



ALETHEIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Basic Rules for Markings

Basic mnemonic aids our school uses for spelling in kindergarten and beyond.

1. No markings for a phonogram's first sound.
2. Underline single vowels that say their names (long vowel sounds) in a word.
3. Underline multiple-letter phonograms.
(This does not apply to blends in which each letter is heard as in br or str.)
4. Place a small numeral above phonograms to indicate which sound is being said only if it is not the first sound, the long vowel sound, or a spelling rule does not explain its use.
(More on this one later.)
5. Some words will be bracketed to show similarity or peculiarity of spelling.
6. Carets are used to indicate "think to spell" phonograms. Many words in English are pronounced with a schwa sound ("uh"). (This is especially true of vowels in certain situations.) Schwa can make it difficult to hear the sound/spelling relationship properly, so we call those words "think to spell" words.
6. Double underline silent letters.
7. Silent Final e Rules

(write the job number as a subscript next to the double underlined e)

Job 1 – Makes the first vowel say its name

Job 2 – English words do not end with v or u ("*v and u -- that's job 2*")

Job 3 – Changes c and g to say their second sounds ("*c and g -- job 3*")

Job 4 – English syllables must have a written vowel

Job 5 – No pronunciation role (*Not to hear but to see*)