



2026 SESSIONS & SCHEDULE

Spelling Crash Course Information from the Coach

General Information

- All group sessions will last a minimum of 45 minutes. See dates/times below for your scheduled class!
- Classes will include an oral practice test during the session in lieu of personal time with the coach.
- Held via Teams. Please send Coach Horton your **Teams information ASAP so she can create the "group."**
- **If you haven't already done so, please fill out the CC Information Sheet at this link:**
<https://goo.gl/forms/zRqfpzx3sgBzP2Ba2>
- No makeups/No exceptions. If you cannot attend a class, all words, instructions, and comments will be emailed to all parents and put into your Google Sheet for studying.
- All correspondence will take place via email and Google Sheets. There is not enough time for personal "updates" by phone or e-mail with individual students/parents.
- No additional resources are REQUIRED for the class but we do recommend *Merriam Webster's Unabridged Online Dictionary SUBSCRIPTION, not the free version, New Nat's Notes* or eMentor (NNN), *Verbomania* or eMentor, *Spelling Rules Book, Blitz List(s)* or *Blitz eMentor, Webster Detector*, etc. for studying. **These are not provided with the class and are not required.**

Schedule – 2026 Spelling Crash Course (Find your time zone and mark your calendar accordingly)

- **Class 1: Saturday, April 18**
⌚ 4 PM Eastern / 3 PM Central / 2 PM Mountain / 1 PM Pacific
- **Class 2: Saturday, April 25**
⌚ 4 PM Eastern / 3 PM Central / 2 PM Mountain / 1 PM Pacific
- **Class 3: Saturday, May 2**
⌚ 4 PM Eastern / 3 PM Central / 2 PM Mountain / 1 PM Pacific
- **Class 4: Saturday, May 9**
⌚ 4 PM Eastern / 3 PM Central / 2 PM Mountain / 1 PM Pacific
- **Class 5: Saturday, May 16**
⌚ 4 PM Eastern / 3 PM Central / 2 PM Mountain / 1 PM Pacific

This leaves time to tighten up on EVERYTHING prior to the NSB. The weeks following CC should be mostly REVIEW and any new material you might have on hand to aid in preparation. If you wish to continue as a PSC student, we are happy to accommodate you!



Assignments – 2026 Spelling Crash Course

Each student will receive one eMentor to work through before each scheduled class, with each week having 4 distinct "sets" to work through for mastery. The eMentor is broken into weeks ("Week 1, set 1", etc.), and each week is composed of the following types of sets to work through.

- The first set is a language family (Japanese, Spanish, Italian, German, and French). You will find a PowerPoint presentation for each of these language families in your dashboard as well. Please watch the PowerPoint videos prior to studying the language each week!
- The second is a set of NOW (National Old Words), which are an assortment of words Scripps has used in the past.
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- The third, for the first 4 weeks, is a set of DTG (Difficult to Guess words – Eponyms, Geographical, Trademarks, unknown origin words, imitative origin words, and/or homonyms) with the fifth week focusing on "Phrase Words" (i.e. words taken from phrases, blended words, acronyms, etc.)
- The final set of words each week will be words from Roots. You will be sent 5 different sets of roots before the start of the program. Each week, you will study words from these roots and if you wish, you may put these into your Google Sheet.

Using Google Sheets with eMentor to Maximize Your Study

Note that you will be sent a Google Sheet prior to the first class.

Getting started with each new assignment – the first 30 minutes

1. Each time you attempt a new eMentor, approach your attempts logically and methodically. On a new eMentor, spend only 30 minutes or so for each "sitting."
2. For each word, give 2 HONEST spelling attempts.
 - a. If you get it right, you should analyze if that was a guess or if you really knew it and would ALWAYS spell it that way. If you possibly might NOT spell it the same way, write it down and label it as a guess by starring it in the eMentor. **STAR THAT WORD IN THE eMENTOR BEFORE MOVING ON.** This is important because you won't be able to star it until you see it again on another complete pass through the list on the eMentor.
 - b. If you still don't have the spelling right after 2 attempts, have the eMentor SHOW THE WORD. Carefully write it down and label it as a miss, incorrect, etc. so you know that word is troublesome to you. I prefer this method of writing the words down first and later typing them into the Google Sheet. Typing and/or writing a word gives you additional practice learning the spelling. Some people prefer the alternate method (see c).

- c. An alternate method is to "copy and paste" words immediately and directly into your Google Sheet, but this would require you to toggle between the two documents. Experiment with both ways to see which works BEST FOR YOU. I prefer the write-and-type method as it helps reinforce the correct spelling, but you should do the method that works best for you!
- d. Do NOT count a typo, incorrect space, hyphen, etc. as a miss. If you got the letter order correct and you KNOW the letter order, that's all you need to know for Scripps right now. If you want to include more information for a word, put the reason (typo, missed the space, missed the hyphen, etc.) in the note column so everyone can see that including you.

'Switch gears' after 30 minutes

1. After 30 minutes or so, stop doing the eMentor and "switch" gears a little bit. Open up the Google Sheet and find the tab corresponding to the list you were working on. If you used the copy and paste method, switch to roots or another type of studying for a bit, and then take up where you left off in the eMentors and start again.
2. For tracking: Type in the word in the word column and under "Attempt 1" type whether it was a guess or miss. Label everything! If you know how you misspelled it, you could even type that in the "note" column but that column will be used later in a slightly different way OR you can make a new column for comments to yourself. If you did the copy-and-paste method, these words will already be there for you.
3. Take a TIMED short break. When you are ready, continue to work on the eMentor. Start where you left off and continue this process until you have finished a set.

Purpose of this method

1. HEALTHY MIND - First, you shouldn't tax yourself when studying for spelling. If you're tired, you aren't thinking correctly, and you might not think through the spelling or make connections based on the word information.
2. RECORD OF TROUBLESOME WORDS - You will **never** receive a printed list of the words for an eMentor. You CAN write down ALL of the words (not just misses and guesses) if you want to. By tracking your misses and guesses, you will have a written RECORD of the trouble words in a set of words! You'll see your progress the next time you go through the list. When reviewing a list, you can see what your original trouble words were. Did you miss the same ones? Did you miss them in the same way?
3. LEARNING BY PRACTICE - By writing and typing the words again, you are PRACTICING and hopefully learning the letter order of the words you're trying to learn! Everything will work together to help you master the word.
4. GET TIPS BASED ON WORDS YOU FIND CHALLENGING - Your coach and parents can see your work and determine how you are doing on the words, see trouble words for you, give you guidance, etc. on the words. It's a WIN-WIN situation for all.



What to do after you've gone through a list one complete time

It's not magic; *however*, you're going to go through this list again and again until you have mastered the list! Feel free to add as MANY columns as you like, to record how you did on the list each time. Be sure to allow a little time before "doing" a list again, but remember, the more you study a list, the better.

1. The **SECOND** time through a set in the eMentor, work on **ONLY** your 'starred words' and 'words missed on last attempt.' This allows you to try to narrow down the trouble words to gain a grip on them. Again, follow the above steps writing down the misses, guesses, etc., and put them in the Google Sheet under "Attempt 2."
2. Take time to look and compare. You'll probably see that you missed some of the same words, but you also will see that you are starting to learn some too.
3. Don't stop with 2 times through! It takes seeing, using, etc. a word about 8 times to help transfer it into your permanent memory.

Roots

1. Each weekly Roots set will have words from all of the given Roots for the week.
2. *If you wish to do so*, feel free to put the words into an organized fashion for yourself on the tabs provided on the Google Sheet. This will help you to learn the roots, the language they are from, and the assorted words from these roots.

IMPORTANT: As with all of our materials, this is not to be shared with anyone else. This is only for the speller for this class. It is a new method that only our coached students know about and implement.

We are confident that your speller will gain invaluable benefit from our Spelling Crash Course program. If you wish to continue coaching with us, please let Hexco and head coach Michelle Horton know right away so we can ensure that your speller has a spot.