

Appendix 6

Spelling

6.1 Nouns, verbs and adjectives can have the following endings:

noun + -s/-es (<i>plural</i>)	books	ideas	matches
verb + -s/-es (after he/she/it)	works	enjoys	washes
verb + -ing	working	enjoying	washing
verb + -ed	worked	enjoyed	washed
adjective + -er (<i>comparative</i>)	cheaper	quicker	brighter
adjective + -est (<i>superlative</i>)	cheapest	quickest	brightest
adjective + -ly (<i>adverb</i>)	cheaply	quickly	brightly

When we use these endings, there are sometimes changes in spelling. These changes are listed below.

6.2 Nouns and verbs + **-s/-es**

The ending is **-es** when the word ends in **-s/-ss/-sh/-ch/-x**:

bus/buses	miss/misses	wash/washes
match/matches	search/searches	box/boxes

Note also:

potato/potatoes	tomato/tomatoes
do/does	go/goes

6.3 Words ending in **-y** (**baby**, **carry**, **easy** etc.)

If a word ends in a *consonant** + **y** (**-by/-ry/-sy/-vy** etc.)

y changes to **ie** before the ending **-s**:

baby/babies	story/stories	country/countries	secretary/secretaries
hurry/hurries	study/studies	apply/applies	try/tries

y changes to **i** before the ending **-ed**:

hurry/hurried	study/studied	apply/applied	try/tried
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y changes to **i** before the endings **-er** and **-est**:

easy/easier/easiest	heavy/heavier/heaviest	lucky/luckier/luckiest
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y changes to **i** before the ending **-ly**:

easy/easily	heavy/heavily	temporary/temporarily
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y does *not* change before **-ing**:

hurrying	studying	applying	trying
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y does *not* change if the word ends in a *vowel** + **y** (**-ay/-ey/-oy/-uy**):

play/plays/played	monkey/monkeys	enjoy/enjoys/enjoyed	buy/buys
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An exception is: **day/daily**

Note also: **pay/paid** **lay/laid** **say/said**

6.4 Verbs ending in **-ie** (**die**, **lie**, **tie**)

If a verb ends in **-ie**, **ie** changes to **y** before the ending **-ing**:

die/dying	lie/lying	tie/tying
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* a e i o u are *vowel* letters.

The other letters (b c d f g etc.) are *consonant* letters.