

Word endings: -us and -ous

Lots of words use these endings so it's important to learn the rule. If a word is a noun (a naming word), then use -us. If the word is an adjective (describes something), use -ous. Circle the correct spelling for each word.

- focus / focous
- jealus / jealous
- octopus / octopous
- anxius / anxious
- furius / furious
- cactus / cactous
- famus / famous
- chorus / chorous
- serius / serious

Tip time!

Say this phrase to help you remember which is which:
'The generous genius'.



-ch or -tch?

It's likely that you'll hear lots of words with a *ch* sound but you won't always be able to hear the *t* sound as sometimes it's silent. Tick the words below that are spelt correctly.

whitch

catch

witch

coach

toutch

bench

wach

approatch

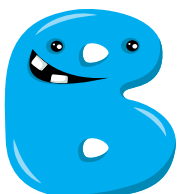
fetch



Tip time!

If the letter(s) before the *ch* sound is either one consonant or two vowels, use *ch*.

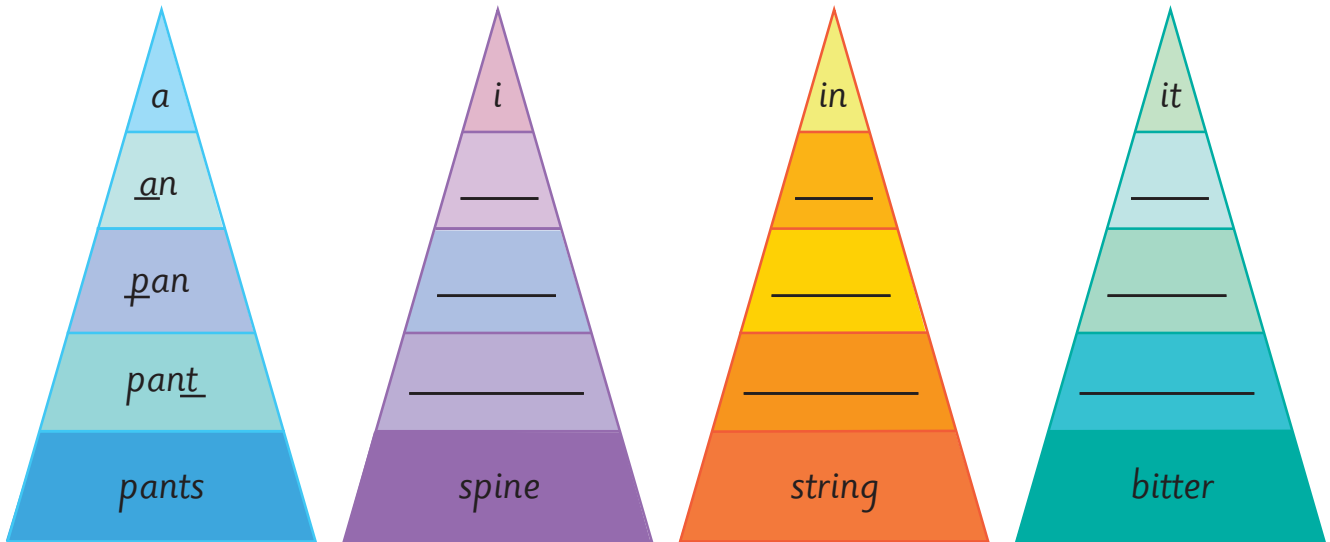
If there is only one vowel before the *ch* sound then use *tch*. Remember to watch out for irregular words!



Answers: focus, jealous, octopus, anxious, furious, cactus, famous, chorus, serious, catch, witch, coach, bench, approach, fetch.

Word Pyramids

These puzzles are similar to word ladders, except you take away a letter from each word to climb up the pyramid. The first one has been done for you.



Code Breaker

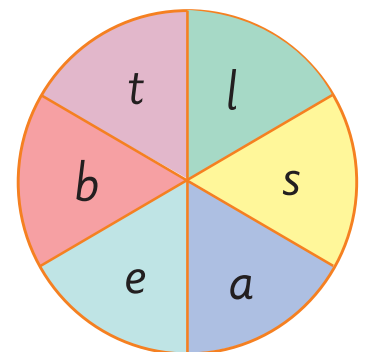
Each letter in the code below is represented by the letter that appears after it in the alphabet (e.g. cat = d b u). A slash (/) indicates a new word. Can you crack the code?

jg / zpv / lopx / uif / bmqibcfu, / sfbejoh / boe / xsjujoh / jt / fbtjfs.

____ / ____ / _____ / ____ / _____, / _____ / ____ /
_____ / ____ / _____.

Word Wheel

Using the letters in the wheel, how many different words can you make?



Answers: 1. spine/spin/pin/in/ 2. string/sting/sing/sin/in 3. bitter/biter/bite/bit/it.
The code reads: If you know the alphabet, reading and writing is easier.