English Sounds and their Multiple Spellings, With Examples of Words Using Each Spelling

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| **Single consonant sound** | **Short vowels** | **Long Vowels** | **Diphthongs** | **R-controlled vowels (Bossy R)** | **Digraphs** | **Final syllable consonant –le** | **Consonant**  **Blends/Clusters** |
| **(t)** t,-ed, -bt, pt  **(p)** p  **(n)** n, kn-, gn  **(s)** s, -ss, ce, ci, cy  sc, ps  **(z)** s, z, -zz  **(d)** d, -ed  **(h)** h  **(k)** c, k, -ck, ch  **(b)** b  **(r)** r, wr, rh  **(m)** m, -mb, -mn  **(y)** y  **(l)** l, -ll  **(f)** f,-ff, ph, -gh  **(g)** g, gh  **(j)** j,ge,gi,gy,-dge  **(w)** w, wh  **(v)** v  **(ks)** x  **(kw)** qu | **(ĭ)** i, y, ui    **(ă)** a  **(ĕ)** e, ea  **(ŏ)** o, a  **(ŭ)** u, a, ou  **Endings:**  **(ng):**  -ing, -ang,  -ong, -ung  **(nk):**  -ink, -ank,  -onk, -unk | **(ī)** i, -i\_e, -y, igh, ie  **(ā)** a, -a\_e, ay, ai, ea,  ei, eigh, ey  **(ē)** e, -y, ee, ea, ie, ei, ey  **(ō)** o, -o\_e, oa, ow, oe  **(ū)** u, -u\_e, ue, ew  **Long vowels in**  **“Wild, Old Words”**  **(ī)** –ind, -ild  **(ō)** –oll, -old, -olt, -ost | **(oˉo)-“school”**  u, -u\_e, oo,  ue, ew, ou, ui  **(oˇo)- “book”**  oo, u  **(ow)- “house”**  ow, ou  (**aw)- “saw”**  au, aw, a  ough, augh  **(oy)- “toy”**  oi, oy | **(âr)-“car”**  ar  **(êr)- “her”**  er, ir, ur, ear, our, or, ar, -ure, wor  **(or)- “more”**  -ore, or,  our, oar, war, quar  **(īr)-“fire”**  -ire  **(ār)-“care”**  -are, ear, air,  **(ēr)-“here”**  -ere, ear, eer | **(th)**(blow)**“three”**  th  **(th)**(buzz) -**“this”**  th  **(sh) – “she”**  sh,  ch - “chef”  s – “sugar”  ci – “delicious”  ti – “action”  xi – “anxious”  (sh’n)-“tension”  (-sion)  **(ch)-“chair”**  ch, -tch  **(zh’n)**–“television”  (-sion) | -ble  -dle  -fle  -gle  -ple  -tle  -zle  -kle  -cle | **Beginning:**  **r:** br, cr, dr, fr, gr, pr, tr, thr, shr, str, scr, spr  **l:** bl, cl, fl, gl, pl, sl, spl  w: sw, tw, dw  **s:** sc, sk, sm, sn, sp, st, squ  **Ending:**  **-t:** -nt, -st, -ft, -lt, -pt, -ct, -xt  **-l-:** -lf, -lp, -lk, -ld  -nd, -mp, -sk, -sp, -nch |

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| **Single consonant sound** | | **Short vowels** | |
| (t) t, -ed, -bt, pt  ten, kicked, doubt, receipt  (p) p  pin  (n) n, kn-, gn  nose, know, sign  (s) s, -ss, ce, ci, cy, sc, ps  snake, kiss, race, science, cycle, scan, psychology  (z) s, z, -zz  nose, zoo, buzz  (d) d, -ed  dad, played  (h) h  hot  (k) c, k, -ck, ch  cat, kite, check, school  (b) b  boy  (r) r, wr, rh  rose, write, rhyme  (m) m, -mb, -mn  Mom, dumb, column  (y) y  yes  (l) l, -ll  like, ball  (f) f, -ff, ph, -gh  fall, off, phone, laugh  (g) g, gh  great, ghost  (j) j, ge, gi, gy, -dge  jam, gentle, giraffe, gypsy, bridge  (w) w, wh  was, when  (v) v  vote  (ks) x cks  kicks  (kw) qu  quit | | **(ĭ)** i, y, ui  in, synergy, build,    **(ă)** a  hat  **(ĕ)** e, ea  pet, bread  **(ŏ)**  o, a  pot, father  **(ŭ)** u, a, ou  nut, animal, double  **Endings:**  **(ng):**  -ing, -ang, -ong, -ung  telling, rang, song, hung  **(nk):**  -ink, -ank, -onk, -unk  sink, sank, honk, bunk | |
| **Long Vowels** | **Diphthongs** | |
| **(ī)** i, -i\_e, -y, igh, ie  I, kite, supply, sigh, tie  **(ā)** a, -a\_e, ay, ai, ea, ei, eigh, ey  able, late, say, rain, swear, beige, weigh, they  **(ē)** e, -y, ee, ea, ie, ei, ey  before, Pete, lovely, see, each, relief, neither, key  **(ō)** o, -o\_e, oa, ow, oe  toll, role, coat, blow, toe  **(ū)** u, -u\_e, ue, ew  unit, cute or tune, clue, new  **Long vowels in**  **“Wild, Old Words”**  **(ī)** –ind, -ild  find, wild  **(ō)** –oll, -old, -olt, -ost  toll, told, colt, post | **(oˉo)-“school”**  u, -u\_e, oo, ue, ew, ou, ui  super, tune, school, glue, new, you, fruit  **(oˇo)- “book”**  oo, u  book, sugar  **(ow)- “house”**  ow, ou  cow, house  (**aw)- “saw”**  au, aw, a, ough, augh  because, saw, call, thought, caught  **(oy)- “toy”**  oi, oy  toilet, toy | |

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| **R-controlled vowels (Bossy R)** | **Digraphs** |
| **(âr)-“car”**  ar  car  **(êr)- “her”**  er, ir, ur, ear, our, or, ar, -ure, wor  her, fir, fur, learn, colour, doctor, collar, future, worry  **(or)- “more”**  -ore, or, our, oar, war, quar  more, for, your, soar, wart, quarter  **(īr)-“fire”**  -ire  fire  **(ār)-“care”**  -are, ear, air  care, wear, fair  **(ēr)-“here”**  -ere, ear, eer  here, fear, seer | **(th)**(blow)**“three”**  Th  three  **(th)**(buzz) -**“this”**  Th  this    **(sh) – “she”**  sh, she  ch - “chef”  s – “sugar”  ci – “delicious”  ti – “action”  xi – “anxious”  (sh’n)-“tension”  (-sion)  **(ch)-“chair”**  ch, -tch  chair, catch  **(zh’n)**–“television”  (-sion) |

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| **Final syllable consonant –le** | **Consonant**  **Blends/Clusters** |
| -ble able  -dle cradle  -fle shuffle  -gle angle  -ple apple  -tle kettle  -zle sizzle  -kle ankle  -cle uncle | **Beginning:**  **r:** br, cr, dr, fr, gr, pr, tr, brunch, crunch, drab, from, green, prune, tram,  thr, shr, str, scr, spr  thread, shred, street, screen sprint    **l:** bl, cl, fl, gl, pl, sl, spl  blond, clear, floor, gleam, please, sleep, spleen  w: sw, tw, dw  swing, twinkle, dwarf  **s:** sc, sk, sm, sn, sp, st, squ  scan, skim, smear, snap, spot, star, square  **Ending:**  **-t:** -nt, -st, -ft, -lt, -pt, -ct, -xt  bent, cast, lift, belt, apt, act, text  **-l-:** -lf, -lp, -lk, -ld  half, help, milk, bald  -nd, -mp, -sk, -sp, -nch  send, camp, ask, wasp, lunch |