



Rule 23: cial / tial



Teacher information

- This teaching resource is organised into four sections:
1) Explanation of the rule **2) Examples of key words that fit the rule** **3) Opportunities to practise** **4) Further examples of commonly used words following the rule & some notable exceptions.**
- These slides are intended as a starting point for teaching this rule. The lists of words given at the end might be used for card sorting exercises or a variety of spelling games.
- The clue “**Vowels are spec – i – al!**” is to remind pupils to use ‘**cial**’ as the ‘**shul**’ ending after a **vowel**.



1) Rule 23: Explanation

The 'shul' sound at the end of a word is usually spelt 'cial' or 'tial'.

What do you notice about the letter before each spelling of the 'shul' ending?

confidential partrtial essential

special facial beneficial

THINK: How can this help us chose the correct ending?

2) Rule 23: Examples

Remember: “Vowels are spec – i – al!”

soicial

official

artificial

potential

residential

martial

Hint: To spell longer words, split them up!

Write ‘ar – tif – i’ then check the last letter & use the **clue**!

3) Rule 23: Practice

Use the clue: “Vowels are spec – i – a!”

Starter

so _____

par _____

essen _____

ra _____

cru _____

Challenge 1

poten _____

unoffi _____

offi _____

residen _____

impar _____

Challenge 2

artifi _____

substan _____

benefi _____

confiden _____

presiden _____

THINK: Which consonants come before a ‘**tial**’ ending?

4) Rule 23: Further examples

'tial' after consonant

potential
essential
substantial
residential
presidential
partial
influential
confidential
martial
sequential
impartial
consequential

'cial' after vowel

social
special
official
crucial
artificial
racial
beneficial
superficial
unofficial
facial

Exceptions

There are a few exceptions which must be learnt separately.

Commonly used

exceptions:

initial
commercial
financial

Less commonly used

exceptions:

provincial
spatial