

# The /ee/ sound spelt *ei* and *ie*

The /ee/ sound can be spelt in many ways, including *ei* and *ie*.

Think of the saying *i before e, except after c*.

If the /ee/ sound comes immediately after *c*, use *ei*, as in *deceive*, *conceive* and *ceiling*.

If it doesn't, use *ie*, as in *believe* and *achieve*.

There are some exceptions to this rule, like *protein*, *caffeine* and *seize*, which have to be learnt.

Long ago, in a magical land, a young boy named Thelon searched for someone to call a friend. One evening, while watching the night sky, he **perceived** a rush in the darkness. Looking around curiously, he noticed that he had **received** a visitor.

"I am the mystical genie of companionship," said a voice in the void. "I have come to help you **achieve** your quest for friendship."

Thelon looked up to the **ceiling** and saw the outline of a figure. He could not **believe** the image in front of him.

"Do my eyes **deceive** me?" he asked in wonder.

"If you can **conceive** it, it is true," answered the genie.

Stepping closer to the stranger, Thelon **seized** his hand.

"Bring me a friend, please," he begged.

"But I am here," was the reply that reverberated around the hall.

And they became friends for life.



## Focus words

perceived

received

achieve

ceiling

believe

deceive

conceive

seized