

Grammar and Spelling: Silent Letters

Name _____

Unfortunately, the sound of a word in English does not necessarily allow us to know that word will be spelled. This is really true of words with silent letters, which are letters that are not pronounced. To help with your spelling, it is very important to be aware of the very common words in English with silent letters.

Task 3) Look carefully at the sets of words below. Pronounce each set of words and decide which letter in each word is silent. Underline the letter and then write the letter in the space provided. The first group has been done as an example. Note: In the final set of words there are three silent letters.

Silent Letter	
1) igno <u>re</u> ; igno <u>r</u> ance	_____ R _____
2) lat <u>e</u> ; lat <u>e</u> r; lat <u>e</u> ri <u>n</u> g; lat <u>e</u> ri <u>n</u> er; lat <u>e</u> ri <u>n</u> er; lat <u>e</u> ri <u>n</u> er	_____ L _____
3) kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge	_____ K _____
4) government; government; government; government	_____ M _____
5) sh <u>e</u> lf; sh <u>e</u> lf	_____ S _____
6) wh <u>e</u> re; wh <u>e</u> re; wh <u>e</u> re; wh <u>e</u> re; wh <u>e</u> re	_____ W _____
7) kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge; kno <u>w</u> ledge	_____ G _____
8) sch <u>oo</u> l; sch <u>oo</u> l	_____ C _____
9) hand <u>sh</u> ake; hand <u>sh</u> ake; hand <u>sh</u> ake; hand <u>sh</u> ake; hand <u>sh</u> ake	_____ H _____
10) psych <u>o</u> logy; psych <u>o</u> logy; psych <u>o</u> logy; psych <u>o</u> logy	_____ P _____
11) cou <u>ld</u> ; cou <u>ld</u> ; cou <u>ld</u> ; cou <u>ld</u> ; cou <u>ld</u>	_____ L _____
12) thought; caught; thought; thought; thought; thought	_____ T _____