

Spelling & pronunciation of 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

a) Add **-s** , **-es** , or **-ies** to these words and choose the correct pronunciation:

Example:

walk	walks	/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
country		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
rock		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
stream		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
flower		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
tree		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
trunk		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
branch		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
cloud		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
butterfly		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
bee		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
cow		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
bull		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
goat		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
bird		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/
fish		/ɪz/	/s/	/z/