

Course Overview

Number of Units: 5

Estimated time: 5 weeks or 15-25 hours

OALCF Levels: A1.2, A3, B2.2

Suggested Milestones: 21 or 22 or 23

Course Description

Why is spelling so important? When we use correct spelling, we create clear messages that readers can understand. Memorizing how to spell different words can be useful, but there are many other strategies that can help you. In this course you will learn about

- phonics and grammar rules that affect spelling
- syllables, and how they help you sound out difficult words
- the difference between possessives and contractions.

Note: This is not a 'learn to spell' course. This course will help you improve your spelling skills. Learners will also need good reading skills to manage the lessons.

Summary of activities: Lessons, Quizzes, Activities

Unit 1: Let's Get Started

In this unit, you will learn how to navigate the course and become familiar with some common spelling terms. You will learn about the Dolch List and sight words. You will also refresh your memory on how to use a dictionary by completing an interactive activity and try a popular memorizing strategy.

Unit 2: Back to the Basics

It's time to get back to the basics. You may have learned these skills long ago, but reviewing them will ensure you have the foundations needed to be a good speller. In this unit you will learn the difference between consonants and vowels. You will learn how to separate and count syllables to help you sound-out words. You will also be introduced to r-controlled vowels, blends, digraphs and diphthongs.

Unit 3: Serious Sounds

How you read and learn to say a word impacts how you will spell that word. In this shorter unit you will learn the importance of enunciation in speech and how that impacts your spelling. You will look at the difference between soft sounds and hard sounds in words. Finally, you will learn to recognize and spell different letter combinations.

Unit 4: Gritty Grammar

In this unit we will dive into the strange and wonderful world of grammar! What does grammar have to do with spelling? Quite a lot! Unit 3 will explore plural nouns and irregular verbs, talk about how to change verbs into nouns and look at tricky homonyms and homophones.

Unit 5: Possessing Contractions

This final unit explores the difference between possessive nouns and contractions. You will get ready to apply everything you have learned to complete a final assignment.