



Programming for Spelling

Digraph Word Lists

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The Doubling Four

If a one-syllable word has one vowel making its **short** sound followed by f, l, s or z, then double the f, l, s or z.

Level 1

a

bass

lass

mass

gaff

e

Bess

less

mess

bell

dell

fell

jell

sell

tell

quell

i

hiss

kiss

miss

bill

dill

fill

hill

Jill

kill

mill

pill

quill

sill

till

will

fizz

biff

o

boss

loss

Ross

toss

doll

toll

doff

u

fuss

cull

dull

gull

hull

mull

buff

cuff

huff

luff

puff

buzz

fuzz

Note these exceptions:

nil

bus, pus, thus, yes

fez, quiz

Bossy 'e' + 'a'

In these words, the 'a' in the final syllable is making the schwa sound.

Level 6

manage

cabbage

carriage

average

rummage

foliage

savage

sullage

postage

cottage

language

hostage

village

haemorrhage

bandage

baggage

frontage

message

corkage

salvage

voyage

package

advantage

wreckage

Reading and Dictation Sentences

Bossy 'e'+ 'a'

Level 1

1. I hate this cap.
2. The man made a mess.
3. Tape up this gap.
4. The nape of my neck is cold.

'a' + Bossy 'e': Level 2

1. My name is Dave.
2. Make Dane wake up.
3. Dale and Kate go up the lane.
4. Kate went pale when the dog ate her cake.

'a' + Bossy 'e': Level 3

1. Blake can shave his chin.
2. Trade was brisk.
3. The slave stands in the shade.
4. The men chase the whale.

'a' + Bossy 'e': Level 4

1. Slavery is shameful.
2. I will fix my mistake.
3. My dad overtakes cars safely.
4. I saw a snake in the basement.

'a' + Bossy 'e': Level 5

1. You infuriate me!
2. Irrigate this plant well.
3. The sick man was desperate.
4. Do not exaggerate your mistakes.

'a' + Bossy 'e': Level 6

1. We will not tolerate bad language.
2. The hostage was desperate to escape.
3. I have left my baggage in the village.
4. We will manage to salvage most of the wreckage.

Revision Step - '-ee-', '-or', '-ow' (cow)

Level 1

Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Set 5
bee	feel	beef	seek	week
born	fork	port	form	torn
how	fowl	growl	frown	brown
queer	weed	seek	jeer	keen
worn	cord	corn	pork	sort
clown	crowd	gown	prow	browse

Level 2

Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Set 5
tree	green	sweet	cheer	teeth
sport	torch	horse	more	snore
power	shower	towel	rowdy	vowel
cheek	speech	preen	street	wheel
thorn	swore	gorge	chore	corpse
flower	cower	bowel	drowsy	tower

Level 3

Set 1	Set 2	Set 3	Set 4	Set 5
freeze	beetle	freedom	agree	cheese
report	adore	fortune	torment	record
cowboy	downfall	bowsprit	coward	eyebrow
normal	forbid	explore	transport	afford
however	cowhide	powerful	downcast	cowrie

Level 1

The small cow was born this week.

Level 2

Luke swore he was telling the truth.

Level 3

Jordan will need a cup of coffee before he agrees to meet the powerful foreman.

Level 4

The cheetah prowls downwind of the antelope. The gorilla hides from the hunters in remote forests.

Digraph '-ai-'

Level 1

fail
bail
Gail
hail
mail
pail
quail
tail
sail
frail
flail
snail
trail

Level 2

pain
rain
drain
grain
stain
Spain
chain
train
sprain
strain
brain
saint
paint
quaint
taint
aid
staid
braid
plaid

Level 3

aim
claim
exclaim
reclaim
explain
complain
remain
again
regain
retain
detain
contain
distain
disdain

Level 4

waist
mailman
afraid
bait
traitor
daisy
failure
Braille
acquaint
acquaintance

Note ('ain' saying /n/)
curtain
bargain
villain
certain
mountain
fountain
captain

portrait

Reading and Dictation Sentences

'-ai-'

Level 1

1. The ship will sail today.
2. The snail left a trail.
3. My dog had his tail clipped.
4. Gail likes to visit the frail man at his home.

Level 2

1. Most of the rain went down the drain.
2. It is such a strain to use my brain.
3. The train from Spain is late.
4. The staid old man wore a gold chain.

Level 3

1. I will complain if you do that again.
2. They are planning to reclaim the land.
3. If you detain me any longer, I will miss the train.
4. The old boy looked down his nose with disdain.

Level 4

1. If I eat less, I may reclaim my waist.
2. The captain spoke to the traitor. "You are a villain", he said.
3. The price of these curtains makes them a bargain.
4. Mum was afraid to have her portrait painted.