**SPELLING RULES FOR SIMPLE PAST TENSE OF REGULAR VERBS**

**a) If the verb ends in a consonant, add –ed.**

return - returned, help - helped, cook - cooked

**b) If the verb ends in –e, add –d.**

live - lived, create - created, die - died

**c) In one-syllable words, if the verb ends in a consonant-vowel-consonant combination (CVC), double the last consonant and add -ed.**

hop - hopped, rub - rubbed

\*However, do not double one-syllable words ending in –w, -x, or –y.

bow - bowed, play - played, mix - mixed

**d) In words of two or more syllables that end in consonant-vowel-consonant combination, double the last consonant only if the last syllable is stressed.**

prefer - prefe**rr**ed (the last syllable is stressed.) visit - visited (the last syllable isn’t stressed)

**e) If the verb ends in a consonant, + y, change the -y to -i and –ed.**

worry - worried, copy - copied

**f) If the verb ends in a vowel +y, add -ed. (Do not change the –y to –i.)**

play - played, annoy - annoyed

\*Exception: pay - paid, lay - laid, say - said