

# Five tips for coping with everyday spelling



English spelling may be a nightmare - but there are many things you can do to help yourself improve. Here are some tips on how to cope with spelling problems in everyday life:

- 1.** Keep a scrap of paper to hand, to try out different spellings for a word - often you will be able to tell which one 'just looks right' e.g. **toylet/toilet** **tois/toys**
- 2.** Often the words you need may be close at hand - perhaps in your college worksheet or textbook, or in the letter you are answering.
- 3.** If you can't recall the look of a word, use the sounds - then, even if the spelling is not exactly right, the reader will know what you mean. (This course will teach you which letter patterns are the most common for English sounds.)
- 4.** Don't be scared to ask people - most will only be too pleased to help you. (You could make a remark like: *'I'm just like Einstein - a lousy speller!'*)
- 5.** Get a friend to check through anything important for you.

For more help with your spelling go to **Spellzone** where you will find extensive word lists, practice exercises, spelling tests and spelling games.

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- teaching English spelling