

# Final /s/ and /es/

## Pronunciation of Final /-s/ and /-es/

1. The /s/ at the end of a word preceded by a voiced sound is pronounced /z/.
2. The /s/ at the end of a word preceded by a voiceless sound is pronounced /s/.
3. The /s/ or /es/ at the end of a word preceded by /s/, /z/ and the following combinations, /sh/, /ch/, /ss/, /ge/, and /dge/ is pronounced /ɪz/..

## Voiced Sounds

a, e, i, o, u	b	d	g	j	l	m
n	r	v	w	x	y	

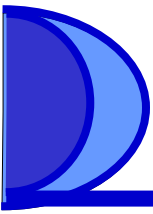
## Voiceless Sounds

c	f	h	k
q	p	t	

## Exercise 1

Try these words. Determine if the /s/ at the end of these words sounds /z/, /s/ or /ɪz/.

- |                  |       |                |       |
|------------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| 1. downpours     | _____ | 19. cheques    | _____ |
| 2. reservations  | _____ | 20. classes    | _____ |
| 3. payments      | _____ | 21. graduates  | _____ |
| 4. symptoms      | _____ | 22. quizzes    | _____ |
| 5. heights       | _____ | 23. things     | _____ |
| 6. sayings       | _____ | 24. please     | _____ |
| 7. statistics    | _____ | 25. boys       | _____ |
| 8. struggles     | _____ | 26. hours      | _____ |
| 9. kisses        | _____ | 27. earns      | _____ |
| 10. arrives      | _____ | 28. cooks      | _____ |
| 11. casinos      | _____ | 29. paints     | _____ |
| 12. attends      | _____ | 30. minutes    | _____ |
| 13. pickups      | _____ | 31. phrases    | _____ |
| 14. incorporates | _____ | 32. loves      | _____ |
| 15. claims       | _____ | 33. sandwiches | _____ |
| 16. judges       | _____ | 34. bridges    | _____ |
| 17. faces        | _____ | 35. boxes      | _____ |
| 18. pleasures    | _____ |                |       |

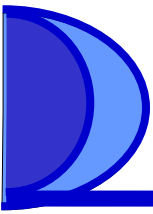


# Final /s/ and /es/

## Exercise 2

Now, add an <s> to the words in the box, then place them in the correct column according to their pronunciation.

top	hand	choose	lob	tank	beg	miss	return	fax
want	chase	laugh	surf	love	create	answer	amaze	
pray	alert	push	inch	prefer	match	seem	age	
look	climb	badge	crack	interest				
<b>/s/</b>			<b>/z/</b>			<b>/ɪz/</b>		



# Final /s/ and /es/

## Exercise 3

Circle the odd word out in each line:

1. draws      stars      employs      requires      devastates
2. raids      lobs      traces      bugs      remembers
3. invests      sacks      maps      fails      coughs
4. houses      mashes      rages      passes      drags
5. aims      fails      shelters      grills      talks
6. places      stores      tears      retires      alludes

## Exercise 4

What is the final sound of -s or -es in the following words? Write /ɪz/ , /s/ , or /z/ .

1. cages
2. rabbits
3. tortoises
4. houses
5. invitations
6. lamps
7. glasses
8. scarves
9. cards
10. bookshelves
11. gardens
12. buses
13. laughs
14. owls
15. bushes
16. wages
17. shoes
18. bows
19. months
20. classifies