

Spellings

Mon 8th Feb

Words with silent and unstressed letters

Session 1 Teach L.O. To spell words with silent and unstressed letters.

Resource 11a Guidelines for words containing silent and unstressed letters

Some words have letters that make no sound. These are known as silent letters and are there because the words either used to be pronounced differently or they have been borrowed from other languages.

They can appear at the beginning of words:

gnarl, know, wrapper

They can appear within the words:

foreign, rhyme, sign

They can appear at the end of the words:

autumn, lamb, thumb

Other words have vowels that make very little sound, depending on how we pronounce them. These are known as unstressed vowels. Because we don't sound them out, they can be difficult to spell:

definite, difference, exercise, family, February,
interesting, separate, vegetable

g and **k** are usually silent when they are followed by **n**.

knight



w is usually silent at the start of a word when it is are followed by **r**.

wrong



b can be silent after **m** and before **t** at the end of words.

doubt



h can be silent near the start of words and **l** can be silent near the end of words.

why



How many can you
think of?

List them in your book in
a table using headings.

g and **k** are usually silent when they are followed by **n**.

knight

gnat, gnashed, sign
knight, knowledge, knock

w is usually silent at the start of a word when it is followed by **r**.

wrong

wrap, wrong, write, wreck, wren
wrinkle, writer, wrong

b can be silent after **m** and before **t** at the end of words.

doubt

doub**t**, lamb**b**, debt, crumb**b**
sub**tle**, com**b**, thumb**b**

h can be silent near the start of words and **l** can be silent near the end of words.

why

where, why, when, rhyme, wheel, whatever
could, would, should, talk, calm