

The “Pronounce for Spelling” Technique

A great technique for preventing spelling errors is called “Pronounce for Spelling.”

There are two basic steps:

1. Exaggerate the pronunciation of the word.
2. Spell each sound you hear.

For example, in casual speech we often pronounce the word *camera* as *camra*, leaving out the second syllable. When we pronounce for spelling, we carefully enunciate each syllable (*cam-er-a*), making it much easier to spell.



Tips

1

Model the pronunciation.

If your student isn't aware of the correct pronunciation, model it for him. For example, if he regularly pronounces *different* as *difrent*, carefully pronounce the word for him: “*dif-fer-ent*.” When he can hear each syllable, he'll be less likely to gloss over the unaccented syllables.

2

Use the technique only for spelling.

Notice that the first step in this technique is to exaggerate the pronunciation of the word. We're not advocating that your child go around saying *different* with ultraprecision—just during spelling lessons.

3

Have a backup plan.

There will be times that “pronounce for spelling” won't work. Take the word *could*, for example, where the silent L can't be pronounced. In these cases, we throw the word in jail. Curious what that means? [Read this post](#) to find out exactly how we throw words in jail and to get your own jail for spelling words!

Visit blog.allaboutlearningpress.com/pronounce-for-spelling/ to learn more.