next to the double underlined e)

Job 1 – Makes the first vowel say its name

Job 2 – English words do not end with v or u ("*v and u -- that's job 2*")

Job 3 – Changes c and g to say their second sounds ("*c and g -- job 3*")

Job 4 – English syllables must have a written vowel

Job 5 – No pronunciation role (*Not to hear but to see*)