

9. Find the homophones of these words. Use a dictionary if necessary.

flour	sell	night	aisle-I'll	hear	knows
bare	mined	red	son	wood	dear
die	their-they're	brake	passed	aloud	whether

- |            |       |            |       |            |       |
|------------|-------|------------|-------|------------|-------|
| 1. read    | _____ | 7. dye     | _____ | 13. cell   | _____ |
| 2. weather | _____ | 8. break   | _____ | 14. nose   | _____ |
| 3. here    | _____ | 9. allowed | _____ | 15. past   | _____ |
| 4. would   | _____ | 10. mind   | _____ | 16. there  | _____ |
| 5. flower  | _____ | 11. isle   | _____ | 17. deer   | _____ |
| 6. bear    | _____ | 12. sun    | _____ | 18. knight | _____ |

**Remember!**

Homophones are those words which sound the same but have got different spelling and meanings.

10. Tick (✓) the correct box for each irregular verb according to its -ed ending.

Verbs	/t/	/d/	/ɪd/
worked			
lived			
stopped			
counted			
targeted			
paid			
listened			
watched			
painted			
performed			
repeated			
helped			
asked			
printed			
warned			

**Remember!**

The /d/ sound follows a vowel or a voiced consonant. The /ɪd/ sound follows a /t/ or /d/ sound at the end of a word. The /t/ sound generally follows a voiceless consonant such as *ch, sh, x, k, ss* and *p*.

11. Tick (✓) the correct box for each word so that the final -s sound matches its phoneme. Use a dictionary if necessary.

Words	/s/	/z/	/ɪz/
watches			
houses			
cars			
looks			
knives			
baths			
handkerchiefs			
boxes			
keys			
envelopes			
boys			
wishes			
walks			
glasses			
studies			
works			
jobs			
practises			

**Remember!**

Sometimes when we add an -s to make the third person of the Present Simple, or a plural, it may be pronounced in one of three ways. If the final syllable ends in a voiced sound, the /z/ sound is pronounced. If the final syllable ends in a voiceless sound, it is the sound /s/. However, if the final letter is a consonant such as *ch*, *sh*, *x* or *ss* (sibilant letters), you have to pronounce it /ɪz/.

## The pronunciation of the S in plurals, 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular verbs or genitive Saxon

The pronunciation of the final S in plural words and verbs in the third person singular depends on the final consonant sound before that S.

The ending is pronounced /s/ after a voiceless sound, it is pronounced /z/ after a voiced sound and is pronounced /ɪz/ after a sibilant sound:

- Voiceless: helps /ps/ – sits /ts/ – looks /ks/
- Voiced: crabs /bz/ – words /dz/ – gloves /vz/
- Sibilant: buses /sɪz/ – bridges /dʒɪz/ or wishes /ʃɪz/

### 1. The /ɪz/ sound

If the last consonant sound of the word is a sibilant sound, the final S is pronounced as /ɪz/. This /ɪz/ sound is pronounced like an extra syllable.

Examples of words ending in the /ɪz/ sound:

- -CE: races (sounds like "race-ɪz"), embraces, places, convinces
- -S / SE: buses, gases, rises, pauses, nurses
- -X: fixes, mixes, boxes, taxes
- -ZE: amazes, freezes, prizes, quizzes, seizes
- -SS: kisses, misses, passes, bosses, glasses, dresses
- -CH: churches, sandwiches, witches, teaches, watches, reaches
- -SH: dishes, eyelashes, hairbrushes, wishes, pushes, crashes,
- -GE: garages, wages, changes, ages, judges, arranges, challenges

Remember: after verbs ending in -sh, -ch, -s, -ss and -x, we add the -es to the end of the verb (in third person) and the pronunciation is /ɪz/ as an extra syllable.

### 2. The /s/ sound

If the last consonant of the word is voiceless, then the S is pronounced as /s/.

NOTE: The consonants c, s, sh, ch and x are voiceless though they use the sibilants ending seen above. Examples of words ending in the /s/ sound:

- -P/ PE : cups, stops, sleeps, landscapes, types, telescopes
- -T/ TE: hats, students, hits, writes, graduates, institutes
- -K/ KE: cooks, books, drinks, walks, likes, snakes
- -F: cliffs, sniffs, beliefs, laughs, graphs, apostrophes (the -gh and -ph here are pronounced like an F)
- -TH: myths, tablecloths, months (voiceless th /θ/), baths, earths

### 3. The /z/ sound

If the last letter of the words ends in a voiced consonant (or sound), then the S is pronounced like a Z /z/ (without creating another syllable). This Z sound is similar to the sound a bee makes zzzz.

We also use this ending when the word ends in a vowel sound (e.g. bees, flies etc.)

Examples of words ending in the /z/ sound:

- -B/ BE : crabs, rubs, describes, tubes
- -D/ DE : cards, words, rides, ends
- -G: rugs, bags, begs
- -L/ LE: deals calls, falls, hills, crocodiles, styles,
- -M/ ME: plums, dreams, times, comes
- -N/ NE: fans, drains, runs, pens, hormones, stones

- -NG: kings, belongs, sings, meanings, things
- -R/ RE: wears, cures, fires, signatures, figures
- -VE: gloves, wives, shelves, drives
- -Y: plays, cries, buys, boys, factories, says

- -THE: clothes, bathes, breathes
- -VOWEL SOUNDS: sees, seas, toes, photos

Say the following words out aloud and then put them in the correct column according to the pronunciation of the sound of the plural or 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular "s":

Boys	damages	graduates	lessons	minutes	products
Cheques	earns	hates	lives	paints	sandwiches
Closes	faces	hours	loves	phrases	things
Cooks	girls	James's	messages	places	wants

/s/	/z/	/ɪz/