

Common Vowel and Consonant Spellings from *Language Tool Kit*

Listed below are the possible ways of spelling the indicated vowel and consonant sounds. Those following the slash lines are the less frequently used ones and therefore should be taught only after the more common ones are mastered. In general, they are organized in the way that the beginning student finds them easiest to learn and use. The spelling possibilities are usually listed in order of frequency of occurrence and position in the word.

Vowel Sounds

- (a) a, a-e, ai, ay / eigh, ei, ey
- (e) e, ea
- (ē) e, ee, ea, y / e-e, ie, ei, ey
- (i) e / y
- (i) i, i-e, igh, y / ie, y-e
- (u) u, a / o, ou
- (o) o, o-e, oa, ow / ou, oe
- (oo) oo / u
- (u) u, u-e / ue, ew, eu
- (ou) ou, ow
- (oo) oo, ew, u / u-e, ou, ue, ui, eu
- (o) au, aw / augh, ough
- (ur-er) er, ir, ur / or, ar, ear
- (oi) oi, oy
- (vowel plus r combinations)

Consonant Sounds

- (ch) ch, -tch
- (n) n / kn-, gn
- (d) d / -ed
- (r) r / wr-, rh
- (f) f / ph, -gh
- (s) s, c / sc
- (g) g / gh-, -gue
- (sh) sh / ch
- (j) j, g, -dge
- (shun) -tion / -sion
- (k) c, k, -ck / ch, -que
- (t) t / -ed
- (m) m / -mb, -mn
- (z) z, s

Jean S. Osman and Paula D. Rome, *Language Tool Kit*, available from Educators Publishing Service.