



NAME _____

DATE _____

SPELLINGS (SILENT LETTERS)

- 1) There is no exact one to one relation between speech sounds and written alphabet and English spelling is not phonetic.
- 2) Our pronunciation is being changed from time to time but our spelling system stayed more or less the same. Hence there is difficulty in English spelling.
- 3) Knowledge of conventions in spelling helps to write a particular word in a correct way.
- 4) Words are made up of one, two or more syllables; basically, a syllable has a vowel sound and one or more consonant sounds.
- 5) Phonemes are smallest units of speech sounds in a word. Ex. Vowels, consonants and diphthongs etc.....
- 6) One phoneme may produce one or more than one sound or one Sound is produced by the combination of more than one phonemes. This breaks the conventional spelling system.
- 7) Knowledge of conventional ways, rhyme and rhythmic patterns help to understand spelling system.
- 8) Memorization, up to some extent helps in writing the spellings of irregular words. Silent letters make the spellings difficult.
- 9) Listening, Reading and Writing Practice have a long way in the promotion of correct spelling.

Some letters in a word are not pronounced. They are called silent letters. Silent letters cause sheer confusion for writing spellings.

Read the following words and circle the silent letter/letters in them.

Example:

~~K~~nife Caught~~t~~

1) Thumb Tough

2) Comb Daughter

3) Knob Right

4) Chalk Fight