



# Most Common Words Used in Writing

100 Most commonly used words by students in writing, ordered in descending frequency. Note that they are categorized as either pattern based (normal font) or *odd* (bold and italicized). The *bold italicized words* are the ones that students need to memorize the spelling as exceptions to the sound- symbol correspondence principles. (columns run down for frequency)

From "Speech to Print- Language Essentials for Teachers" by Louisa Moats, 2000 Paul Brooks Publishing

I	for	are	came	down
and	but	just	time	did
<i>the</i>	have	<i>because</i>	back	<i>mother</i>
a	up	<i>what</i>	will	our
to	had	if	can	don't
<i>was</i>	<i>there</i>	day	<i>people</i>	school
in	with	<i>his</i>	from	little
it	<i>one</i>	this	saw	into
<i>of</i>	be	not	<i>now</i>	<i>who</i>
my	so	very	or	after
he	all	go	<i>know</i>	no
<i>is</i>	<i>said</i>	<i>do</i>	<i>your</i>	arm
<i>you</i>	<i>were</i>	about	home	well
that	then	<i>some</i>	house	<i>two</i>
we	like	her	an	put
when	went	him	around	man
<i>they</i>	them	<i>us</i>	see	didn't
on	she	<i>could</i>	think	us
<i>would</i>	out	get	by	thing
me	at	got	over	<i>too</i>

## “Families” for some of the oddities

there	one	two	we
here	once	twelve	he
where	only	twenty	she
	alone		me
			be

to	their	would
do	heir	could
too	heirloom	should

was	is
has	his
as	

who	because	know	want
what	pause	knew	water
whom	applause	knife	was
whose	cause	known	
whole		knee	