

Strategy for Using a Word Processor Spell Check

The goal of each step is to bring the student's guess of a word spelling as close as possible to the accurately spelled word so it appears in the word choice list generated by the spell checker.

Teach CHECK¹:

C – Check the Beginning Sounds.

Remember getting the initial letter correct is vital.

H – Hunt for Correct Consonants.

Alter consonants throughout the remainder of the word striving to match as many as possible to the correctly spelled word.

E – Examine the Vowels.

By substituting vowels, spell checkers will generate new options on the list.

C – Changes In Word Lists Give Hints.

Teach children to read the words in spell checkers word list looking for clues, such as a root word similar to the word they need to spell.

K – Keep repeating CHECK strategy.

Determination and persistence are the keys to students using spell check features to improve their writing.



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¹ Ashton, Tamarah M. "Spell CHECKing: Making Writing Meaningful in the Inclusive Classroom" *Teaching Exceptional Children*. 32.2 (1999): 24-27.