Concept	Rule	Examples
Vowel sounds	 Use one vowel to make a short vowel sound. Use two vowels together, or separated by one consonant, to make a long vowel sound. 	- c a t, d o g, pet, sit, chart - w ea k, c oa t, race, more
"ie" and "ei"	- Use "i" before "e" except after "c."	- bel ie ve, gr ie f, rec ei ve
	- Use "ei" to form a long "a" sound.	- w ei gh, sl ei gh, n ei ghbor
	- Understand the weirder formations.	- ei ther, n ei ther, w ei rd, for ei gn
Forming plurals	- Add "s" to most words.	- key s , sock s , banana s
	- Add "es" to words ending in the following: s, x, z, ch, sh, or o preceded by a consonant.	- church es , fox es , class es , potato es
	- When "y" is preceded by a consonant, change it to "i" and add "es."	- part ies , stor ies , tr ies
	- Understand the exceptions	- women (woman), geese (goose), nuclei (nucleus)
Adding prefixes	- Add the prefix without changing the spelling of the root word, even if it creates double letters.	- mis understood, mis spell, un related, un necessary
Adding suffixes	- Drop the final "e" from the root word only if the suffix begins with a vowel.	-rid ing , guid ance ; secure ly , advance ment
	- Change a final "y" to an "i" unless the suffix begins with "i."	-empt iness , coz ier; try ing , carry ing
	- When a consonant (preceded by a single vowel) ends a one-syllable word or an accented syllable, double it before adding a suffix that begins with a vowel.	-dip ping , spot ted , admit ted
	- Exceptions still exist to all the above.	-memorize, volleying, manageable, truly