

Spelling [n]

CK-12 English

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Spelling [n]

[n] at the beginning, middle, and end of words

Spelling [n]



[Figure1]

There are six different ways of spelling [n], but the two most common are <n> and <nn>.

Double consonants such as <nn> can be caused by [twinning](#) or [assimilation](#) or simple addition. Sometimes twinning can cause an <nn>: *fan* + *n* + *ing* = *fanning*. Sometimes [assimilation](#) can cause an <nn>: *a* ~~*n*~~ + *n* + *nounce* = *announce*, and *co* ~~*n*~~ + *n* + *nect* = *connect*. And simple addition can cause an <nn> when an element that starts with <n> is added to another element that ends with <n>: *un* + *named* = *unnamed*, and *stubborn* + *ness* = *stubbornness*.

Examples

Sometimes [n] is spelled <n> as in the word *balance*.

Sometimes [n] is spelled <nn> as in the word *announce*.

Review

1. Underline the letters that spell [n] in the following words.

balance	nuisance	candidate	conclusion
immense	columnist	immunity	dictionary
efficient	judgement	solemnity	coupon
economics	bundle	nourishment	island
nonalcoholic	enormous	diamonds	underexposed

2. How is [n] spelled in all of these words? _____. Usually [n] is spelled this way - about nine times out of ten, in fact!

All of the following words contain an <nn> that is caused by one of the three things described above. Analyze each word enough to show where the two <n>s come from. Then in the 'Cause' column write the cause for the <nn> in each word - "[Twinning](#)," "Assimilation," or "Simple Addition."

Words	= Analysis	Cause
3. announce	= a n + n + nounce	Assimilation
4. connect	=	
5. innocent	=	
6. tinny	=	
7. unnourishing	=	
8. nonnuclear	=	
9. skinny	=	
10. unnecessary	=	
11. nonnative	=	
12. innumerable	=	
13. beginner	=	
14. commonness	=	
15. annihilate	=	
16. unnodding	=	
17. annex	=	
18. annul	=	
19. nonnoble	=	
20. suddenness	=	
21. connive	=	
22. beginning	=	
23. cannot	=	
24. stubbornness	=	
25. sunniest	=	
26. twinned	=	

27. So far you have examined two different ways to spell [n]: _____ and _____. The sound [n] is spelled these two ways about ninety-nine times out of a hundred.

Review (Answers)

1.

<i>balance</i>	<i>nuisance</i>	<i>candidate</i>	<i>conclusion</i>
<i>immense</i>	<i>columnist</i>	<i>immunity</i>	<i>dictionary</i>
<i>efficient</i>	<i>judgement</i>	<i>solemnity</i>	<i>coupon</i>
<i>economics</i>	<i>bundle</i>	<i>nourishment</i>	<i>island</i>
<i>nonalcoholic</i>	<i>enormous</i>	<i>diamonds</i>	<i>underexposed</i>

2. How is [n] spelled in all of these words? ≤n>. Usually [n] is spelled this way – about nine times out of ten, in fact!

Words	= Analysis	Cause
3. announce	= a <i>ɔ</i> + n + nounce	Assimilation
4. connect	= co <i>m</i> + n + nect	Assimilation
5. innocent	= in + nocent	Simple addition
6. tinny	= tin + n + y	Twinning
7. unnourishing	= un + nourishing	Simple addition
8. nonnuclear	= non + nuclear	Simple addition
9. skinny	= skin + n + y	Twinning
10. unnecessary	= un + necessary	Simple addition
11. nonnative	= non + native	Simple addition
12. innumerable	= in + numerable	Simple addition
13. beginner	= begin + n + er	Twinning
14. commonness	= common + ness	Simple addition
15. annihilate	= a <i>ɔ</i> + n + nihilate	Assimilation
16. unnodding	= un + nodding	Simple addition
17. annex	= a <i>ɔ</i> + n + nex	Assimilation
18. annul	= a <i>ɔ</i> + n + nul	Assimilation
19. nonnoble	= non + noble	Simple addition
20. suddenness	= sudden + ness	Simple addition
21. connive	= co <i>m</i> + n + nive	Assimilation
22. beginning	= begin + n + ing	Twinning
23. cannot	= can + not	Simple addition
24. stubbornness	= stubborn + ness	Simple addition
25. sunniest	= sun + n + <i>y</i> + i + est	Twinning
26. twinned	= twinned	Twinning

27. So far you have examined two different ways to spell [n]: <n> and <nn>.

Explore More

The other four ways to spell [n] are: <gn>, <kn>, <pn>, and <mn>. Examples are as follows:

Sometimes [n] is spelled <gn> as in the word *sign*.

Sometimes [n] is spelled <kn> as in the word *knew*.

Sometimes [n] is spelled <pn> as in the word *pneumonia*.

Sometimes [n] is spelled <mn> as in the word *mnemonic*.

1.0 REFERENCES

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