

Spelling Rules: I Before E

Put **i** before **e**
 Except after **c**
 Or when
 sounded like **a**
 As in *neighbor*
 and *weigh*.



Usually the vowel *i* comes before the vowel *e* in English words. There are many exceptions to this rule. This poem gives the two main exceptions. Often, but not always, it is *ei* after the letter *c* as in the word *deceive*. Also, if the vowels make the sound of a long *a*, then *ei* is usually the correct spelling as in *neighbor* and *weigh*.

Circle the correct spelling of each word below.

- | | | |
|-----|---------|---------|
| 1. | feild | field |
| 2. | ceiling | cieling |
| 3. | movie | movei |
| 4. | ieght | eight |
| 5. | believe | beleive |
| 6. | theif | thief |
| 7. | piece | peice |
| 8. | sleigh | sleigh |
| 9. | tie | tei |
| 10. | recieve | receive |

- | | | |
|-----|----------|----------|
| 11. | theif | thief |
| 12. | prairie | prairei |
| 13. | weight | wieght |
| 14. | yeild | yield |
| 15. | vein | vien |
| 16. | percieve | perceive |
| 17. | chief | cheif |
| 18. | viel | veil |
| 19. | friend | freind |
| 20. | conciect | conceit |

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1. feild field
2. ceiling cieling
3. movie movei
4. ieght eight
5. believe beleive
6. theif thief
7. piece peice
8. sliegh sleigh
9. tie tei
10. recieve receive

11. theif thief
12. prairie prairei
13. weight wieght
14. yeild yield
15. vein vien
16. percieve perceive
17. chief cheif
18. viel veil
19. friend freind
20. conciet conceit