

Week 1

The /shus/ sound at the end of a word is usually spelt '-cious' or '-tious'. If the root word ends in '-ce', '-cious' is often used (i.e. space – spacious, malice – malicious). If the root word takes the suffix '-tion', '-tious' is often used (i.e. ambition – ambitious, caution – cautious).

Some words just have to be learnt! Exception – 'anxious'.

vicious precious delicious suspicious malicious cautious
infectious ambitious nutritious superstitious

Week 2

The /shul/ sound at the end of a word is usually spelt '-cial' or '-tial'. '-cial' is common after a vowel. '-tial' is common after a consonant.

official special artificial facial social partial residential
essential confidential torrential

Week 3 – Red Tricky Words

occur accompany according achieve aggressive forty ancient
apparent occupy attached

Week 4

Use '-ant' and '-ance'/'-ancy' if there is a related word with a long or short vowel /a/ sound in the right position. '-ation' endings are often a clue (i.e. observation – observant, expectation – expectance)

observant hesitant expectant tolerant conversant radiance
vacancy continuance consultancy dominance

Week 5

Use '-ent' and '-ence'/'-ency' after a soft 'c', soft 'g', and 'qu', or if there is a clear short vowel /e/ sound in the right position.

innocent frequent intelligent decent detergent emergency
urgency consequence eloquence agency

Week 6 – Red Tricky Words

available average awkward bargain bruise category critic
cemetery community communicate

Week 7

ASSESSMENT – Thursday 22nd or Friday 23rd October 2026