

## Spelling List for Year 6 (primary/elementary)

able	back	bus	company	doesn't
about	bag	business	complete	dog
above	bake	but	concern	dollar
accept	ball	buy	condition	done
accord	band	by	conference	don't
account	bank	cake	consider	door
across	bar	call	contain	down
act	base	came	continue	draw
action	bat	campaign	control	drink
actually	bath	can	cook	drive
add	be	cannot	cool	drop
after	beat	can't	correct	drug
again	beautiful	cap	cost	dry
against	became	capital	could	during
age	because	car	couldn't	dust
ago	become	card	council	each
agree	bed	care	country	ear
aid	been	carefully	course	early
air	before	carry	court	earth
all	began	case	cover	east
allow	begin	cat	cow	easy
almost	behind	cause	create	eat
along	being	cave	cried	edge
already	believe	cell	cup	education
also	bell	centre / center	current	effect
although	below	century	cut	effort
always	belt	certain	dad	egg
am	beside	chair	dance	eight
America	best	chance	dark	eighteen
among	better	change	daughter	eighty
an	between	charge	day	either
and	big	check	deal	election
animal	bike	chest	decide	eleven
announce	bill	chief	decision	else
another	bird	child	deep	end
answer	birthday	children	demand	energy
any	bit	chip	department	English
anything	bite	chop	describe	enough
appear	black	circle	design	even
are	block	city	develop	event
area	blow	claim	did	ever
arm	blue	class	didn't	every
army	boat	clear	die	everything
around	body	clock	difference	example
art	book	close	different	exercise
as	both	clothes	difficult	expect
ask	box	club	dig	experience
at	boy	coat	direct	explain
attack	break	cold	direction	eye
attempt	bring	colour / color	director	face
Australia	brother	come	discover	fact
authority	brought	coming	distance	fail
available	brown	committee	divide	fall
away	build	common	do	family
baby	built	community	does	fan

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far	game	hope	late	men
farm	gap	horse	later	middle
farmer	gave	hospital	laugh	might
fast	get	host	law	mile
father	girl	hot	lay	milk
fear	give	hour	lead	mind
feel	glass	house	leader	mine
feet	go	how	learn	minister
felt	going	however	leave	minute
few	gone	human	left	miss
field	good	hundred	leg	moment
fifteen	got	I'd	length	money
fifty	government	idea	less	month
fight	great	if	let	moon
figure	green	I'll	letter	more
fill	grey / gray	I'm	level	morning
film	grip	important	life	most
final	ground	in	light	mother
finally	group	inch	like	mountain
find	grow	increase	line	move
fine	had	Indian	lip	Mr
finger	half	industry	list	Mrs
finish	hall	information	listen	Ms
fire	halt	inside	little	much
firm	hand	instrument	live	mum / mom
first	happen	interest	local	music
fish	happy	into	lock	must
fit	hard	is	long	my
five	has	island	look	name
flag	hat	isn't	lose	nation
flash	have	it	lost	near
flat	he	its	lot	need
flower	head	it's	love	never
fly	health	itself	low	new
fold	hear	I've	machine	news
follow	heard	job	mad	next
food	heart	join	made	night
foot	heat	just	main	nine
for	heavy	keep	major	nineteen
force	held	kept	make	ninety
forest	help	kick	man	no
form	her	kid	many	north
former	here	kind	map	not
forty	herself	king	mark	note
found	he's	kiss	market	nothing
four	high	knee	match	notice
fourteen	hill	knew	material	noun
free	him	know	matter	now
friend	himself	known	may	number
from	hip	labour / labor	me	numeral
front	his	land	mean	object
full	history	language	measure	ocean
fund	hit	lap	meet	of
further	hold	large	meeting	off
future	home	last	member	offer

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office	point	rock	sixteen	swim
officer	police	role	sixty	syllable
official	pool	room	size	system
often	pop	root	sky	table
oh	post	round	slow	take
oil	pot	rule	small	talk
old	potato	run	snap	tap
on	pound	said	snow	tax
once	power	sale	so	teacher
one	present	same	soft	team
only	president	sat	some	tell
open	press	save	something	ten
operate	price	saw	sometimes	term
operation	problem	say	son	test
or	process	school	song	than
order	produce	scientist	soon	thank
other	product	sea	sort	that
our	provide	season	sound	that's
out	public	second	south	the
outside	pull	see	space	their
over	put	seek	speak	them
own	question	seem	special	themselves
page	quick	seen	spell	then
paint	quite	sell	spend	there
pair	race	send	spin	these
pan	radio	sense	square	they
paper	rain	sentence	staff	they're
paragraph	raise	set	stage	thing
parent	ran	seven	stand	think
part	rate	seventeen	star	third
party	rather	seventy	start	thirteen
pass	reach	several	state	thirty
past	read	shall	stay	this
pattern	ready	shape	step	those
pay	real	share	still	though
peace	really	she	stock	thought
peg	reason	ship	stood	thousand
pen	receive	shop	stop	three
people	recent	short	store	through
perhaps	record	should	story	time
person	red	show	street	tip
pet	region	shown	strong	to
photo	release	shut	student	today
pick	remain	sick	study	together
picture	remember	side	subject	told
piece	report	sign	such	tomato
pin	represent	simple	sudden	too
pink	research	since	suggest	took
pit	rest	sing	sum	top
place	result	single	summer	total
plan	return	sink	sun	toward
plane	right	sir	support	town
plant	rise	sister	sure	toy
play	river	sit	surface	trade
player	road	six	surprise	train

## Spelling List for Year 6 (primary/elementary)

trap	wheel
travel	when
tree	where
trick	whether
trip	which
truck	while
true	white
try	who
turn	whole
twelve	whose
twenty	why
twice	wide
two	wife
under	wild
understand	will
union	win
unit	wind
until	window
up	winter
upon	wish
us	with
use	within
usual	without
usually	woman
value	won't
van	wood
verb	word
very	work
view	worker
visit	working
voice	world
vote	would
vowel	wouldn't
wait	write
walk	written
wall	year
want	yellow
war	yes
warm	yesterday
was	yet
wasn't	you
watch	young
water	your
wave	you're
way	you've
we	
weather	
week	
well	
went	
were	
we're	
west	
wet	
what	

## A word about the spelling list

The words that appear in this list are British English, with American English appearing in red (for those using an American syllabus). Whilst you are not expected to know the definition of each and every word it would certainly help if you learnt as many as possible. If you don't possess a decent dictionary then now is the time to buy one. I believe the best dictionary on the market is *Collins Cobuild Learner's Dictionary, Concise Edition ISBN 0-00-712640-9*. It is an indispensable reference book for all students from intermediate level upwards.



The Cobuild provides additional information about word frequency and grammar, and it is from this information that I have based three of the four spelling lists. Whenever you look up a word you can see immediately if it is a very common word or not. About half the entries in the dictionary have a frequency marker. They work on a scale from five black diamonds down to no diamonds at all (these are words which you are more likely to read or hear than use regularly).

Words with five black diamonds are **the most frequently used words** and form a huge proportion of the language – the 'grammar' words, such as *of, the, as, with, also* and so on, as well as frequently used vocabulary words such as *carry, sit, and think* etc. There are just over 600 entries (head words) in this band, representing over 1,500 different forms. The Year 6 spelling list is based on the five black diamond words. In addition to these an extra 300 words have also been added to the Year 6 list. The majority of these additional words are classified as **common words** (three diamonds) and would normally appear in the Years' 9 -10 list, however I feel they are more appropriate for the Year 6 list and have therefore included them. Words such as *birthday, cat, clock, milk, pet, sick, swim, tap, truck, wet* and so on.

Words with four black diamonds (just over 1,000) are classified as **very common words**. These account for a total of nearly 2,500 forms, and together with the five-diamond words **account for 75% of all English usage. Together these two bands represent the essential core of English.** The Years' 7-8 spelling list has been based on the four black diamond words.

Words with three, two, and with one black diamond are progressively less frequent. The Years' 9 -10 spelling list is based predominately on the three diamond words. The words for Years 11-12 were individually chosen from the three, two and one diamond words and selected on their relevance to essay writing; this list was compiled by me. Whilst the Cobuild Dictionary has been used as a guide throughout, I take full and absolute responsibility for the final spelling lists which appear on [www.pocketbasics.com](http://www.pocketbasics.com) - Lyn Magree, 8 February 2004.

## Pronunciation

Pronouncing a particular word can sometimes prove difficult and at times embarrassing. There are two reliable ways you can find out how to pronounce a word correctly. **1** at the back or front of every dictionary you will find the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) which is used to show how the words are pronounced. Be warned though, this area is grammarian turf and probably best left to those with a serious interest only (but not to say you can't poke your head in and give it a go). **2** the Merriam-Webster OnLine Dictionary [www.m-w.com](http://www.m-w.com) offers audio pronunciation. It is as simple as typing the word and pressing the go button . The definition will appear in addition to an audio button . The great thing about this service is that you can press the audio button over and over again until you have the pronunciation down pat (and no one need ever know). All those tricky words can now be conquered! Words like *apoplectic, awry, genre, hyperbole, obstreperous, scion* and so on. This link is a must for every student. It also offers a free 'word of the day' email service. Great for those adults interested in expanding their vocabulary.

## Spelling

There are various guides and rules used for spelling. However, I find in many cases it simply comes down to practise, practise and more practise. When learning to spell a new word keep in mind that it is much easier to spell a word you've seen and heard before. So before you launch into learning the definition of a new word first try to become familiar with it by saying it over and over again.

Example

**say it:** supercilious, supercilious, supercilious, supercilious, supercilious, supercilious, supercilious

**spell it:** Super · cili · ous, super · cili · ous, super · cili · ous, super · cili · ous, super · cili · ous, super · cili · ous

**learn it:** Behaving or looking as though one is superior to others e.g. - *a supercilious shop assistant.*