

**A DICTIONARY OF SIMPLIFIED SPELLING:  
BASED ON THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE  
UNITED STATES BUREAU OF EDUCATION  
AND THE RULES OF THE AMERICAN  
PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION AND THE  
SIMPLIFIED SPELLING BOARD**

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A Dictionary of Simplified Spelling: Based on the Publications of the United States Bureau of Education and the Rules of the American Philological Association and the Simplified Spelling Board by Frank H. Vizetelly

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**FRANK H. VIZETELLY**

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UNIV. OF  
CALIFORNIA

# A DICTIONARY OF SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

Based on the Publications of the United States  
Bureau of Education and the Rules of the  
American Philological Association and  
the Simplified Spelling Board

Compiled from the  
**FUNK & WAGNALLS NEW STANDARD DICTIONARY  
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

By

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Author of "Essentials of English Speech and Literature, etc.*



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## PREFACE

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A FEW years ago, a writer to one of our great dailies expressed the hope that the advocates of simplified spelling would issue a manual containing, "in one alphabetical order and convenient for quick consultation, all the terms on the simplification of which they have agreed," instead of referring the public to the half hundred bulletins they have issued for the information it requires. Three years have passed by since this suggestion was made, and notwithstanding the fact that many inquiries for a manual of this kind have been received none has yet been issued. The purpose of the compiler of this book is to provide such an alphabetical guide. The vocabulary consists of the simpler forms of spelling that have been recommended for adoption from time to time by the American Philological Association and the Simplified Spelling Board, many of which were announced by the United States Department of Education in its Bulletin Number 202, and others, particularly the simplifications of the three hundred words recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board in the Board's Circular Number 5, as the bulletin entitled "Simplified Spelling for the Use of Government Departments" issued from the office of the Public Printer, Sept. 4, 1906, by direction of the President of the United States under date of Aug. 27, 1906, and the Simplified Spelling Board's "Alfabetic List," Circular Number 23, issued March 6, 1909.

In the compilation of this book the writer is not concerned with the reasons why this or that word should be simplified. This phase has already received the attention of many of the foremost scholars in English linguistry. All he has aimed to do is to provide in one volume a guide to the forms that words take when the rules for simplification recommended by these scholars are applied.

This Dictionary aims to supply the need of those persons who have been sufficiently interested in the Simplified Spelling Movement as to ask for an alphabetical list of words simplified according to rule. The vocabulary is not exhaustive, but the number of words it contains is sufficiently large to cover the various classes of simplifications recommended by the rules already referred to. It may be enlarged at will. The rules, classified according to number and to the societies that have recommended them, will be found printed elsewhere. To indicate words that are simplified according to the rules promulgated by the American Philological Association, the symbol \* is printed immediately after the word. Words simplified in harmony with the rules recommended by the Simplified Spelling Board are indicated by the letter s printed in the same manner. Where the form of the word is affected by the rules of both Societies both letters are used, as *colleag, \*s*.

To provide supporters of the Simplified Spelling Movement with the adequate means for determining how each simplified word should be divided at the

end of a line, every word is syllabicated, showing, wherever necessary, the primary stress (indicated by the prime mark (') after the accented syllable), the secondary stress (indicated by the secondary mark (") after the accented syllable), and the hyphen (-) which indicates syllabic division in such parts of a word as are not accented. The reader will understand that any word may be divided wherever primary or secondary accent is indicated as well as wherever the hyphen is shown. As compound words in great number may be formed by the combining of one word with another (as, *table-cloth*, *door-nail*, *dormer-window*, *friction-clutch*, *road-house*, *high-ball*, *stomach-pump*), these are not, in general, included. As an additional convenience, the grammatical character of each word is indicated, being followed by an abbreviation, printed in italic type, indicating its particular part in speech; *as*, *a.* for adjective; *n.* for noun; *v.* for verb; *adv.* for adverb, etc. In every case the abbreviation is that commonly used for the same purpose in dictionaries.

As Circular Number 26, published March 24, 1913, and containing additional rules of the Simplified Spelling Board, was issued after the editorial work on "Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary" had been completed, the rules that it announced could not be applied. In the following pages, therefore, only such words as the Board itself selected for examples, illustrating the application of the rules, are included.

The compiler ventures to hope that the following pages will be found to adequately supply the need for which they have been compiled, and prove acceptable to supporters of the Simplified Spelling Movement as well as to the people who would have given that movement their support had they been able to secure a simple, yet comprehensive, manual for their guidance. It should be borne in mind that the spellings printed in the pages that follow are not mandatory in any sense of the word; they are recorded there as recommended for the use of the general public by eminent scholars who have devoted years of labor to the subject of the amelioration of spelling of English words.

F. H. V.

NEW YORK, September, 1915.



## THE AMERICAN PHILOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

*President*, Prof. Edward Capps, Princeton University; *Vice-Presidents*, Prof. Carl D. Buck, University of Chicago, and Prof. Edward P. Morris, Yale University; *Secretary and Treasurer*, Prof. Frank G. Moore, of Columbia University, New York. Initiation fee, \$5; annual dues, \$3. Total membership, 690. The association was organized in 1869. Its object is "the advancement and diffusion of philological knowledge."

### TEN RULES FOR SIMPLIFIED SPELLING

Recommended by the American Philological Association

THE Philological Society of England and the American Philological Association took joint action on the amendment of English spelling in 1883, and on the basis of it twenty-four joint rules were printed in the proceedings of the American association for that year (see next page). It was known that the application of these rules was difficult, and that an alphabetic list of amended words must be made. A pamphlet of the English society and a paper in the Transactions of the American association for 1881 are official context for interpretation. The corrections are in the interest of etymological and historical truth, and are to be confined to words which the changes do not much disguise from general readers.

In the following list, as in the twenty-four rules, many amendable words have been omitted for reasons such as these:—(1) The changed word would not be easily recognized, as *nee* for *knee*: or, (2), letters are left in strange positions, as in *edg* for *edge*, *casq* for *casque*. (3) The word is of frequent use. Final *g=j, v, q, z*, and syllabic *l* and *n*, are strange to our print but abundant in our speech. Many of them are in the list: *hav, freez, singl, eatn*, etc.; but *iz* for *is*, *ov* for *of*, and many other words, as well as the final *z=s* of inflections, are omitted. (4) The wrong sound is suggested, as in *vag* for *vague*, *acer* for *acre*. (5) A valuable distinction is lost: *casque* to *cask*, *dost* to *dust*. (6) The derivation is obscured: *nun* for *none*, *dun* for *done*, *munth* for *month*. (7) The change leads in the wrong direction.

Words doubtful in pronunciation or etymology, and words undecided by the associations, however amendable, are omitted. Inflections are printed in italics.

The rules proper are as follows:

1. e.—Drop silent *e* when phonetically useless, writing *-er* for *-re*, as in *live, single, eaten, rained, theatre*, etc.
2. es.—Drop *a* from *ea* having the sound of short *e*, as in *feather, leather*, etc.
3. o.—For *o* having the sound of *u* in *but* write *u* in *above* (abuv), *tongue* (tung), and the like.
4. ou.—Drop *o* from *ou* having the sound of *u* in *but*, in *trouble, rough* (ruf), and the like; for *-our* unaccented write *-or*, as in *honour*.

5. u, ue.—Drop silent *u* after *g* before *a*, and in nativ English words, and drop final *us*: *guard*, *guess*, *catalogue*, *league*, etc.
6. Dubl consonants may be simplified when fonetically useless: *bailiff* (not *hall*, etc.), *battle* (*batl*), *written* (*writn*), *traveller*, etc.
7. d.—Change *d* and *ed* to final *t* when so pronounced, as in *looked* (*lookt*), etc., unless the *e* affects the preceding sound, as in *chafed*, etc.
8. gh, ph.—Change *gh* and *ph* to *f* when so sounded: *enough* (*enuf*), *laughter* (*lafter*), etc.; *phonetic* (*fonetic*), etc.
9. s.—Change *s* to *z* when so sounded, especially in distinctiv words and in *-ise*: *abuse*, verb (*abuze*), *advertise* (*advertize*), etc.
10. t.—Drop *t* in *tch*: *catch*, *pitch*, etc.

#### TWENTY-FOUR RULES

Recommended by the American Philological Association

THE following rules, jointly approved by the Philological Society of England and the American Philological Association, were reported in the Ninth Report of the Transactions of the American Philological Association in 1883, and were commended for immediate use:

1. e.—Drop silent *e* when fonetically useless, as in *live*, *vineyard*, *believe*, *bronze*, *single*, *engine*, *granite*, *eaten*, *rained*, etc.
2. ea.—Drop *a* from *ea* having the sound of *ɛ*, as in *feather*, *leather*, *jealous*, etc. Drop *e* from *ea* having the sound of *a*, as in *heart*, *hearken*.
3. eau.—For *beauty* uze the old *beuty*.
4. eo.—Drop *o* from *eo* having the sound of *ɛ*, as in *jeopardy*, *leopard*.  
For *yeoman* write *yoman*.
5. i.—Drop *i* of *parliament*.
6. o.—For *o* having the sound of *ū* in *but* write *u* in *above* (*abuv*), *dozen*, *some* (*sum*), *tongue* (*tung*), and the like.  
For *women* restore *wimen*.
7. ou.—Drop *o* from *ou* having the sound of *ū*, as in *journal*, *nourish*, *trouble*, *rough* (*ruf*), *tough* (*tuf*), and the like.
8. u.—Drop silent *u* after *g* before *a*, and in nativ English words, as *guarantee*, *guard*, *guess*, *guest*, *guild*, *guilt*.
9. ue.—Drop final *us* in *apologue*, *catalogue*, etc.; *demagogue*, *pédagogue*, etc.; *league*, *colleague*, *harangue*, *tongue*, (*tung*).
10. y.—Spel rhyme rime.
11. Dubl consonants may be simplified:  
Final *b*, *d*, *g*, *n*, *r*, *t*, *f*, *l*, *z*, as *ebb*, *add*, *egg*, *inn*, *purr*, *butt*, *bailiff*, *dull*, *buzz* (not *all*, *hall*).  
Medial before another consonant, as *battle*, *ripple*, *written* (*writn*).  
Initial unaccented prefixes, and other unaccented syllables, as in *abbreviate*, *accuse*, *affair*, etc., *curvetting*, *traveller*, etc.
12. b.—Drop silent *b* in *bomb*, *crumb*, *debt*, *doubt*, *dumb*, *lamb*, *limb*, *numb*, *plumb*, *subtle*, *succumb*, *thumb*.

13. c.—Change *c* back to *s* in *cinder*, *expencc*, *fierce*, *hence*, *once*, *pence*, *scarce*, *since*, *source*, *thence*, *tierce*, *whence*.
  14. ch.—Drop the *h* of *ch* in *chamomile*, *cholera*, *cholera*, *melancholy*, *school*, *stomach*. Change to *k* in *ache* (*ake*), *anchor* (*anker*).
  15. d.—Change *d* and *ed* final to *t* when so pronounced, as in *crossed* (*crost*), *looked* (*lookt*), etc., unless the *e* affects the preceding sound, as in *chafed* *chanced*.
  16. g.—Drop *g* in *feign*, *foreign*, *sovereign*.
  17. gh.—Drop *h* in *aghost*, *burgh*, *ghost*.  
Drop *gh* in *haughty*, *though* (*tho*), *through* (*thru*).  
Change *gh* to *f* where it has that sound, as in *cough*, *enough*, *laughter*, *tough*, etc.
  18. l.—Drop *l* in *could*. 19. p.—Drop *p* in *receipt*.
  20. s.—Drop *s* in *aisle*, *demesne*, *island*.  
Change *s* to *z* in distinctiv words, as in *abuse* verb, *house* verb, *rise* verb, etc.
  21. sc.—Drop *c* in *scent*, *scythe* (*sithe*). 22. tch.—Drop *t*, as in *catch*, *pitch*, *witch*, etc.
  23. w.—Drop *w* in *whole*. 24. ph.—Write *f* for *ph*, as in *philosophy*, *sphere*, etc.
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