Phonetics – how to pronounce final -s

RULES (you can copy them in your notebook):

1. Words ending in /s/, /z/, /ʃ/, /ʒ/, /tʃ/, /dʒ/:
   add -es, pronounce one more syllable: /ɪz/
   Examples: passes, boxes, buzzes, fishes, mirages, churches, fridges.

2. Words ending in /p/, /t/, /k/, /θ/, /f/:
   add -s, pronounce voiceless /s/
   Examples: stops, starts, asks, myths, laughs

3. Words ending in **consonant + y**: replace **y** with -ies, pronounce voiced /z/
   Examples: cries.

4. Words ending in a **vowel**: add -s or -es, pronounce /z/
   Examples: follows, goes, pianos, potatoes.

5. All other words: add -s, pronounce voiced /z/
   Examples: plays, walls, birds, dogs, games…

EXERCISE 1:

a) Add -s or -es to these verbs and write them next to their meanings in Spanish:

hear speak see smell taste
touch notice relax wash judge

b) Choose the correct pronunciation.

	Example:			
habla	speaks	/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
huele		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
juzga		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
lava		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
nota		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
oye		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
sabe / prueba		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
se relaja		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
toca		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
ve		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/

EXERCISE 2:

a) Add -s or -es to these nouns and write them next to their meanings in Spanish:

sandwich onion egg pea orange
olive date apple bean cabbage

b) Choose the correct pronunciation.

	Example:			
aceituna	olives	/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
bocadillo		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
cebolla		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
dátil		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
guisante		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
huevo		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
judía		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
manzana		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
naranja		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
repollo		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/