

Brief Summary

RichSpel-Long (RSL) provides very predictable spelling. It is intended to be easy to learn for those with little or no knowledge of written English, whilst being recognisable enough to be read by those familiar with the language. Unnecessary letters are removed and words are respelled as required, with the exception of a limited number of common words that have been retained, such as **I, she, his, this, was, has, of, be, by**.

Each letter or combination of letters defines a single sound. Therefore, 'c' always represents the sound in **cat**, and not *centre*. Similarly 'ch' always stands for the sound in **church**, not *chorus*. Some sounds are represented in more than one way in order to retain the link with Traditional Spelling – with simple rules that determine which is used, for example when choosing between 'c' and 'k', as in **cat** and **shark**.

4 new letter combinations are introduced: **thh**, as in **thhin** (*thin*); **xs**, as in **expert** (*expert*); **zh**, as in **mezher** (*measure*); **uu**, as in **wuud** (*would*). The letter 'q' is now used by itself, rather than in the combination 'qu', so *quit* becomes **qit**.

The 5 long vowels are currently represented by many, often conflicting, letter combinations, including the 'magic e' construction. RSL makes them consistent and intuitive - **ai, ee, ie, oa** and **ue** were chosen, as in **maid, feed, pie, float**, and **cue**, supplemented by **ay** and **o** to be used at the end of words, such as **day** and **ago**. Simple rules have been introduced to avoid ambiguity where there are consecutive vowels in a word, such as in *situate*, which becomes **situait**.

For simplicity, apostrophes are omitted from possessive nouns, so *dog's* or *dogs'* both become **dogs**. For the past tense of verbs, the suffix 'ed' is only used when the 'e' is sounded, as in **planted**. Otherwise, 'd' is used, as in **splashd** (*splashed*).

RSL also simplifies the use of the indistinct vowel sound – if a vowel can be identified, it is used – if not, 'e' is used as a default, simplifying the choice when using words such as *pendant/pendent*.

Traditional Spelling	Scheme Transcription
In a cavern, in a canyon, excavating for a mine, dwelt a miner, forty-niner, and his daughter Clementine.	In a cavern, in a canyen, exscavaiting for a mien, dwelt a miener, forty-niener, and his dauter <i>Clemetine</i> ¹ ¹ Clementien
A north country maid down to London had strayed, although with her nature it did not agree.	A northh cuntry maid down too <i>London</i> had strayd, aultho with her naicher it did not agree. ¹ Lunden
With glowing hearts, we see thee rise, the true north strong and free!	With glo-ing harts, we see thee riez, the troo northh strong and free!
Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong under the shade of a coolibah tree.	Wunss a joly swagman campd by a bilabong under the shaid of a coolibaa tree.
There is not in this wide world a valley so sweet, as that vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet.	Thair is not in this wied wurld a valy so sweet, as that vail in hooz buusem the briet wauters meet.
I refuse to join any club that would have me as a member.	I reefueez too join eny club that wuud hav me as a member.
No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.	No man has a guud eenuf memery too be a sucsesful lier.