

SAMPLE

Q

## Sound identification

<sup>1</sup> <b>a</b>	'a'	ant
<sup>2</sup> <b>a</b>	'ay'	ate
<sup>3</sup> <b>a</b>	'ah'	ask
<sup>4</sup> <b>a</b>	'aw'	all
<sup>5</sup> <b>a</b>	'o'	wash

## Reading rules

**a** usually says its first sound 'a' if followed by a consonant within the same syllable (tap, ap-ple).

**a** may say its first sound 'a' if followed by two consonants (land).

**a** usually says its second sound 'ay' at the end of a syllable (ba-by).

**a** usually says its second sound 'ay' if a silent e ends the word (make).

**a** may say its third sound 'ah' if followed by two consonants (last).

**a** always says its fourth sound 'aw' if followed by **ll** or **lk** (all, walk).

**a** usually says its fifth sound 'o' after **w** or **qu** (was, squat).

## Spelling rules

**a** may not represent the sound 'ay' at the end of a word. **ay** is usually used (day).

SAMPLE

**S**

# S

## Sound identification

<sup>1</sup>  
s 's' sit  
<sup>2</sup>  
s 'z' please

## Reading rules

**s** says its second sound 'z' at the end of a word if it follows a vowel sound or a voiced consonant sound (say<sup>2</sup>s, love<sup>2</sup>s, egg<sup>2</sup>s).

## Spelling rules

**s** is often doubled at the end of a one-syllable word following a single vowel if it says its first sound 's' (fuss)

**ss** may never be used to represent the sound 'z'.

**s** may never be used to represent the sound 'z' at the beginning of a word.

**s** never follows **x**.

## Voicing

The first sound 's' is unvoiced. The same mouth position is used for the second sound 'z', but 'z' is voiced.

**th**

SAMPLE

## Sound identification

<sup>1</sup>**th** 'th' **thank**  
<sup>2</sup>**th** 'thh' **them**

th

## Reading rules

Silent **e** at the end of a word makes **th** say its second sound 'thh' (bat**he**, teet**he**).

## Spelling rules

The sound 'thh' at the end of a word is represented by **th+e** (lit**he**, see**th**e). The exception is smooth**th**.

## Voicing

These two sounds are formed in the same way — releasing air between the tongue and upper teeth — but 'th' is unvoiced and 'thh' is voiced. Feel the vibration on the tongue as the sound is voiced.

o w n g h

## Sound identification

<sup>1</sup> <b>ough</b>	'oh'	though
<sup>2</sup> <b>ough</b>	'oo'	through
<sup>3</sup> <b>ough</b>	'uff'	rough
<sup>4</sup> <b>ough</b>	'off'	trough
<sup>5</sup> <b>ough</b>	'aw'	fought
<sup>6</sup> <b>ough</b>	'ow'	drought

## Reading rules

**ough** says its fifth sound 'aw' before **t**. The exception is **drought**.

## Spelling rules

**ough** may only be used at the end of a word or before **t**.

# ough