# Rule 26: ent / ant, ence / ance, ency / ancy

# 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.

# 1) Rule 26: Explanation

Look for <u>root words</u> that end in a soft **'c'** or **'g'** *('s'* *or 'j' sound)*; these often use **'ent'** & **'ence'** / **'ency'**.

Use **'ant'** & **'ance'** / **'ancy'** after root words that could end in **'-ation'**.

observ**ant** *(observation)*   toler**ance** *(toleration)*

de**cent**     emer**gency**     confid**ence**

**NOTE:** Many words just have to be learnt.  Practise saying the <u>end of the word</u> **CLEARLY** to help you.

# 2) Rule 26: Examples

**THINK:** Can the <u>root word</u> end in **'ation'**? **– ant** etc.

Does the <u>root word</u> end in a soft **'c'** or **'g'**? **– 'ent'** etc.

Which words <u>DON'T</u> follow these rules?

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| relev**ant** | dec**ency** | appear**ance** |
| ag**ent** | domin**ance** | emerg**ency** |
| vac**ancy** | confer**ence** | presi**dent** |

**TIP:** Say the words clearly so you can HEAR the **'ent'** / **'ant'**, **'ence'** / **'ance'** or **'ency'** / **'ancy'** at the end.

# 3) Rule 26: Practice

Use **ant/ance/ancy** if the <u>root word</u> can end in **'ation'**.

Use **ent/ence/ency** if the <u>root word</u> ends in a soft **'c'** or **'g'**.

Some words just have to be learnt!

<table>
<tr><td>

**<u>Starter</u>**

emerg_____

toler_____

dec_____

expect_____

</td><td>

**<u>Challenge 1</u>**

hesit_____

subst_____

innoc_____

frequ_____

</td><td>

**<u>Challenge 2</u>**

assist_____

independ_____

relev_____

consist_____

</td></tr>
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<u>THINK</u>: Which words can have more than one ending?

# 4) Rule 26: Further examples

## 'ant' / 'ance' / 'ancy'

important
significant
restaurant
defendant
relevant
dominant
performance
finance
distance
advance
insurance
appearance
pregnancy
vacancy
expectancy

## 'ent' / 'ence' / 'ency'

different
present
president
prevent
current
evidence
influence
conference
reference
sentence
agency
currency
emergency
consistency
frequency

## Exceptions

'Depend**ant**' is a noun *(a child)* and 'depend**ent**' is an adjective *(reliant on)*. The word 'curr**ant**' is a noun *(a berry)* and 'curr**ent**' can be a adjective *(recent)* or a noun *(flow)*. Many words end in the suffix '**ment**' *(payment etc.)*; very few words end in '**mant**' *(adamant, claimant, dormant are the only common ones)*.

**NOTE:** Many of these can also be used with an '**ance**' / '**ence**', '**ancy**' / '**ency**' suffix.