Year Four Spelling Patterns

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| **Phoneme focus** | **Pattern** | **National Curriculum** | **Additional** | **High frequency** |
| ff  cc  mm  rr |  | different  difficult  accident  grammar  occasion  arrive  effect | mammal  correct |  |
| e-e  y |  | century  February  naughty  ordinary  believe  complete  extreme  scheme  scene |  |  |
| ce  c |  | century  accident  recent  centre  medicine  place  sentence  experience  peace  piece |  |  |
| un  re |  | unguard  unpopular  undecided  unimagined  unimportant  reimagine  rebuild  reappear  reconsider |  |  |

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| **Phoneme focus** | **Pattern** | **National Curriculum** | **Additional** | **High frequency** |
| ing | If the last syllable of a word is stressed and ends with one consonant letter which has just one vowel letter before it, the final consonant letter is doubled before any ending beginning with a vowel letter is added. The consonant letter is not doubled if the syllable is unstressed | forgetting  beginning  gardening  limiting  answering  building  interesting  regretting  controlling  travelling |  |  |
| er | builder  busier  earlier  learner  naughtier  beginner  angrier  dirtier  writer  larger |  |  |
| ed | preferred  gardener  limited  answered  surprised  carried  emptied  married  hurried  copied |  |  |
| en | forgotten  toughen  broken  weaken  mistaken  lengthen  fatten  bitten  hidden |  |  |
| **Phoneme focus** | **Pattern** | **National Curriculum** | **Additional** | **High frequency** |
| u  ou |  | enough  famous  young  touch  double  trouble  country | humble  cuddle  muscle |  |
| dis  mis | Like un–, the prefixes dis– and mis– have negative meanings | disbelieve  misbehave  misguide  misheard | disgrace  dishonest  disrespect  disbelief  misjudge  misfortune |  |
| in  il | The prefix in– can mean both ‘not’ and ‘in’/‘into’. In the words given here it means ‘not’  Before a root word starting with l, in– becomes il. | indifferent  infamous  inactive  incorrect  illegal  illegible | illogical  illiterate |  |
| im  ir | Before a root word starting with m or p, in– becomes im–.  Before a root word starting with r, in– becomes ir–. | immature  immortal  impossible  impatient  imperfect  imposition  immaterial  irregular  irrelevant, irresponsible  irrational  irreplaceable  irresistible |  |  |
| **Phoneme focus** | **Pattern** | **National Curriculum** | **Additional** | **High frequency** |
| sub  inter  super | sub– means ‘under’.  Inter – means ‘between’ or ‘among’  Super – means ‘above’ | subdivide, subheading, submarine,  intercity  international  interrelated  supernatural | superpower  supernova |  |
| anti  auto | anti– means ‘against’.  auto– means ‘self’ or ‘own’ | antiseptic  anti-clockwise antisocial | automatic  autopilot  autograph  antifreeze  antigravity  autoload  autosave |  |
| ation | The suffix –ation is added to verbs to form nouns. The rules already learnt still apply | consideration  continuation  imagination  information  sensation preparation  admiration |  |  |
| ly  ly to y | The suffix –ly is added to an adjective to form an adverb. The rules already learnt still apply. The suffix –ly starts with a consonant letter, so it is added straight on to most root words  Exceptions:  (1) If the root word ends in –y with a consonant letter before it, the y is changed to i, but only if the root word has more than one syllable. happily, angrily | probably  completely  accidently  actually  extremely  importantly  particularly  purposely  quarterly  regularly  separately  ordinarily naughtily  angrily | greedily  sleepily  hungrily  greedily  hastily  heavily |  |
| **Phoneme focus** | **Pattern** | **National Curriculum** | **Additional** | **High frequency** |
| ly  to le | (2) If the root word ends with –le, the –le is changed to –ly. gently, simply, humbly, nobly | possibly  gently simply  humbly  nobly | cuddly |  |
| ally | (3) If the root word ends with –ic, –ally is added rather than just –ly. | frantically basically  dramatically  occasionally  naturally  actually | magically |  |
| sure  ture | The ending sounding like /ʒə/ is always spelt –sure.  The ending sounding like /tʃə/ is often spelt –ture | pleasure | exposure  texture  moisture  composure  vulture  pressure  figure  future  capture |  |
| ous | Sometimes there is no obvious root word. –our is changed to –or before –ous is added. | poisonous  dangerous  mountainous  famous  various  tremendous  jealous  enormous | obvious |  |
| ious  eous | If there is an /i:/ sound before the –ous ending, it is usually spelt as i, but a few words have e. | serious  obvious curious hideous spontaneous courteous | religious  gorgeous  hideous |  |
| **Phoneme focus** | **Pattern** | **National Curriculum** | **Additional** | **High frequency** |
| tion  sion | Clues about whether to put t, s, ss or c before these suffixes often come from the last letter or letters of the root word.  –tion is the most common spelling. It is used if the root word ends in t or te.  If the ending sounds like /ʒən/, it is spelt as –sion. | invention injection hesitation  completion  opposition  decision collision  *division*  *invasion*  *confusion* |  |  |
| sion  ssion | –sion is used if the root word ends in d or se.  ssion is used if the root word ends in ss or –mit. | expansion extension  tension  explosion  revision  expression discussion confession admission  possession |  |  |
| cian | –cian is used if the root word ends in c or cs | musician  electrician  magician  politician mathematician |  |  |
| sh spelt k and ch |  | scheme chorus chemist  echo character  chef  chalet machine brochure |  |  |
| **Phoneme focus** | **Pattern** | **National Curriculum** | **Additional** | **High frequency** |
| gue  que | Words ending with the /g/ sound spelt – gue and the /k/ sound spelt –que (French in origin) | league  tongue antique unique | vague  fatigue  opaque  mosque |  |
| ss  sc | In the Latin words from which these words come, the Romans probably pronounced the c and the k as two sounds rather than one – /s/ /k/. | science scene discipline fascinate crescent  *address*  *business*  *possess*  *possible*  *pressure* | ascend  muscle  scissor  impress  success  tissue |  |
| ei  eigh  ey  (ay) |  | vein  weight  eight neighbour they  obey  eighth  reign | grey |  |
| Homophones and near-homophones |  | affect/ effect  berry/ bury  fair/ fare  groan/ grown  heel/ heal  knot/ not  meet/ meat  medal/ meddle  missed/ mist  peace/ piece  plain/ plane  rain/ reign  scene/ seen  weather/ whether  whose/ who’s | |  |

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| High frequency words covered |
| accident accidently actually address answer appear arrive believe build busy business centre century complete consider decide different difficult eight eighth enough experience extreme famous February grammar guard guide heard imagine important interest learn length material medicine natural naughty occasion occasionally opposite ordinary particular popular position possession possible pressure probably purpose quarter recent regular reign sentence separate surprise various weight |

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| High frequency words revisited |
| accident answer believe build century compete consider different extreme famous imagine important natural naughty ordinary position possible pressure regular reign |