

Scheme: RichSpel-Short

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Brief Summary

RichSpel-Short (RSS) is designed as the most logical and easiest English spelling system to learn, which is still accessible to users of Traditional Spelling - letters are chosen to look how they sound.

In the main, RSS uses letter/sound combinations from Traditional Spelling, selected to avoid ambiguity: duplication is minimized - for example, 'g' represents the sound in **go**, but not in *gem*, and 'c' is no longer used to double for the 'k' or 's' sound.

Traditionally, the 5 long vowel sounds are represented in many confusing ways – for example the long vowel 'a' in the following words; *maid, fade, say, great, vein, reign*. RSS addresses this by the simple addition of a grave accent to each of the vowel letters; à, è, ì, ò and ù now represent the 5 long vowel sounds consistently and intuitively. Words become shorter, simpler and easier to read; for example, *shoulder* becomes **shòlder**. On implementation, new spellchecking / autocomplete software will make typing of the accented vowels easy.

3 new letter combinations are introduced to cater for gaps within Traditional Spelling:

- **uu**, for the vowel sound in *would*, respelled as **wuud**.
- **thh**, for the consonant sound at the start of *thin*, respelled as **thhin**, to distinguish it from the more common softer **th** sound in **this**.
- **zh**, for the consonant sound in the middle of *measure*, respelled as **mezher**.

RSS uses 'z' instead of 's' to denote plurals and third person singular verbs such as *dogs* and *wags* (**dogz** and **wagz**), as it represents the sound more accurately and simplifies spelling. 'z' is also used for possessive nouns and the apostrophe is dropped, so *dog's* and *dogs'* both become **dogz**.

Although you may find its appearance a little different at first, it is easy enough to read if you just take your eyes off the overall form and look instead at the syllables as you go. It offers a uniquely effective way to transform English Spelling, particularly for those who struggle to read and write.

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 kavern, in a kanyen, ekskevàting for a mìn, dwelt a miner, fortè-nìner, and hiz dauter <i>Clementine</i> ¹ . ¹ Klementìn
A north country maid down to London had strayed, although with her nature it did not agree.	A northh kuntrè màd doun too <i>London</i> ¹ had stràd, aulthò with hur nàcher it did not agrè. ¹ Lunden
With glowing hearts, we see thee rise, the true north strong and free!	With glòing hartz, wè sè thè rìz, the troo northh strong and frè!
Once a jolly swagman camped by a billabong under the shade of a coolibah tree.	Wuns a jolè swagman kampd bì a bilabong under the shàd ov a koolibaa trè.
There is not in this wide world a valley so sweet, as that vale in whose bosom the bright waters meet.	Thair iz not in this wid wurld a valè sò swèt, az that vâl in hooz buusem the brìt wauterz mèt.
I refuse to join any club that would have me as a member.	I rèfùz too join enè klub that wuud hav mè az a member.
No man has a good enough memory to be a successful liar.	Nò man haz a guud ènuf memerè too bè a suksessful liar.