

Test Your Spelling Skills

i Before e Except After c – Activity 2

Work with a partner or small group. Print this page onto card, then cut out the cards and lay them face up. Mix them up, then put them into the **six groups** listed on this worksheet: **i Before e Except After c – Rule and Exceptions**

1. movie	2. receive	3. leisure	4. neither
5. died	6. achieve	7. chief	8. foreign
9. weird	10. protein	11. eight	12. conceited
13. conceive	14. grieve	15. fried	16. sovereign
17. fierce	18. height	19. deceit	20. perceive
21. either	22. feisty	23. vein	24. believe
25. seizure	26. field	27. beige	28. niece
29. reign	30. society	31. relief	32. neighbour
33. wield	34. ceiling	35. thief	36. caffeine
37. cashier	38. weigh	39. chandelier	40. receipt

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Answers:

Group 1 – i before e:

achieve, believe, chief, field, grieve, niece, relief, thief, wield

Group 2 – except after c:

ceiling, conceited, conceive, deceit, perceive, receipt, receive

Group 3 – the stressed vowel sound is /ei/ (like the letter a):

beige, eight, neighbour, reign, vein, weigh

Group 4 – the stressed vowel sound is /ai/ (like the letter i):

either, feisty, height, neither

Group 5 – the 'ie' or 'ei' spelling appears in the weak-stressed syllable:

caffeine, foreign, movie, protein, society, sovereign

Group 6 – other notable exceptions to this rule:

cashier, chandelier, died, fierce, fried, leisure, seizure, weird