

Rule 2: CUTTING UNSTRESSD VOWELS

The second cutting rule deals mainly with unpredictable and/or unnecessary vowel letters that occur in many unstressed syllables in English words. Two main categories of vowel letters are affected.

Category 1**(a) Unstressed vowels before L, M, N, R**

Unstressed vowel letters preceding the consonants L, M, N, R are often cut in CS if they do not have one of the standard sound-values of A, E, I, O, U, Y, but are instead pronounced with the ‘obscure’ central vowel sound known as shwa. Such letters are found in a very large number of TO spellings — for instance, well over a quarter of the pages in the *Penguin Rhyming Dictionary* are taken up by words containing shwa in their final syllable. A few examples of shwa in final syllables are the E before L in *chapel*, the O before M in *atom*, the AI before N in *certain*, and the OU before R in *glamour*. Shwa is the most commonly occurring sound in English, but it has no standard letter to represent it and is named after a symbol used to indicate a similar sound in the Hebrew writing system.

(b) Cutting post-, but not pre-accentual shwa

CS removes such unstressed vowel letters from English only when they occur in polysyllabic words after a stressed or accented syllable, the procedure therefore being called ‘cutting post-accentual shwa’. This restriction that shwa is only cut after a stressed syllable is necessary because cutting unstressed vowel letters from initial (ie, pre-accentual) syllables has a particularly disturbing effect on the familiar appearance of words. It is true that a number of modern English word forms have arisen by precisely this process of apharesis (also called apharesis), by which an initial unstressed vowel has been lost (eg, *lone* from *alone*, *squire* from *esquire*), but it is not the task of CS to cut word structures as such, and so the reduction of, say, *along*, *among* to **long*, **mong* is not contemplated. Nevertheless, it has been repeatedly suggested that CS might usefully cut the vowel letter from initial, pre-accentual syllables where they are often misspelled in TO, for instance merging the first syllable *persuade/pursue* as in **prsuade/*prsue*; of *support/surprise* with **srprise/*sport*, or of *despair/disperit* with **dspair/*dspirit*; but the strangeness-effect and sometimes ambiguity of such forms is surely too strong to permit this.

(c) Problems of post-accentual shwa in TO

Th letters used to spell post-accentual shwa cause lerners and skilld riters alike perhaps mor difficulty than any other featur of TO. Evrybody ho is litrat in English nos how esy it is to confuse th endings of pairs of words like *principal/principle*, *assistant/consistent*, *stationary/stationery*, *adapter/adaptor* and th middl vowel of *complement/compliment*. Th reason is that, altho th unstressd vowels of such pairs ar pronounced identically, they differ often arbitrily in how th vowel befor th L, M, N, R is spelt. One of th spelling-variants for shwa occurring in TO, however, is that it is somtimes ritten without a vowel letter at all, relying insted on just th consonant L, M, N, R, hos pronunciation itself indicates th preceding shwa. We se this phenomenon, calld ‘syllabic’ L, M, N, R, in th last syllabl of such words as *apple*, *rhythm*, *hadn’t*, *centre*. This spelling pattern without a vowel letter befor L, M, N, R provides a simpl and economical solution to th problems of spelling post-accentual shwa befor those consonants, and it is therfor th model for CS Rule 2 (Category 1). A concrete exampl of its benefit is seen in th case of th grammar manual publishd in th 1970s wich, wen deliverd from th printer, was found, to its editor’s horror, to hav th form **Grammer* resplendent on its cover; this error, wich had to be corrected at considrabl expense, cud not hav arisen in CS, hos final form *gramr* subsumes th multifarius -AR, -ER, -OR, etc, endings that characterize TO.

(d) Clarifying stress patterns

It will be noticed that one of th consequences of Rule 2 is to clarify th stress pattern of many words wher it is ambiguous in TO. For instance, th differing pronunciations of such noun/verb pairs in TO as *a rebel/to rebel*, *a desert/to desert* ar not apparent from th TO spellings, wheras CS makes them plain with *a rebl/to rebel*, *a desrt/to desert*. These pairs also demonstrate a basic principl that riters of CS need to appreciate, namely that stressd vowels ar always spelt with vowel letters (with th marginal expection of *yr* for TO *your*, as explaind in §O.4.1 of [Rule 1](#), abov).

(e) Th power of consonant strings

As alredy observd in [Chapter 2](#) (§1.2, §3.6), one effect of CS Rule 2 is to create many new consonant strings unfamiliar in TO (for instance -BLD in CS *trubld* or -DRN in CS *modrn*). By traditional concepts of sound-symbol correspondence in English, such strings may at first seem unpronounceabl, but as familiarity with th patterns of CS gros, so th logic becoms apparent by wich they do in fact represent th normal pronunciation of words less ambiguusly than dos TO. Perhaps th most difficult concept to master is th

principle that if two successive consonant letters can only be pronounced with an intervening schwa, it is usually unnecessary to spell it if it does not have one of the standard values of A, E, I, O, U, Y. For instance, since one cannot pronounce the string -STN- in *instance* or -NTRL in *central* without an intervening schwa, no letter is needed to spell it. This principle of sound-symbol correspondence underlies many of the consonant strings created by CS Rule 2, and although its effects may seem odd at first, it turns out to be a powerful technique for representing the structure of the numerous unstressed syllables that are so characteristic of the English language.

(f) Coping with consonant strings

Nevertheless, such long consonant strings have aroused more unease than perhaps any other feature of CS, especially among literacy teachers who feel that learners depend on the intervening schwa vowel letters to help them grasp the syllabic structure of longer words. How, such teachers wonder, can learners make head or tail of a form such as CS *implmntng* for TO *implementing*? A number of points need to be made in response.

1 The eight successive consonant letters of *implmntng* constitute probably the longest consonant string produced by CS, and are therefore an extreme case (indeed, CS users may prefer to keep an E and write *implmentng* if they feel the syllable -MENT carries secondary stress).

2 Many TO consonant strings are actually reduced in CS, as when GH disappears or (like PH) is replaced by F (the 6 letters of TO *though* become just 3 in CS *tho*, and the 2 consonant strings of TO *philosophy* cease to be strings at all in *filosofy*).

3 Consonant letters are in purely visual terms scarcely different from vowel letters (all letters are typically just marks on paper), and not inherently any more difficult to decode.

4 The variety of possible spellings for a given syllable is far less in CS than in TO; thus, regardless of consonant strings, it is easier to learn to read (and above all to spell) CS *vicr*, *teachr*, *authr*, *harbr*, *murm*, *injr*, *martr* etc, with their regular, predictable -R endings, than their multifarious, unpredictable, more cumbersome TO equivalents with -AR, or -ER, or -OR, or -OUR, or -UR, or -URE, or -YR, etc; Rule 2 will be seen to introduce this kind of regularization across many of the most hazardous TO spelling patterns.

5 Although it is understandable that teachers should at first be concerned how they would teach such unfamiliar spelling patterns, they can be reassured that straightforward phonic techniques of practising fixed patterns of sound-symbol correspondence will come into their own with CS to a far greater degree than

could ever be possible in TO; thus learners can be taught to sound out the letters and to analyze *implm̄ntng* into its standard morphemes *impl* + *m̄nt* + *ng*, and *conjrrs* (TO *conjurers*) into *conj* + *r* + *s*.

6 Few of the more complex CS consonant strings (eg, *implm̄ntng*) are likely to come the way of early learners anyway, but more advanced learners will be able confidently to spell in CS many items of more sophisticated vocabulary which they may have been afraid to write in TO; for instance the variations of vowel spelling in the last two syllables of *covenant* with schwa E, A, *dominant* with schwa I, A, *consonant* with schwa O, A, *permanent* with schwa A, E, and *continent* with schwa I, E, are all reduced to simple, predictable -NNT in CS *cov̄nnt*, *dom̄nnt*, *cons̄nnt*, *perm̄nnt*, *cont̄nnt*. (The full range of such patterns of regularization is listed under §1.5 below.)

7 If the new consonant strings of CS at first look difficult, we should compare them with the difficulties entailed by the equivalent consonant + vowel + consonant strings in TO, with constant misspellings of the type **docter* (CS *doctr*) and **seperate* (CS *seprat[e]*).

The few anomalies bound up with these consonant strings are discussed under the relevant headings below.

Category 2: Vowels in suffixes.

The other category of unstressed vowel letter removed by Rule 2 occurs in inflections and some other suffixes, notably -ED, -ING, -ER, -ES, -EST, -ABLE, -IBLE. Besides giving a marked gain in economy, these cuts help overcome some major points of difficulty in TO. A direct gain, for instance, is the regularization of most of the unpredictable -ABLE/-IBLE endings by reducing them to a single form; but an even more important, if indirect, gain of the removal of E, I from most -ED, -ING endings, is that it clears the way for Rule 3 largely to resolve a further major bugbear of TO, the unpredictable doubling of consonants.

Rule 2, Category 1: post-accentual schwa before L, M, N, R

1.1.L Syllabic L

Some non-English names such as German *Handl*, *Lendl* and the Tyrolean folk-dress *dirndl*, or the Aztec name *Popocatépetl*, end in a consonant followed by just L. Other languages too use this device: (Old) Icelandic for *sail*, *tile* was *segl*, *tigl*; Welsh writes TO *couple*, *possible*, *trestle* as *cwpl*, *posibl*, *trestl*, which are close to CS *cupl*, *posbl*, *tresl*. We find a similar pattern in the abbreviated

form of the phrase *it will*, when that is written *it'll*: the shwa before L is here represented not by a letter, but, one might say, by the apostrophe. In fact the spelling of many English words represents shwa before L without a vowel letter at all, although the pattern is disguised by a final E. TO *apple*, for instance, ends in a redundant, silent final E, which is already cut by CS [Rule 1](#) (E.1.1.7); we may note that in Old English the word *apple* could be written without this final E (in fact, as *æpl*), while modern German *Apfel* inserts an E before the L to spell the shwa (as did the alternative Old English form *æppel*). The spelling *appl*, which represents the pronunciation quite adequately, shows that we can also cut out the E from its rhyme *chapel*, giving CS *chapl*. The form *chapl* in turn usefully distinguishes the pronunciation of parallel forms such as TO *chapel/lapel* (CS *chapl/lapel*), the latter not being cut, as the E is stressed and has its standard short value (cf also CS *a rebel/to rebel*). In the process, the differing stress patterns of these spellings become explicit: *chapl* can only have stressed A, while the E of *lapel* cannot be an unstressed shwa. Similarly, the confusing distinction between TO *principal/principle* is overcome by cutting the discrepant vowel letters and writing *principl* for both words; and that in turn has a further advantage of distinguishing for the first time such endings as TO *principal/appal* (final CS *principl/apal*) — the -AL in the latter is not cut, as it is stressed with the A having one of its standard values. The unpredictably varied unstressed endings of TO *cymbal/symbol*, *counsel/consul*, *gerbil/garble* are aligned in the same way, giving *cymb/l/symb/l*, *counsl/cons/l*, *gerbl/garbl*. The final L in these spellings then has syllabic function, representing a syllable in its own right, and does not need a separate vowel letter to represent its sound.

The following cutting patterns produce syllabic L:

1.1.L.1: *candle* > *candl* Final E cut by CS [Rule 1](#), E.1.1.7, as in *marbl*, *icicl*, *candl*, *raffl*, *triangl*, *jungl*, *ankl*, *steepl*, *nesl*, *turtl*, *axl*, *bamboozl*.

1.1.L.A: *signal* > *signl* Preceding A cut as in *cymb/l*, *medic/l*, *ped/l*, *off/l*, *fungl*, *mamm/l*, *sign/l*, *sepl*, *neutr/l*, *dismiss/l*, *coast/l*, *usul*, *larvl*, *renewl*, *royl*.

1.1.L.E: *camel* > *caml* Preceding E cut as in *rebl* (noun), *sach/l*, *rond/l*, *cudgl*, *snorkl*, *caml*, *panl*, *colnl*, *scalpl*, *mongrl*, *morsl*, *mussl*, *chisl*, *bushl*, *hostl*, *brothl*, *marvl*, *vowl*.

1.1.L.I: *fossil* > *fossl* Preceding I cut as in *gerbl*, *nostrl*, *tonsl*, *fossl*, *lentl*, *anvl*.

1.1.L.O: *symbol* > *sybl* Preceding O cut as in *sybl*, *petrl* (contrast *patrol*), *pistl*.

1.1.L.U: *consul* > *consl* Preceding U cut as in *peepl*, *consl*.

1.1.L.Y: *methyl* > *methl* Preceding Y cut.

1.1.L.2: *victuals* > *vitls* Two preceding vowel letters cut.

1.1.L.C: *difficult* > *diffictl* With a following consonant.

1.1.M Syllabic M

In TO a number of words end in a consonant followed by syllabic M, as in *chasm*, *prism*, *microcosm*, *paroxysm*, *rhythm*. At the same time, many words end in a consonant followed by unstressed -AM, -EM, -IM, -OM, -UM, -YM with the vowel letter pronounced more or less as shwa. Here too the M could equally well be given syllabic value by cutting the preceding vowel letter, as in the following examples:

1.1.M.A: *bantam* > *bantm* Preceding A cut as in *madm*, *amalgm*, *gingm*, *flotsm*, *Eveshm*, *bantm*, *Chatm*, *Granthm*.

1.1.M.E: *system* > *system* Preceding E cut as in *tandm*, *problm*, *system*.

1.1.M.I: *victim* > *victm* Preceding I cut as in *pilgrm*, *victm*, *maxm*. Some speakers may give the final -IM in these words the value of short I + M, as in stressed *him*. CS however takes the vowel to be sufficiently close to shwa (indeed, interchangeable with it) for the spelling with syllabic M to be the most convenient.

1.1.M.O: *atom* > *atm* Preceding O cut as in *randm*, *venm*, *maelstrm*, *ransm*, *blossm*, *atm*, *custm*, *fathm*, *buxm*.

1.1.M.U: *album* > *albm* Preceding U cut as in *albm*, *modicm*, *carborundm*, *maxmm*, *platinm*, *fulcrm*, *gypsm*, *autm*.

1.1.M.Y: *synonym* > *synonm* Preceding Y cut (see 1.1.M.1 above).

Note It will be noticed that the final CS form *maxmm* applies Rule 2, §1.M, twice, first cutting the I before the middle M (just as, under §1.1.M.I, TO *maxim* became CS *maxm*) and then the U before the final M. (Such patterns of double cutting are examined more generally in §1.5 below.) Writers who dislike the reduplicated M in CS *maxmm*, etc. may prefer to leave the final -MUM uncut (see §1.4 below regarding reduplicated consonants in general).

1.1.N Syllabic N

Syllabic N occurs in TO in the name of the composer *Haydn* and in such negative contractions as *couldn't*, *didn't*, *hadn't*, *isn't*, *hasn't*, *mightn't*, has final syllables rymes with that major problem of TO, the variable -ANT, -ENT endings. Other languages which use this device of syllabic N include Arabic (*ibn* 'son'), Welsh (*ofn* 'fear') and both Old English and Old Icelandic (*hræfn*, *hrafn* 'raven'). We may also note the phonetic parallel between TO *prism* with syllabic M and TO *prison*, which by analogy with *prism* could be more simply spelt *prisn* with syllabic N. Rule 2 as applied to N overcomes the anomaly of such variations as *dependant/dependent* (both *dependnt* in CS), *descendant* but *transcendent*, and either *ascendant* or *ascendent* (CS *asendnt*, *desendnt*, *transendnt*); likewise, CS removes the confusion faced by students of French and German, whose -ANT in French *assistant*, *consistant*, *persistant*, *resistant* and -ENT in German *Assistent*, *konsistent*, *persistent*, *resistent*, but in English have to remember -ANT in TO *assistant*, *resistant*, as against -ENT in *consistent*, *persistent*, etc. These are harmonized in CS as *assistnt*, *consistnt*, *persistnt*, *resistnt*. Cuts are made as follows:

1.1.N.A: *urban* > *urbn* Preceding A cut as in *urbn*, *republicn*, *Jordn*, *Vaun* (from TO *Vaughan*), *hoolign*, *womn*, *charlatn*, *Jonathn*, *silvn*. The plural *women* is distinguished by not being cut.

1.1.N.E: *garden* > *gardn* Preceding E cut as in *gardn*, *stiffn*, *ofn*, *sofn* (Rule 1 cuts T from TO *often*, *soften*), *oxyjn* (after G > J substitution — see Chapter 4, §5), *weakn*, *specimn*, *linn*, *deepn*, *lisn*, *risn*, *eatn*, *ovn*, *vixn*, *citizn*. Forms such as TO *coarsen*, *loosen*, *worsen* are cut to CS *cornsn*, *loosn*, *worsn*, although CS *corse*, *loose*, *worse* keep final E.

1.1.N.I: *cabin* > *cabn* Preceding I cut as in *cabn*, *orijn* (after G > J substitution), *jerkn*, *pipn*, *assassn*, *raisn*, *cusn*, *bulletn*, *Calvn*, *muezzn*. For identification of this unstressed I as shwa, see note on 1.1.M.I above.

1.1.N.O: *lemon* > *lemn* Preceding O cut as in *carbn*, *beacn*, *Londn*, *wagn*, *rekn*, *lemn*, *cann*, *wepn*, *prisn*, *reasn*, *buttn*, *marathn*, *Saxn*, *Amazn*.

1.1.N.U: *Whitsun* > *Witsn* Preceding U cut in *Injn*, *Witsn*.

1.1.N.2: *certain* > *certn* Two preceding vowels cut in *curtn*, *cushn*, *fashn*, *fountn*, *mountn*, *pijn* (from both TO *pigeon* and *pidgin*), *relijn* (these last three after G > J substitution). However, as explained under §1.6.2.X below, the unstressed ending -ION cannot normally be cut (*nation* cannot become **natn*); the exceptions for *cushion*, *fashion* are made possible by the preceding -SH-.

1.1.N.C: *important* > *importnt* With folloing consonant: *importnt*, *persistnt*, *secnd*.

Notes

- It will be noticed that TO *consonant* (CS *consnnt*) applies Rule 2, 1.N.C, twice, first cutting th O befor th middl N (cf *damsn*) and then th A befor th final -NT. Users ho dislike th reduplicated N in *consnnt*, etc, may prefer to keep th final -ANT of th TO form. Similrly, users ho dislike reduplicated N in CS *linn*, *cann* for TO *linen*, *canon* may prefer to keep th TO forms (se §1.4.NN belo).
- For words in wich R precedes shwa + N (contrasting *pattrn/patron*, *modrn/children*, etc), se §1.1.R.C belo.

1.1.R Syllabic R

Syllabic R occurs in British spelling in *Messrs* (plural of th title *Mr*) and in words like *centre*, *theatre*, in wich th final E is redundnt, indeed it was cut by [Rule 1](#) (E.1.1.12.2) along with th E in *apple* (*theatr*, *appl*). Other languages wich make use of this device of syllabic R include Welsh (also *theatr*), Arabic (*Nasr*), Russian (*Aleksandr*), as did Old English and Old Icelandic (*silfr* ‘silver’ in both languages).

If th cut form *centr* is compared with *enter*, it is clear that th secnd E in that word is redundnt too, and we can rite *entr*, so aligning th spelling of th ryms *centr/entr*, and distinguishing both th stress patterns and vowl valus of TO *enter/inter* (CS *entr/inter*). This in turn points th way to using syllabic R also for all other vowl letters that stand for shwa in that position, so regularizing one of th biggest sorces of uncertnty in TO. Furthermor, Americn and British discrepncis such as *center/centre* can be alignd by this procedur as *centr*. CS also distinguishes th sound-valus in th endings of *centred/hatred* by riting *centrd/hatred*. Rule 2 additionally resolvvs uncertnty as to th TO ending in a number of cases: *adapter/adaptor*, *imposter/impostor*, *invester/investor* for instnce reduce to CS *adaptr*, *impostr*, *investr*. Cuts occur as follos:

1.1.R.A: *vicar* > *vicr* Preceding A cut as in *lumbr*, *vicr*, *calendr*, *vinegr*, *peculir*, *poplr*, *nectr*.

1.1.R.E: *teacher* > *teachr* Preceding E cut as in *membr*, *soccr*, *teachr*, *buchr*, *bildr*, *conifr*, *angr*, *singr*, *prettir*, *speakr*, *travlr*, *farmr*, *joinr*, *keepr*, *lecturr*, *trousrs*, *fishr*, *neutr*, *watr*, *gathr*, *valur* (cf. [Rule 1](#), E.1.1.12.5 *pictur*, *verdur*), *rivr*, *showr*, *boxr*, *lawyr*.

1.1.R.EU: *amateur* > *amatr* Preceding EU cut if pronounced shwa in

amatr, chauffr (othrwise they can be left as *amatur, chauffer*).

1.1.R.I: Cheshire > Cheshr Preceding I cut if pronounced shwa in *Cheshr* and othr shire names.

1.1.R.O: sailor > sailr Preceding O cut as in *metafr* (aftr PH > F substitution), *sailr, superir, tremr, tenr, doctr, mayr*; TO *error, mirror, horror* also hav ther RR simplified by Rule 3, §4.3, to produce final CS *err, mirr, horr* (se Rule 2, §1.4.RR, belo for reduplicaton of R).

1.1.R.OU: glamour > glamr Rule 1, §U.3.3, cuts th British ending -OUR as in *labour* to th Americn ending -OR (*labor*). Unless th preceding vowel has long valu not othrwise indicated (as occurs in *labor*), Rule 2 now cuts th OR to syllabic R, giving CS *harbr, neibr, rancr, ardr, vigr, savir, valr, glamr, onr* (TO *honour*), *endeivr*.

1.1.R.U: murmur > murmr Preceding U cut in *sulfr* (aftr PH > F in British spelling), *injr, murmr, Arthr*.

1.1.R.UO: languor > langr Preceding UO cut in *langr, liqr*.

1.1.R.Y: martyr > martr Preceding Y cut in *martr, satr, zefr* (aftr PH > F).

1.1.R.C: standard > standrd Preceding shwa cut wen a furthr consnt follos th R as in *monrc, standrd, comftr, desrt, effrt*. Folloing th loss of P, A by [Rule 1](#), TO *cupboard* is now reduced by Rule 2 to just *cubrd*. By this cutting pattern, TO forms ending in unstressd -ERN such as *cavern, cistern, eastern, govern, lantern, modern, pattern, Severn, tavern* ar likewise cut, giving *eastrn, pattrn*, etc (cf. *eastr, pattr* for TO *Easter, patter*). It shud be noted, howevr, that this is th same ending as wud be produced if Rule 2, §1.1.N, wer applied to *brethren, cauldron, chagrin, chevron, children, saffron, rhododendron, squadron*, giving **brethrn, *cauldrn, *chagrn, *childrn*, etc. Th ambiguity of spelling *modrn/*childrn* with th same final syllabl is unsatisfactory, and a choice needs to be made between th two pattrns. Th advantage of cutting E from -ERN rather than from -REN is that CS then for th first time distinguhs *modrn*, etc from words with final stressd -ERN such as *concern, disern, intern*, and CS therfor recommends riting *modrn* but leving *children*, etc uncut (se also §1.6.4.XS belo).

Riters ho dislike th reduplicated R in *lecturr, terr* may prefer to keep th vowel lettrs befor th final R (se §1.4.RR belo).

1.2 Cutting shwa in non-final syllabls.

The same cuts can often be made in non-final post-accentual syllabls, the case of *opera* having already been discussed in [Chapter 2](#), §1.10. In the following cases the syllabic consonant, though not in the final syllabl, comes after the main stress:

1.2.L: *family* > *famly* Before syllabic L as in *famly*, *Italy*, *simle*, *ventilate*, and (from TO *catalogue*, *epilogue*, *monologue*) *catlog*, *eplog*, *monlog*, etc. This cut will from now on be applied in this Handbook to adverbial -ALLY endings, so that *musically* becomes *musiclly* (final CS *musicly*; cf Rule 1 A.4, explaining the different sequences of CS rules applying to TO *publicly*, *basically*, *musically*).

1.2.M: *enemy* > *enmy* Before syllabic M as in *bigmy*, *economy*, *enmy* (cf *enmity*), *epitme*, *ultmat*. Before the suffix -MENT, the syllabic structure becomes ambiguous in a few pairs, such as CS *betrmnt/detrmnt* for TO *betterment/detriment* or *setlmnt/complmnt* for TO *settlement/complement/compliment* (the -LEMENT of *settlement/ complement* is of course already ambiguous in TO); similar ambiguity is seen in RM, as between *infrmation/matRMny*; if it were that important to prevent such ambiguity, CS could keep the I in *detrimnt*, *complimnt*, *matrimny* and the E in *complemnt*, *implemnt*.

1.2.N: *ebony* > *ebny* Before syllabic N as in *anemne*, *ebny*, *elimnate*, *litny*, *orgnize* (also, after Rule 1 loss of final -E, *avnu*, *retnu*; and after substituting J for soft G, *projny* for TO *progeny*). The loss of E before N from TO *messenger*, *passenger* (final CS *mesnjr*, *pasnjr*) removes the E > A anomaly between *messenger/message*, *passenger/ passage*. In 4-syllabl words ending in -MONY (*acrimony*, *alimony*, *antimony*, *ceremony*, *hegemony*, *matrimony*, *parsimony*, *testimony*, but not 3-syllabl *harmony*) this cut produces final CS *acrmny*, *alimny*, *antmny*, *ceremny*, *hegmny*, *matrmny*, *parsmny*, *testmny*; however, this may not suit American speech which gives secondary stress and full long value to the O, with *ceremony* having the O of *ceremonial*.

1.2.R: *every* > *evry* Before syllabic R as in *evry*, *history*, *licrice*. Insofar as these medial vowels may be judged entirely silent, their omission was anticipated by Rule 1, §E.2.2.2. A particular attraction of this cut is the regularization of the second vowel in such TO forms as *separate*, *desperate*, *corporate*, giving CS *seprat*, *desprat*, *corprat*. Similarly the varying penultimate vowel letter in TO *military*, *monastery*, *dormitory* (cf *ministry*) disappears to give CS *militry*, *monastry*, *dormitry*; but the latter cuts may not suit American pronunciation, in which the cut vowel may have full value ('military', 'dormi-tory'). Other examples of this cut include *anrchy*, *monrchy*, *property*, *dictionry*.

1.3 Cutting shwa aftr secndry stress: *cons(o)lation*

In certn circmstnces th post-accentul shwa may follo a secndry stress, wile preceding th main stress in a word. For instnce, TO *consider* is cut by th norml application of Rule 2 to CS *considr*, but if this form is taken as th base for th CS derivativ *considrati*on, that same cut of E is then found to precede th main stress, wich falls on th folloing A and no longr on th preceding I. Such a patrn may appear acceptabl by analogy with TO *administer/administrati*on, but questionabl wen compared with th form *dehydrati*on, wich has no hint of a shwa and has not undrgon any cuts: can we accept a parallel spelling patrn in CS for th sutly diffrent syllabl structur of such a pair as TO *considerati*on, *dehydrati*on? Othr cases, in wich ther is no base-word like *considr* to justify th derived cut form, may appear even mor doutful: with th syllabic L, M, N, R preceding th main stress but folloing th secndry stress, th CS rules, mecanicly applied, result in forms such as final CS *conslation*, *inflmati*on, *intnati*on, *adrati*on for TO *consolati*on, *inflammati*on, *intonati*on, *adorati*on. Such forms hav a reduced resemblnce both to ther TO equivlnts and to ther base-words *console*, *inflame*, *intone*, *adore*, hos stressd vowl disapears in th CS form. This issu is perhaps seen at its most extreme in TO *confirmati*on/*conformati*on, wich ar merged as CS *cnfrmati*on, altho ther base-words *confirm*, *conform* remain distinct. This Handbook nevtrhless recmmends such cut forms for ther econmy and ther immunity to misspellings of th typ **consulation*, **aderati*on.

1.4 Reduplicated consonants.

One of th consequences of applying Rule 2 is that wen in TO a vowel lettr pronounced shwa seprates two Ms, Ns or Rs, its removal produces th effect of reduplication: two successiv, identicl consnnts that ar not simply dubld as in TO, wher they ar pronounced as tho singl (se Section 3 of this Chaptr for th simplification of such dubld consnnts), but pronounced seprately. (Othr exampls of such reduplication occur undr Category 2 — se for instnce §2.D and §2.BL belo.) Th nearest that TO coms to this effect is wen, somtimes, at morpheme boundris th pronunciation of a repeated consnnt (as LL in *soulless*, or NN in *unnecessary*) may be slightly lengthnd (or ‘geminated’); for th possibl simplification of such repeated consnnts in CS, se [Rule 3](#).

CS Rule 2, Category 1, produces reduplication of consonants in cases such as th folloing, many of them alredy referrd to abov:

1.4.MM: *maximum* > *maximm* MM in *maximm*, *minimm*, *optimm*, *cardamm*, *crysanthemm* (for final CS *maxmm*, etc, se §1.5 belo).

1.4.NN: *linen* > *linn* NN in disyllabic forms such as (ie, counting th secnd N as syllabic) CS *linn*, *cann* (TO *linen*, *canon/cannon*), *remnnt* (formrly spelt *remanent*), and in trisyllabic *consonnt*, *continnt*, *covennt*, *dominnt*, *permannt* (for final CS forms *consnnt*, etc, se §1.5 belo).

1.4.RR: *error* > *err* RR in disyllabic forms such as (ie, counting th secnd R as syllabic) CS *err*, *mirr*, *horr*, *terr* (TO *error*, *mirror*, *horror*, *terror*), and in trisyllabic *armourr*, *emperr*, *lecturr*, *wanderr* (for final CS *armrr*, etc, se §1.5 belo). Reduplicated R wud also arise if TO *arbitrary*, *contrary*, *February*, *funerary*, *honorary*, *itinerary*, *literary*, *temporary*, etc wer cut to *arbitrry*, *conrry*, *Febrry*, *funerrry*, *onrry*, *itinrry*, *litrry*, *temprry*, but Rule 1, §R.2, proposes th folloing CS forms with just singl R for these: *arbitry*, *contry*, *Febry*, *funery*, *onry*, *itinry*, *litry*, *tempry*. *Library* might also be cut (*libry*), or its long I might put it into th category of exeptions (se §1.6 belo), so leving it uncut (cf *ivory* left uncut).

Such reduplication of M, N, R has an unfamilir appearance, and users may therfor prefer to keep th intrvening TO vowl lettr in CS. This Handbook howevr recmmends these cuts for th sake of ther predictability, consistncy and econmy.

1.5 Dubl cutting by Rule 2: *adamant* > *admnt*

As alredy shown by som of th preceding exampls, a numbr of words contain two post-accentul shwas befor a combnation of L, M, N, RS, and in many cases both ar cut (exeptions ar described in 1.6.X belo). Th resulting lettr sequences ar highly caractristic of th extended consonnt strings occurring in CS, hos advantages (along with th unese they often initially provoke) wer outlined in th introduction to Rule 2 (Category 1, §f) abov. Th sweeping simplifications they entail will now be set out in mor detail. Wile in many cases ther is no question but that th vowl sounds in question ar shwas (eg, th O/E in *customer*), in othr cases th sound may be difficlt to define precisely (eg, do we pronounce th I in TO *animal* as shwa, or dos it retain at least a hint of a short I-sound? dos th secnd O of TO *cholesterol* rate as a short O, or as shwa?). For th sake of simplicity, CS deems th sounds in many such doubtful cases to be pronounced shwa and cuts th lettr accordingly (eg, CS *anml*). At th same time, th alphabetic principl dictates that if th shwa lettr is stressd in related words, CS cannot cut that lettr in those related words; thus, tho TO *continent* is cut to CS *contnnt*, th ajectiv TO *continental* has stressd E, wich must therfor be retaind in CS *contnentl*.

It may be objected that som of th resulting dubl-cut lettr-strings suffr a loss of visul distinctivness, especially in th case of successions of Ms and Ns

(eg, is CS *permnt* as esy to read as TO *permanent*?). Ther may indeed be such losses, but CS claims that *th* gains of predictability outwei them.

We ar concernd here with two successiv post-accentul vowls pronounced mor or less as shwa, each preceding L or M or N or R. These consonnts can occur in th folloing combnations (som reduplicated as described in §1.4 abov), with th hyphns standing for unspecified vowl lettrs in TO: -L-M, -L-N, -L-R, -M-L, -M-M, -M-N, -M-R, -N-L, -N-M, -N-N, -N-R, -R-L, -R-M, -R-N, -R-R. In TO th preceding shwas ar spelt with a bewildring variety of vowl lettrs, wich CS regulrizes by reducing th variations to th commn consonnt lettrs LM, LN, LR, ML, MM, MN, MR, NL, NM, NN, NR, RL, RM, RN, RR.

1.5.1.LM: *Jerusalem* > *Jeruslm* with A/E is th only clear exampl of this patrn, unless *curriculum*, *pendulum* with U/U ar allowd, despite th I-glide preceding th first U.

1.5.2.LNT: *insolent* > *inslnt* Befor unstressd -L-NT we se A/E in *ivalent*, E/E in *excellent*, I/A in TO *sibilant*, O/E in *insolent*; in CS these vowl lettrs all vanish, and th endings ar reduced to a standrd LNT, giving *equivlnt*, *exlnt*, *siblnt*, *inslnt*. Without th final T, ther is a much strongr tendncy for th last vowl lettr to hav its own clear, standrd valu, as in *Marilyn*, *Babylon*, *Catalan*; but at least th E/I of *javelin* and th O/A of *ortolan* might be cut in th same way, giving CS *javlnt*, *ortlnt*.

1.5.3.LR: *similar* > *simlr* Befor unstressd -L-R we se E/E in sevral words in wich th L is dubld in British but not Americn spelling; CS here natrally adopts th mor economicl Americn form with singl L from *jeweler*, *leveler*, *traveler*, wich without th vowl lettrs giv CS *jewlvr*, *levlvr*, *travlvr*; th same applies with th E/O of *counse(l)lor* and (with no L-dubling in Britn) *bachelor*, giving CS *counslvr*, *bachlvr*; in *similar* we se I/A (CS *simlvr*), and in *tricolor* O/O, giving *triclvr*. Thre categoris of words with simlvr structur ar exepcted from these cuts: *teetota(l)ler* keeps th A as in *total* to indicate th preceding long O (*total* dos not rym with *bottl*), leving CS *tetotalvr*; *chancellor* and *counci(l)lor* keep th E or I afr palatized C, leving CS *chancelvr*, *councilvr* (not **chanclvr*, **counclvr* — contrast *triclvr* with non-palatized C); and nearly 3 dozn words endng in -ULAR keep th U to indicate th preceding I-glide, so that *particular*, *globular* becom CS *particulvr*, *globulvr*, not **particlvr*, **globlvr*.

1.5.4.ML: *animal* > *anml* Words ending in unstressd -M-L normlly hav th vowl lettrs I/A, as also in *infinitesimal*, *maximal*, *minimal*, *optimal*, wich becom CS *infinitesml*, *maxml*, *minml*, *optml*. To indicate its palatized C, *decimal* must keep its I, leving CS *deciml*.

1.5.5.MM: *maximum* > *maxmm* Befor unstressd -M-M we se A/U in *cardamum*, E/U in *chrysanthemum*, I/U in *maximum*, etc; in CS these vowl lettrs all vanish, and th endings ar reduced to a standrd MM, giving *cardmm*, *crysanthmm*, *maxmm*.

1.5.6.MN: *adamant* > *admnt* Befor unstressd -M-N we se A/A in TO *adamant*, A/E in *armament*, A/O in *cinnamon*, E/E in *complement*, I/E in *compliment*; in CS these vowl lettrs all vanish, and th endings ar reduced to a standrd MN, giving final CS *admnt*, *armmnt*, *cinmn*, *complmnt*, *complmnt* (so merging th trublsm TO homophones *complement/compliment*; howevr, se §1.2.M abov and [Chaptr 6](#), §2.4.AMB (1), for argumnts in favor of keepng th vowl lettr befor th M in *complemnt*, *complimnt*, *detrimnt*, *implemnt*). It may also be argud that, if used as verbs, these words giv secndry stress to th syllabl -MENT, wich wud therfor need to keep its E, givng *to complement*, *to implment*. If both these resrvations wer acceptd, these verbs wud not be cut at all in CS.

1.5.7.MR: *customer* > *custmr* Ther ar few words with this structur: also with O/E is *astronomer*, CS *astronmr*; with A/E is *gossamer*, final CS *gosmr*, and with I/E th surname *Mortimer*, wich if cut wud becom *Mortmr*. For reasns explайд undr §1.6.4.XS belo, *polymer* keeps its Y and becoms CS *polymr*, not **polmr*.

1.5.8.NL: *criminal* > *crimnl* Befor unstressd -N-L we se E/A in *arsenal*, I/A in *criminal*, O/A in *personal*; in CS these vowl lettrs all vanish, and th endngs ar reduced to a standrd NL as in *arsnl*, *crimnl*, *persnl*. Howevr, by far th most commn TO spelling for this structur is as seen in *national*, wher th -IO-, as explайд undr §1.6.2.X belo, canot be cut; CS therfor reduces th TO ending -IONAL just to -IONL, as in *nationl*, etc.

1.5.9.NM: *platinum* > *platnm* Befor unstressd -N-M we se A/U in *tympanum*, I/U in *platinum*, O/Y in *synonym*; in CS these vowl lettrs all vanish, and th endings ar reduced to a standrd NM, giving *tympm*, *platnm*, *synnm*.

1.5.10.NN: *permanent* > *permnt* Befor unstressd -N-N we se A/E in *permanent*, E/A in *covenant*, I/A in *dominant*, I/E in *continent*, O/A in *consonant*; in CS these vowl lettrs all vanish, and th endings ar reduced to a standrd NNT, giving *covnnt*, *domnnt*, *consnnt*, *permnt*, *contnnt*.

1.5.11.NR: *gardener* > *gardnr* Befor unstressd -N-R we se E/E in *gardener*, I/E in *examiner*, O/E in *prisoner*, to wich we may add a few words with th string -RN-R, with E/E as in *westerner* and E/O in *governor*; in CS these vowl lettrs all vanish, and th endings ar reduced to a standrd (R)NR, giving *gardnr* (cf *Gardner* as an alternativ TO surname form;

compare also TO *falconer*, CS *falcnr*, with *th* surname *Falkner*), *examnr*, *prisnr*, *westnr*, *govnr*. In certn circmstnces *th* vowel lettr befor *th* -N cannot be cut: TO *opener* keeps its first E, as in *open*, to indicate *th* preceding long O; nor can *th* vowel befor N be cut if *th* preceding lettr is R, thus *coroner*, *foreigner*, *mariner* must not align with *corner*, *barn* (hence CS *coronr*, *forenr*, *marinr*); and words ending in TO -IONER must keep *th* -IO- (cf retention of -IO- in CS *nation*, *nationl*), so that TO *pensioner* becoms just *pensionr* in CS.

1.5.12.RL: *several* > *sevrl* Befor unstressd -R-L we se E/A in *several*, E/E in *mackerel*, E/I in *Goneril*, E/O in *cholesterol*, I/A in *admiral*, O/A in *corporal*, U/A in *guttural*; in CS these vowel lettrs all vanish, giving final CS *sevrl*, *makrl*, *Gonrl*, *colestrl*, *admrl*, *corprl*, *gutrl*. Words of *th* typ *natural*, hos base-word ends in TO -URE, CS -UR, ar deemd to be pronounced with *th* same ending as those endng in -ERAL (thus *natural*, *lateral* ar deemd to rym) and ar cut in *th* same way to -RL: *natrl*, *latrl*. Two words ending in -ERAL cannot lose E because it indicates a preceding long vowel: *funeral*, *numeral*, and TO *behavio(u)ral* becoms *behaviral*.

1.5.13.RLY: *satisfactorily* > *satisfactrly* This patrn arises partly from §1.5.RL abov (*lateral* > *latrl* produces *th* adverb *laterally* > *latrly*), but shud also be considrd in *th* context of *th* unstresd -LY endng genrly (*family* > *famly*, *Italy* > *Itly*) and adverbial suffix -LY in particulr. We must first ask wethr, if TO *family* is rittn as CS *famly*, any -LY adverb based on an ajectiv endng in Y can follo *th* same patrn: if *famly*, wy not **gloomly*, **giltly*, **hevly*, **noisly*? We shud hesitate first on acount of *th* morfology (**gloomly* surely must indicate a disyllabic base word *gloomy* + *ly*, contrasting with *glumly*, hos structur is *glum* + *ly*), and secnd on acount of varius exeptions, such is *esily*, *hastily* hos I is needed to sho *th* preceding long vowel. Othr factrs, howevr, arise in *th* case of polysyllabic base words, wher *th* two comn endngs -ARY, -ORY, with ther adverbial equivlnts -ARILY, -ORILY, ar esily confused in TO. *Th* merger of A and O in *ordinary/satisfactory* to giv *ordnry/satisfactry*, togethr with *th* E/A cut in *laterally* > *latrly*, strongly sujet a merger of A/I in *ordinarily* with O/I in *satisfactorily* to giv CS *ordnrly/satisfactrly*. Such cuts, of corse, presume a British pronunciation with *th* lost vowels unstresd, and not, as ofn in American pronunciation, with, eg, stressd A in TO *militarily*; if *th* A wer kept, *th* I might need to stay too (**militarily* might seem syllabically inadequat). Final CS rites *ncesrly*, *temprly*, *voluntrly*, *perfunctrly*, etc.

1.5.14.RM: *marjoram* > *marjrm* Very few othr words end in -R-M that do not hav clear valus for ther final vowel, *th* nearest being perhaps TO *interim*, wich might be cut to CS *intrm*.

1.5.15.RNT: *tolerant* > *tolrnt* Befor unstressd -R-N we se E/A in TO

tolerant, E/E in *different*, O/A in *ignorant*; in CS these vowel letters can all vanish, and the endings reduce to standard RNT, giving *tolrnt*, *ignrnt*, *diffrnt*. See §1.1.R.C above and §1.6.4.XS below for reasons why similar words without final T cannot lose the preceding vowel letter, so that TO *veteran* > CS *vetran*, not **vetrn*. (See §1.6.4.XS also for the counter-suggestion that vowels should never be cut between R-N, thus leaving CS *tolrant*.)

1.5.16.RR: *emperor* > *empr* Before unstressed -R-R we see E/E in TO *wanderer*, O(U)/E in *armo(u)rer*, E/O in *emperor*, U/O in *conjuror*; in CS these vowel letters all vanish, and the endings are reduced to a standard RR, giving *wandr*, *armrr*, *empr*, *conjrr*.

Table 1 now shows which combinations of syllabic consonants permit such double cuts.

Table 1: Structures of combined syllabic l, m, n, r cuts

	+ L	+ M	+ N	+ R
L +	—	<i>Jeruslm</i>	<i>inslnt</i>	<i>simlr</i>
M +	<i>anml</i>	<i>maxmm</i>	<i>admnt</i>	<i>custmr</i>
N +	<i>crimnl</i>	<i>platnm</i>	<i>consnt</i>	<i>gardnr</i>
R +	<i>sevrl</i>	<i>marjrm</i>	<i>tolrnt</i>	<i>empr</i>

1.6.X Exceptions to Rule 2 syllabic L, M, N, R spellings

Although the above cutting patterns apply to a large number of words, there are certain circumstances where the unstressed vowel before L, M, N, R cannot be cut. Some exceptions arise because of problems of TO which the CS rules cannot resolve, while others are inherent in the phonology of the English language.

1.6.1.X Preceding long vowel + consonant: *even/sevn* In the sequence long vowel + consonant + schwa + L, M, N, R, the schwa-vowel letter has ‘magic’ effect, that is to say, it shows the long value of the preceding vowel. This is particularly apparent when the schwa-vowel is E, as in CS *even*, where the second E has ‘magic’ function, indicating the long value of the preceding vowel, and therefore cannot be cut. (We may alternatively analyze *even* as consisting of the syllables *eve* + syllabic N.) CS *even* contrasts with CS *sevn*, *hevn*, where the second E of the TO form is lost because the preceding short vowel requires no following vowel and the syllabic function of the final N is clear. The spelling contrast between CS *even/sevn* is altogether an excellent demonstration of the improved sound-symbol correspondence created by CS. However, any vowel letter can have such ‘magic’ function in these post-accentual syllables, and examples

(with contrasting short-vowl equivalents, which do lose their shwa- letter, given in brackets) as follows:

1.6.1.XL: *oval* ≠ *grovl* No cut can be made after the long vowel in *fatal* (*cattl*), *regal* (*haggl*), *medieval/primeval*, *evil* (*devl*), *final* (*fiddl*), *opal* (*toppl*), *oval* (*grovl*), *brutal* (*sutl* from TO *subtle*). Sometimes such words have more than two syllables; thus the last A in TO *appraisal* (final CS *aprasal*), *retrieval* (CS *retreval*), *reprisal*, *betrothal*, *tribunal* cannot be cut because it indicates the long value of the preceding A, E, I, O, U respectively. Similarly, certain words ending in consonant + L ‘magic’ E must also remain uncut; such as *maple*, *rifle*, *scruple*, which then contrast with the stressed short vowels of *appl*, *piff*, *suppl*. It will be noted that *peple* also falls into this category (see Rule 1, O.1, for the loss of O in TO *people*).

1.6.1.XM: *item* ≠ *atm* No cut after long vowel in *item*, *totem*, contrasting with cut after short vowel in *atm*, *bottom*.

1.6.1.XN: *pagan* ≠ *wagn* No cut after long vowel in *pagan* (*wagn*), *blatant*, *latent* (*combatnt*), *vacant*, *demon* (*lemn*), *even* (*sevn*, *hevn*), *omen* (*commn*), *open*, *potent* (*impotnt*), *prudent*. In the case of TO *nuisance* (cf *appraisal*, §1.6.1.XL above), CS can either cut the long vowel to give *nusance*, or cut the shwa to give **nuisnce*; as explained under Rule 1, I.1.6, the former cut giving CS *nusance* is preferred.

1.6.1.XR: *fever* ≠ *evr* No cut after long vowel in *favor*, *fever* (*evr*), *diver* (*rivr*), *rover* (*hovr*), *mover* (*lovr*), *paper* (*trappr*), *crater*, *later* (*fattr*), *motor* (*tottr*), *labor* (*glamr*), *tumor* (*summr*). An important group of exceptions of this type are the words rhyming with *dictator*, *regulator*. If a word with a long vowel can be spelled with alternative endings in TO, CS can help resolve the uncertainty: TO *adviser/advisor* reduce to just the one CS form *adviser*, since that is built on the predictable pattern of base-word *advise* + standard suffix R (despite the adjective *advisory* has O has ‘magic’ function indicating the long I). TO *lever*, it will be noted, is deemed to have American pronunciation rhyming with *ever*, and is cut accordingly to *levr*, alongside CS *evr*.

1.6.1.XX: *weevil* > *weevl* The above set (1.6.1.X) of exceptions to CS Rule 2 arises from the TO indication of long vowels by means of ‘magic’ letters following a subsequent consonant. However, when long vowels are represented by digraphs, the Rule 2 cut applies in the normal way, as in *weevl*, *eagl*, *steapl*, *beadl*, *needl*. If at some future date the spelling of these ‘magicked’ long vowels were rationalized, Rule 2 could apply to them too, for instance by maybe respelling *naval*, *evil*, *rival*, *oval*, *brutal* as **naevl*, **ievl*, **ryvl*, **ohvl*, **bruhtl*. However, such changes go far beyond the scope of CS.

1.6.2.X: Preceding palatized consnt: *lesion* ≠ *lessn* A vowel lettr(s) representing shwa that also has th function of palatizing a preceding consnt cannot be cut. This arises typicly afr soft C or G, and in -IAL, -ION and simlr endings. Som words appear as exeptions both undr this rule (1.6.2.X) and undr th preceding long-vowl rule (1.6.1.X): *racer*, *wager* must keep th E, because it shos both that th first vowl is long and that th C, G is soft; and *occasion*, *station*, *completion*, *explosion*, *commotion*, *conclusion*, *ablution* must keep th -IO- befor final N, both because they indicate that th preceding vowl is long and because they demnstrate th palatization of th preceding S or T (contrast TO *lesson/lessen/lesion*, wich Rule 2 cuts to *lessn/lessn/lesion*, and TO *cushion*, *fashion*, wich becom CS *cushn*, *fashn*). Mor radicl changes wud be needed in ordr fully to rationalize those spellings, giving perhaps **raesr*, **waejr*, **ocaezhn*, **staeshn*, but such forms hav no place in CS.

In th case of such words as *agent*, *cogent*, *regent*, *contagion*, *region*, th preceding long vowl requires th shwa-vowl to be kept even afr soft G has been respelt J (se [Chaptr 4](#), §4), giving CS *cojent*, *rejent*, *rejon*. Howevr, simlr words without such a long vowl befor th G (eg, TO *pageant*, *sergeant*, *detergent*, *indigent*, *pigeon*, *dudgeon*, *dungeon*, *pidgin*, *religion*) can be cut in th norml way by Rule 2 afr G > J substitution (CS *pajnt*, *serjnt*, *deterjnt*, *indijnt*, *pijn*, *dujn*, *dunjn*, *pijn*, *relijn*).

1.6.2.XC: *pencil* ≠ *uncl* Rule 2 cannot cut th post-accentul vowl from *chancel*, *pencil* (contrast *uncl*), *parcel*, *innocent* (contrast *applicnt*), *cancer* (contrast *ancr*, *bankr*), *grocer* (contrast *soccr*), *lancer* (contrast *ansr*). This set of exeptions to CS Rule 2 arises from th TO use of E, I to sho palatization of a preceding C; a subsequent reform cud remove this exeption by replacing soft C by S (cf Welsh *pensil*, *parsel*), giving **pensl*, **chansl*, **cansr*, **lansr*; but this is not envisaged for CS.

1.6.2.XG: *merger* > *merjr* Rule 2 cannot by itself cut th E in *badger*, *cudgel*, *merger*, *lodger*, *Roger*, but once soft (D)G is rittn J (se [Chaptr 4](#), §4), Rule 2 applies, to produce final CS *bajr*, *cujl*, *merjr*, *lojr*, *Rojr*.

1.6.2.XI TO spells many words with final -IAL, -IAN, -ION, etc, with th preceding consnt palatized (ie, its norml valu changed by assimilating folloing I). These endings cud only be cut undr two conditions: first th palatization wud hav to be othrwis indicated (as by substituting SH for TI), and secnd th preceding vowl wud hav to be shown as long by som othr means. A furthr objection to cutting these endings is

that th process of palatization is in som cases not yet complete, and both palatized and non-palatized pronunciations ar herd; thus altho *nation* is today universlly pronounced with palatized T, th palatization of S in *Parisian* and of T in *negotiate* is variabl. Th folloing pattrns arise:

1.6.2.1.XIAL: *official* ≠ *musicl* Th palatized endings -CIAL, -SIAL, -TIAL, as in *racial, spatial, special, official, initial, social, crucial, financial, substantial, confidential, nuptial, controversial, partial*, cannot be cut by CS Rule 2.

1.6.2.2.XIAN: *Titian* ≠ *bittn* Th palatized endings -CIAN, -SIAN, -TIAN, as in *Grecian, musician, Confucian, Asian, artesian, Parisian, Persian, Russian, alsatian, Venetian, Titian, Laotian, Lilliputian, gentian, Egyptian, Martian, Christian*, cannot be cut.

1.6.2.3.XION: *suspicion* ≠ *republicn* By far th most commn of these palatized endings, occurring in over 1,000 words, is -ION. It is variously seen in *suspicion, coercion, contagion, region, occasion, adhesion, incision, explosion, exclusion, revulsion, expansion, extension, compassion, digression, admission, concussion, ration, discretion, ignition, extraction, direction, prediction, concoction, reduction, infarction, exemption, consumption, contraption, inception, option, interruption, condemnation, completion, commotion, ablution, crucifixion*. Th ending cannot be cut in any of these cases, somtimes because of th preceding long vowl (cf 1.6.1.X, abov), but always because th I is needed to indicate th palatized pronunciation (th endings of TO *republican/suspicion, lesson/lesion* must be kept distinct in CS as *republicn/suspicion, lessn/lesion*). But se 1.6.2.X abov for cutting *religion* to CS *relijn*, wher neithr of these constraining factrs applies.

1.6.3.XV: With a preceding pronounced vowl. If th post- accentul shwa is immediatly preceded by a pronounced vowl lettr rathr than by a consnt, it is for phonologicl reasns ofn impossibl to cut.

1.6.3.XV.1.L: *fuel* ≠ *full* For near-monosyllabic words of th form *pail, Gael, deal, feel, dial, coal* (cf [Rule 1](#), §A.3.2), *dual, fuel*, CS cannot rite **pal, *Gal, *del, *fel, *dil, *col, *dul, *ful*, since th successiv vowl lettrs indicate both th gliding pronunciation as well as th long valu of th vovls. Cutting such forms wud in fact create total ambiguity, since, afr [Rule 3](#) has been applied, these ar also th CS forms of TO *pal, gal, dell, fell, dill, col, dull, full*, with ther short vovls.

For simlr reasns, polysyllabic words ending in -EAL, -IAL, such as *cereal, corporeal, adverbial, menial, special*, do not shortn ther endings in

CS either. The successive vowel letters EA, IA indicate the glide that is pronounced with the shift from the first vowel to the second (or, in the pattern of *special*, the palatization of the preceding C — see §1.6.2.1.XIAL above). If the final A were cut, ambiguities would arise with other spelling patterns, as the endings in **cerel*, **corporel*, **adverbil*, **menil*, **specil* would be indistinguishable from the endings of words like *compel*, *fulfil*.

1.6.3.XV.2.UL: *equal, sequel* In words ending in U + shwa + L, cutting is usually impossible for the same sorts of reasons. When a U pronounced as W, as after Q, precedes post-accentual shwa, no cut is made: CS *equal, sequel*.

1.6.3.XV.3.XUL: *actual* > *actul* An important cut is however made in the ending -UAL (cf *usul*, §1.1.L.A, above), by the following reasoning: first CS assumes that the vowel in the unstressed final syllable of TO *globule*, *ridicule*, *schedule*, *module*, *capsule*, etc is essentially pronounced as shwa with a preceding I-glide (ie, not with the full long-U value of *rule*, from which it is distinguished by the loss of final E already by [Rule 1](#), E.1.1.8.3, giving CS *modul*, etc); next, a word like CS *modul* rhymes with *gradual* and other words ending in -UAL; and therefore the spelling of these two TO patterns can be aligned by cutting them both to just -UL, giving CS *schedul*, *modul*, *gradul*, *manul*, *actul*, *usu*, etc. The phonographic quality of this spelling pattern is most apparent in adverbial forms such as final CS *graduly* (the LL is simplified by [Rule 3](#), §5.2.1.LL), which follows the model of *duly* in both sound and spelling. The tendency to palatize the previous consonant in some of these words (*gradul*, *usul*, *actul*) is still allowed for by the initial I-glide of the U in these endings.

A difficulty arises from the one polysyllabic word which in TO ends in stressed short-vowel -UL: the verb *to annul*. By the normal application of CS Rules 2 and 3 (simplification of doubled consonants), both TO *annul* and TO *annual* would be written **anul*, and the question arises whether the danger of ambiguity from this one TO pair *annul/annual* should prevent the cutting of -UAL, -ULE to -UL everywhere, or whether this pair can be dealt with as an exception. The Handbook, as usual, gives priority to economy of spelling here and shows the TO -UAL endings all cut to -UL in CS, but gives *annul** uncut and marked as a special case. (A better solution would be to respell the latter as **anull*, but CS rules do not allow for any such consonant-dubbling.) See also [Rule 3](#), §2.5.2.

1.6.3.XV.4.MN: *museum, median* Endings such as -EUM (*museum*), -IUM (*tedium*), -UUM (*vacuum*), -EAN (*herculean*), -IAN (*median, radiant*), -UANT (*gargantuan, truant, pursuant*), -UENT (*constituent, unguent*) must remain uncut, since a cut form would no longer represent the specific quality of the vowel, which is a diphthong with glide.

When U has its full long value before -NT, no cut is made in near-monosyllables such as *truant*, *fluent*, since **trunt*, **flunt* would appear to rhyme with *hunt*; nor are polysyllabic words such as *pursuant*, *constituent* cut, since TO offers no model for a spelling pattern such as **pursunt*, **constitunt*, pronounced with glide-U (by contrast [see §1.6.3.XV.3.XVL above], TO did offer the model of *modul(e)* for cutting the A in *gradu(a)l*). Similarly, U after Q as in *consequent*, *sequence* is uncut. (TO *piquant*, with its silent U, is cut by [Rule 1](#) to CS *piqant*).

1.6.3.XV.5.R: *seer*, *folloer*, *happier* > *happir* Base words ending in -E, -O which add the agentive suffix -ER cannot cut it to -R: the correct pronunciation would not be apparent if *seer*, *folloer* were cut to **ser*, **follor*. But the endings -IAR, -IER, -IOR, -UER are reduced to -IR, -UR, since TO offers models such as *souvenir*, *picture* whose final syllable has the same pronunciation. TO *peculiar*, *happier*, *superior*, *valuer* therefore become *peculir*, *happir*, *superir*, *valur*. British pronunciation allows TO *jaguar* to be cut to CS *jagur*, although American pronunciation articulates the final -AR.

1.6.4.XS: *barn*, *Karen*, *reverent* > *revrnt* For phonological reasons, certain sequences of L, M, N, R with an intervening schwa do require a letter to show its presence. *Table 2* below sets out which sequences (those in italics) are permissible without an intervening letter and which would create phonographic ambiguity if the schwa letter were deleted (TO forms which cannot be cut are struck through). If the struck-through forms were cut, they would appear to be pronounced as though with the final consonant string of the word(s) in brackets above, i.e., without syllabic value for the post-accentual L, M, N, R. Non-struck-through italicized spellings in the table are acceptable CS forms.

Table 2: Admissible and inadmissible l, m, n, r combinations

	+ L	+ M	+ N	+ R
L +	—	(calm, film) alum <i>Jeruslm</i>	(kilm) woolen <i>inslnt</i>	<i>sailr</i>
M +	<i>caml</i>	<i>maxmm</i>	<i>lemn</i>	<i>steamr</i>
N +	<i>panl</i>	<i>venm</i>	<i>lin(e)n</i>	<i>strainr</i>
R +	(girl) <i>squirrel</i> <i>scoundrl</i>	(form) <i>forum</i> <i>marjrm</i>	(barn) <i>Karen</i> <i>revrnt</i>	<i>wandr</i>

The table shows that, in the sequence vowel + consonant + schwa + consonant, the schwa must be represented by a vowel letter between L-M and between R-M (as in

alum, woolen, forum, Karen), as well as between R-L (as in *squirrel*) and R- N (but not R-NT — se belo for ke exampls); but no such intrvening vowel lettr is needed between othr pairings of L, M, N, R (eg, MR in *steamr*, NL in *panl*). Wen consnts precede and/or follo such sequences directly, som of th othrwise inadmissibl sequences becom possibl (as also listed in th previus table). For instnce, altho *Karen* must keep its E to sho th presnce of th shwa between R-N (**Karn* wud appear to rym with *barn*), no lettr is needed between RN in *revrnt* (se Table 1, end of §1.5), with its preceding V and folloing T. But, as explaind at §1.1.RC abov, th shwa vowel must be kept in th endings of such words as TO *brethren, cauldron, chagrin, chevron, children, rhododendron, squadron*, as well as CS *vetran*, wich hav no furthr consnt afr th N, since ther final syllabl must be distinguishd from that of *eastrn, modrn, patrn*, etc. These variations ar complex wen thus explaind, but users shud find that, by sounding out th spellings concernd, they can detect wich represent th correct pronunciation and wich do not. (Som simplification of this CS rule cud be acheved by insisting that vowels can nevr be cut between R-N, so keeping th A in *entrance* and th E in *different*, etc, but ther wud be a dubl price to pay: econmy wud suffr, and th trublsm -ANT/-ENT anomlis wud survive.)

Rule 2, Category 2: cutting vowels in suffixes and inflections.

Sevrl importnt advantages flo from this secnd category of Rule 2 cuts. Cutting E from th -ES and -ED inflections, th I from th -ING inflection, and th A, I from th -ABLE, -IBLE suffixes, not merely makes riting significantly mor economicl, but it aligns som unpredictabl variations in TO, and, abov all, allows Rule 3 to remove at a stroke nearly all th most trublsmlly unpredictabl patrn of consnt dubling in TO.

2.D: *needed > needd, waited > waitd* In CS, th regulr past tense of verbs is formd by adding just -D, and not normlly -ED; TO on th othr hand somtimes adds -ED (*wait+ed*) and somtimes -D (*hate+d*), depending on th base-form of th verb. CS [Rule 1](#) alredy removed th E of final -ED wen it is not pronounced (se §E.3.1 for *tuggd, lookd, pulld, drummd, pinnd, missd, nursd*, etc), and Rule 2 removes it in nearly all th remaining cases, most notably afr D, T (*needd, waitd*). As far as th pronunciation of th resulting reduplicated -DD and phoneticly homorganic -TD endings is concernd, th principl here applied is that sounds wich, for phonologicl reasns, must be pronounced in a givn environmnt in English, do not require to be spelt: since one cannot pronounce reduplicated DD or th string TD without an intrvening shwa-like

vowl, there is no need to spell it. As already seen under Category 1, this principle of sound-symbol correspondence also underlies many other new consonant strings created by CS Rule 2; and as observed in [Chaptr 2](#) above, the consistent addition of -D as a past tense inflection introduces an element of morphophonemic stability to English spelling, the lack of which causes frequent problems in TO.

Verbs whose base-form ends in ‘magic’ E do not lose it in their past tense forms, so that for instance *hoped*, *hated* remain uncut. Such forms are not exceptions to the rule that the past tense inflection adds just -D, since the letter D is all that is added to the base-form of the verb here (*hope+d*, *hate+d*). It will be seen in Section 3 (Rule 3) of this chapter how cutting E from the -ED suffix of TO is indispensable for simplifying doubled consonants in forms like TO *hopped*, which can be written as CS *hopd*, but obviously not as **hoped*, which in CS remains the past tense of *to hope*.

Exceptions to the general loss of E before the -D inflection occur in monosyllabic verbs ending in a vowel, since its normal long value in final position would appear to become short if only D were added (eg, without E, *ro* would become **rod*, so CS writes *roed*). The past tense of for instance TO *to key*, *to crow*, *to sue* (cut to CS *ke*, *cro*, *su*) must therefore add -ED, not just -D, and their past tense forms are CS *keed*, *croed*, *sued* (cf [Rule 1](#), E.3.1, W.3.2.2). Polysyllabic verbs ending in a vowel on the other hand can lose this E without misleading (eg, *acned*, *taxid*, *embargod*, *argud*), because the resulting spelling does not so clearly imply a final short vowel. With verbs whose base-form ends in -Y, CS distinguishes two possible sound-values for the final vowel: *reply* (and rhyming words) add just -D giving CS *replyd* (see [Chaptr 4](#), §5, for letter-substitutions; this form is not used in the Handbook until Chaptr 4), while *pity* (and rhyming words) change -Y to -ID, giving CS *pitid*.

2.NG: *hopping* > *hopng* vs *hoping* CS cuts the -ING ending of verbs to just -NG unless their base-form ends in a vowel. Thus from *sit*, *bar*, the TO -ING forms *sitting*, *barring* are cut to *sitng*, *barrng* (by Rule 3, final CS *sitng*, *barrng*); but from *site*, *bare*, the TO -ING forms *siting*, *baring* are not cut. The retained I in these cases was described in [Chaptr 2](#), §3.3, as effectively having ‘magic’ function, ie, it indicates that the preceding vowel is long.

Just as cutting the E in TO *hopped* makes the doubled PP superfluous and allows CS to write *hopd*, so reducing the -ING inflection to -NG whenever possible enables another pattern of doubled consonants to be simplified by [Rule 3](#): *hopping* avoids ambiguity with *hoping* by becoming *hopng* in final CS, though until Rule 3 is introduced, the Handbook will write *hoppng*. Since in TO -NG is never preceded by a consonant, there is no restriction on which consonant can precede it in CS, and typical forms with a range of preceding consonants in unfamiliar strings are then as follows: *rubbng*, *picnicng*, *poachng*, *raidng*, *sniffng*, *loggng*, *singng*, *lodgng* (after G > J, *lojng*), *trekkng*, *lockng*, *spellng*, *feelng*, *battlng*, *tunnlng*, *roamng*, *rainng* (with reduplicated N), *soapng*, *fearng*, *warrng*, *hammrng*, *missng*, *rushng*, *coatng*, *mouthng*, *livng*, *sawng*, *mixng*, *playng*, *fizzng*. Just as Rule 1,

E.3.1, cut th E from TO *pulsed, rinsed, lapsed, nursed* (CS *pulsd, rinsd, lapsd, nursd*), so th I can be cut from ther -ING forms, givng CS *pulsng, rinsng, lapsng, nursng*. These cuts overcom th misleadngly parallel spelling of such TO pairs as *having/shaving, loving/moving/roving, coming/homing, living/driving* by riting CS *lovng, comng, livng* but leving *shaving, homing, driving* uncut because ther base-forms end in a vowel.

As with th othr cut inflections discussd in this section, CS givs loer priority to explicit representation of th vowel sound in th endng than to econmy and regularity. Howevr even th sound-symbll correspondnce of th -NG endng may be justified on th grounds that, in a word like TO *singing*, th vowel in th secnd -ING syllabl is less distinct than in th initial *sing-*, and if, as in Australasian speech, th secnd -I- is pronounced as shwa, th diffrence is not distinctiv.

Th only verbs that keep th -I- from TO -ING ar those hos CS form ends in a vowel: *seing, skiing, going, borroing, arguing*. Lernrs shud especially note how this expection applies to verbs endng in ‘magic’ E (eg, as in *hate/hating, compare/comparing, heve/heving, complete/completing, file/filing, fire/firing, hope/hoping, tune/tuning, endure/enduring*) or in C- sofngng E (eg, *fence/fencing*). Verbs endng in C-sofngng -Y vary: those with anothr vowel preceding add -NG (*playng, surveyng, toyng*), as do those hos final Y has its long valu as in *by* (*tryng, denyng, qualifyng*); but those hos final Y has th valu of short I add full -ING: *pitying, carrying*. (Anothr reasn wy -ING is not cut in words like *carrying* is that it is assumed such words will eventually hav final I like *taxi*, so givng *taxi/taxiing, *piti/pitiing, *carri/ carriing*, and CS tries to avoid cutng lettrs that might hav to be restord later). Final W counts as a consnt: *saw/sawng, vow/vowng*.

If CS normlly cuts th post-accentual inflection -ING to just -NG, th question arises wethr th same cut shud be made wen -ING is not an inflection, but an ordnry unstressd syllabl, as in *morning*, or in intrmediat cases such as *wedding*, wich cud be described as th -ING-form of th verb *to wed*. Th simplest ansr is to treat all such unstressd -ING endngs in th same way, just as all post-accentual -ER endngs ar cut to -R, regardless of wethr they ar inflections (eg, both *lingr* and *longr* — se §2.R belo). This policy will therfor be adoptd for -ING, givng final CS *mornng, evenng, ceilng, wedng*, and a place name such as TO *Birmingham* (UK) cud be shortnd to CS *Birmngm*. Words based on th noun *thing*, such as *evrything, somthing*, ar not cut in this way.

2.R: *warmer > warmr* Many simpl (especially monosyllabic) ajectivs form ther comparativ by addng -ER in TO. In CS they normlly add just -R, this endng folloing th same patrnns as TO -ER in othr typs of word, as outlined in §1.1.R abov: *sickr, richr, oldr, biggr, strongr, darkr, tallr, warmr, clevrr* (reduplication of R), *lushr, bettr, brightr* (but se Chaptr 4 for IGH > Y substitution, wich produces final CS *brytr*), *newr, shyrr*. Ajectivs endng in

‘magic’ E keep it in th comparativ form: *late/later, nice/nicer*; and ajectives endng in O or U keep -ER: *lo/loer, yello/yelloer, tru/truer*. Ajectives endng in -Y add just R, but change th Y to I if it is pronounced with short valu, as distinguishd in th contrastng pairs *hy/hyr, happy/happir*.

2.S: *churches > churchs* Wile th E in th -ED inflection must be cut to allow simplification of dubld consnnts by Rule 3, removal of E in th -ES suffix dos not hav th same systemic advantage, and is recmmendd chiefly for its econmy (but note that th diffrently pronounced plurals of TO *ax(e)/axis* ar distinguishd as CS *axs/axes* respectively). Whereas most TO past tense forms end in -ED, th TO endng -ES only arises aftr certn (siblnt) consnnts, as in *bus + es, fuss + es, bush + es, church + es, fox + es, fizz + es*; words with othr final consnnts simply add S. If we accept such forms as *needd, fitd*, we shud hav no difficlty in acceptng at least CS *bushs, churchs, foxs, fizzes* wich simlrly leve th shwa unspelt. Words endng in -S, howevr, retain th full -ES inflection in CS, as othrwise confusing patrn of S-dublng and -triplng wud arise: TO *buses* wud becom **buss*, wile TO *fusses* wud becom **fuss*. Furthrmor, th retention of full -ES aftr final S enables Rule 3 (se §1.7.SS and §2.4.SS belo) widely to regulrize th use of SS across th English languaj. Ther ar howevr also disadvantages in retainng -ES aftr final -S: th sound-symbll correspondnce of th inflections in a pair such as CS *bushs, buses* now diffrs, wile th Greco-Latin -ES endng (as in TO) falsely parallels th inflection, suggestng that for instnce *compasses, Ulysses* hav th same endng.

2.VS: *potatoes > potatos* Wen th base-word ends in a vowel, ther is alrely gret variation with -S inflections in TO. Final A, E, I, U add just S (*sofas, recipes, continues, taxis, emus*), wile final O may ad -S or -ES or optionlly eithr (*potatoes, pianos, ghetto(e)s*; se Rule 1, §E.3.2.2 for discussion of problms), and final Y normlly changes to -IES (*pities, replies*). CS simplifies these variations in sevrll ways. It adds just -S to final O (*potatos, pianos, gettos*). It removes final E from words hos base-form ends in UE, and then just adds S for th inflection, so alignng *continuu/continuu* with *emu/emus*. And for words endng in -Y, CS introduces a new distinction (as with th inflection -D), accordng to ther sound-valu: *reply* ads just S givng CS *replis* (cf §2.D abov for CS *replyd*, and [Chaptr 4](#), §5, for lettr-substitutions), wile *pity* substitutes I to giv *pitis* by [Rule 1](#) (se §E.3.3 for discussion of problms).

2.ST: *warmest > warmst* Many simpl (especially monosyllabic) ajectives form ther superlativ by addng -EST in TO. In CS they follo th patrn of th -S inflections and normlly add just -ST. Tho this may appear to represent th pronunciation inadequatly, th patrn is predictabl and economicl, it accord with th removal of th vowel from th othr inflections as described in this section, and abov all it enables th dubld consnnts to be simplified in forms like TO *biggest* (final CS *bigst*). This cut givs *oddst, biggst, strongst, darkst, tallst, warmst, clevrst, lushst, brytst, newst*. Ajectives endng in ‘magic’ E keep

it for th superlativ form: *late/latest*, *nice/nicest*, and ajectivs hos base-form ends in a vowl add -EST: *lo/loest*, *yello/yelloest*, *blu/bluest*, *hy/hyest*, *happy/happiest*.

2.BL: *eatable* > *eatbl*, *edible* > *edbl* Among th most notorius uncertntis of TO ar th unstressd endngs -ABLE, -IBLE, pronounced identiclly, and with th choice between them therfor unpredictabl from th sound (compare th synnms TO *eatable*, *edible*). **Rule 1** (E.1.1.7) alredy removed th final E, givng for instnce *eatabl*, *edibl*, and Rule 2 now removes th preceding vowl lettr too, producing th mostly invariabl suffix -BL (thus *eatbl*, *edbl*). As far as pronunciation is concernd, it is not difficlt to accept that th suffix -BL effectivly consists of a syllabic B as well as syllabic L. In certn circmstnces, indeed, th preceding shwa is elided in speech, as wen th pronunciation of th suffixs of TO *valuable*, *voluble* is not clearly distinguishd, so that a merger givng CS *valubl*, *volubl* directly improves sound-symbbl correspondnce.

With a range of preceding consnts, this rule produces such forms as *probbl* (with reduplicated B), *explicbl*, *untuchbl*, *edbl*, *ineffbl*, *navigbl*, *bridgbl* (aftr G > J substitution *brijbl*; s imlrly *elijbl*), *singbl*, *unthinkbl*, *availbl*, *redeembl*, *obtainbl*, *stoppbl*, *hearbl*, *possbl*, *unforgettbl*, *forgivbl*, *allowbl*, *playbl*. Final Y in words such as *deny*, *rely* can be kept, to giv such forms as *undenybl*, *relybl*. Preceding ‘magic’ E must be kept from th base word, or else restord, as in *debatebl*, *salebl*, *inconcevebl*, *indefinebl*, *excusebl*, *irrefutebl*; simlrly, a preceding E shoing a soft C or G is still needd: *noticebl*, *managebl* (aftr G > J substitution *manajbl*).

Difficltis arise with som words, howevr, notebly wen -ABL follos directly aftr a vowl lettr. CS then needs a way of distinguishng such pairs as TO *saleable/malleable*, *feeble/agreeable*, *liable* (or *pitable*)/*Bible*, *doable/noble*. In these particulr cases one can fairly esily make an exeption and keep th A befor BL, givng for these pairs final CS *salebl/maleabl*, *feebbl/agreeabl*, *liabl/pitabl*/Bible, *doabl/noble*. A simlr problm can arise aftr L, M, N, R, as seen in th TO pairs *flammable/amble*, *arable/warble* *terrible/gerbil*, wher th usul cuttng rule wud produce th misleadng parallels **flambl/aml*, **arbl/warbl*, **terbl/gerbl*. In these cases too it appears necessary to retain th A or I to giv *flammabl*, *arabl*, *terribl* (also *horribl*). (Se **Rule 3** for simplifyng th dubld consnts in these words.) Something simlr, tho with less ambiguity, hapns in certn cases aftr L, N: for instnce if one wer to cut *gullible*, *tenable* to **gulbl*, **tenbl*, th inexperienced readr might be temtd to pronounce these without th necessary shwa befor th -BL. Howevr, wen ther is a clearly recognizebl base-word, th problm may be small: ther seems no reasn wy CS shud not rite *hearbl*, *obtainbl*, for instnce; but th strings ORB in **adorbl* for TO *adorable* and ERB in **berbl* for TO *bearable* may be felt too misleadng to be acceptbl.

Then ther ar words in wich a ‘magic’ E is difficlt to ‘restor’ befor BL because it was nevr proprly ther in th first place. Can one take *endure* as th

base-word for CS **durebl*? Can one rite CS **measurebl*, wen CS *mesur* has no final E? Can one rite CS **inscrutebl*, **invincebl*, wen ther ar no base-words **scrute* or **vince*? Can one rite final CS **gulbl*, **incalculbl*, **indelbl*, **tenbl*, **inumerbl*, **insuperbl*, with no indication of a shwa befor th -BL, or **gulebl*, **incalculebl*, **indelebl*, **tenebl*, **inumerebl*, **insuperebl* with no TO base-word modl for th insertd E? Such forms wud seriously undrmine a basic principl of CS, namely that TO spellngs shud hav a predictbl and recognizebl relationship to ther CS equivlnts. Alternativly one may ask wethr it wud be best to spell all these problmatic words with -ABL, givng final CS **gulabl*, **indelabl* in addition to th forms that alredy end in -ABLE in TO; but this solution is spoild by words like *forcible*, *invincible*, hos C wud becom hard if they wer spelt **forcabl*, **invincabl*.

In short, ther appears littl alternativ to retainng th -ABLE, -IBLE endngs in these problm cases, untidy tho th result may be. Therfor, beside th very large numbr of words hos endngs can be cut to BL, we hav to allow for th exeptionl final CS forms *arabl*, *calculabl*, *durabl*, *falibl*, *flamabl*, *forcibl*, *gulibl*, *indelibl*, *inumerabl*, *inscrutabl*, *insuperabl*, *invincibl*, *inviolabl*, *mesurabl*, *plesurabl*, *tenabl*.

Ther ar also a few words that end in TO -ABLE, -IBLE, in wich these endngs ar not suffixs. Such ar TO *constable*, *syllable*, *vegetable*, *crucibl*. For th sake of predictbilty, CS rites *constbl* and (aftr G > J substitution) *vejtbl*, but for th reasns discussd abov th intrvening vowel is kept in *syllabl* (aftr applyng Rule 3, then *sylabl*) and *crucibl*.

Table 3, below, givs an overview of CS inflections and suffixs.

Table 3: Pattrns of vowel cutng in inflections and suffixs

Endng ∅ Patrn ↯	-D	-NG	-R	-S	-ST	-BL
Base-word endng in consnt (by Rule 3)	<i>fitd</i> <i>saild</i> <i>vowd</i> <i>playd</i> <i>pasd</i>	<i>fitng</i> <i>sailng</i> <i>vowng</i> <i>playng</i> <i>pasng</i>	<i>fitr</i> <i>sailr</i> <i>flowr</i> <i>playr</i> <i>pasr</i>	<i>fits</i> <i>sails</i> <i>vows</i> <i>plays</i> <i>passes</i>	<i>fitst</i> <i>gayst</i> 	<i>fitbl</i> <i>sailbl</i> <i>plowbl</i> <i>playbl</i> <i>pasbl</i>
Magic E Soft C Soft G Consnt+ -SE	<i>stated</i> <i>spaced</i> <i>brijd</i> <i>rinsd</i>	<i>stating</i> <i>spacing</i> <i>brijng</i> <i>rinsng</i>	<i>later</i> <i>spacer</i> <i>brijr</i> <i>tensr</i>	<i>states</i> <i>spaces</i> <i>brijs</i> <i>tenses</i>	<i>latest</i> <i>nicest</i> <i>tensest</i>	<i>debatebl</i> <i>tracebl</i> <i>brijbl</i> <i>extensbl</i>
Final E	<i>freed</i>	<i>freing</i>	<i>freer</i>	<i>fres</i>	<i>freest</i>	<i>freabl</i>
Final I	<i>skied</i>	<i>skiing</i>	<i>skir</i>	<i>skis</i>		<i>skiabl</i>
Final O in mono- syllabls	<i>sloed</i>	<i>sloing</i>	<i>sloer</i>	<i>slos</i>	<i>sloest</i>	<i>noabl</i>
Exeptions: <i>do</i> <i>go</i> <i>sho</i> <i>hoe</i> <i>tow</i> <i>toe</i>	<i>don</i> <i>gon</i> <i>showd</i> <i>hoed</i> <i>towd</i> <i>toed</i>	<i>doing</i> <i>going</i> <i>shoing</i> <i>hoing</i> <i>towing</i> <i>toing</i>	<i>doer</i> <i>goer</i> 	<i>dos</i> <i>gos</i> <i>shos</i> <i>hoes</i> <i>tows</i> <i>toes</i>		<i>doabl</i> <i>shoabl</i> <i>hoabl</i> <i>towabl</i> <i>toabl</i>
Final vowel in poly- syllabic word	<i>taxid</i> <i>holod</i> <i>argud</i>	<i>taxiing</i> <i>holoing</i> <i>arguing</i>	<i>sexir</i> <i>holoer</i> <i>argur</i>	<i>taxis</i> <i>holos</i> <i>argus</i>	<i>sexiest</i> <i>holoest</i>	<i>taxbl</i> <i>holoabl</i> <i>argubl</i>
Final U in mono- syllabls	<i>sued</i>	<i>suing</i>	<i>truer</i>	<i>sues</i>	<i>truest</i>	<i>suabl</i>
Long final Y	<i>tryd</i> <i>repyd</i>	<i>tryng</i> <i>repyng</i>	<i>hyr</i> <i>repyr</i>	<i>trys</i> <i>replys</i>	<i>hyest</i>	<i>trybl</i> <i>denybl</i>
Short final Y	<i>pitid</i> <i>vollid</i>	<i>pitying</i> <i>vollying</i>	<i>happir</i> <i>vollir</i>	<i>pitis</i> <i>vollis</i>	<i>happiest</i>	<i>pitiabl</i>