

# 5th Grade Spelling Week 17

## Silent Letters

### Explanation:

1. They help the reader to distinguish between homophones (homophones have the Same sound but different meaning and different spelling and there are loads of these nightmare words in English) in/inn, be/bee, to/too/two, know/no, whole/hole, knot/not,
2. A silent letter can help us work out the meaning of the word and it also can change the pronunciation even though it's silent - sin/sign, rat/rate
3. Magic 'e' - if you add 'e' at the end of short vowel sound words it elongates the sound - rid/ride, cop/cope, hat/hate, tap/tape, at/ate, mat/mate.
4. Sometimes people might pronounce certain letters or they might not depending on their accent, for example the t in 'often' can be pronounced or not.
5. H is silent in a lot of accents. For me h is a difficult letter to pronounce because I grew up dropping the h my muscle memory doesn't like it at all! But the H is silent in some words from French - hour, honest, honour, heir, herb (in American)
6. They show the origins and history (etymology) of a word.

### Word Bank:

1. wreckage
2. disguises
3. column
4. chemical
5. foreign
6. wrinkle
7. moisten
8. character
9. condemn
10. resign
11. knuckle
12. numb
13. wrist

14. choir
15. wrong
16. wrestled
17. technology
18. mechanic
19. anchor
20. debt

### Science Content Words:

21. constellation
22. Northern Hemisphere
23. Universe
24. sunrise
25. sunset

**constellation** - a group of stars that forms a pattern

**Northern Hemisphere** - the section of the earth that is north of the equator, where we live

**Universe** - everything that exists

**sunrise** - the apparent rising of the sun above the horizon

**sunset** - the daily event of the sun sinking below the horizon