

Spelling



-ible or -able

Many adjectives end in *-ible* or *-able*. Both mean 'capable of being'.

For example, *enjoyable* means *can enjoy*; *terrible* means *can terrify*.

Since both *-ible* and *-able* sound similar, it is sometimes difficult to spell words with these endings. Here is a simple rule to help you:

- ❖ Use *-able* when the root word looks like a whole English word.

Example: renew = renewable; adapt = adaptable

- ❖ Use *-ible* when the root word does not look like a whole English word.

Example: *vis* = visible; *sens* = sensible

There are a few exceptions to the rule, for example: *suggestible*, *digestible*, *accessible* (*suggest*, *digest*, *access* are meaningful English root words).

Complete the words below by adding *-ible* or *-able*.

1. read.....
2. accept.....
3. ed.....
4. aud.....
5. divis.....
6. change.....
7. incred.....
8. invinc.....
9. treat.....
10. depend.....

