

Spelling Ninja: Level Twenty Two Words

other	another	brother	smother
guest			
guess	guessing	guessed	guesses
sword			
different	differently	difference	
couple			
important	importantly	importance	unimportant
improve	improved	improvement	improving
ceiling			
decide	decided	deciding	undecided
reply	replied	replies	replying
warm	warmly	warming	warmed
usual	unusual	unusually	
instead			
honest	honestly	dishonest	dishonestly
happen	happened	happening	
whisper	whispered	whispering	
certain	certainly		
success	successful	successfully	unsuccessful
suggest	suggested	suggesting	suggestion

A few ideas that may help:

- 1) Use the spelling strategies tips explained in the “Guidance for Parents” pages.
- 2) Play games as explained in the “Games Ideas” page.
- 3) Try the following

ceiling, decide: These words have soft **c** because it is followed by **e**. (For reading **c** followed by **i, y** or **e** makes a **sss** sound; **c** followed by any other letter makes a **kkk** sound.) Also there is an old rhyme, “**i before e, except after c.**” So in **ceiling** it is **ei**.

different, usual: Use Spelling Speak in syllables.

diff-er-ent u-su-al

ou as in **couple:** The **ou** pair of letters makes several sounds. This is the second most common. See **young** in level 19 and **cousin** in level 16 and try to think of a phrase to link the words. eg. **a couple of young cousins**

important, improve: In English, **in-** is a common prefix as in the words input, incorrect, invisible. **in-** is difficult to say before the letter **p**, so we change **in-** to **im-**. Syllable split and pronounce very clearly to spell.

im-port-ant im-prove

guest, guessed: These two words are sometimes confused, because they sound very similar. Remember that **guest** is a noun and **guessed** comes from the verb **to guess**. Also in these words the **u** makes no sound, but for spelling, it might help to pronounce it.

gu-est gu-ess-ed

honest, sword: Use spelling speak for these, pronouncing the **h** in **honest** and the **w** in **sword**.

hon-est sw-ord