

Investigating spelling rules
for adding the suffixes

-tion, -sion and -cian.

What is a suffix?

- A suffix is a group of letters that comes at the end of a word.
- They change the meaning of words.
- Knowing the rules for suffixes can help us to understand and spell words better.

Suffixes

The suffixes -tion, -sion and -cian all make a 'shun' sound.

There are some rules for helping us add the correct ending.

Not all words with tion have an obvious root word

Adding -tion

This is the most common 'shun' ending.

If a word ends in an **t** or **te** you must drop the **t** or **te** before adding 'tion'.

Adding -tion

invent^t - invention

create^e - creation

Adding -sion

- There are about 50 words that we usually use that end in -sion.

Can you think of any?

Adding -sion

-sion is used when the root word ends in -

se d
de l
r s
 t

If a word ends in these letters, you must drop the letters and add 'sion'.

Adding -sion

invade - invasion

confuse - confusion

expand - expansion

Oh no!

With any spelling rules there are always some words that do not follow the rules and they just need to be learnt.

Always check with a dictionary when you are unsure.

Some familiar exception words include cushion, fashion, Asian, Russian and ocean.