English Spelling Rules

Worksheet

I Before E
Except After C

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in the above paragraph.
A. Look at the pictures and sentences. Write IE or EI in the spaces to complete the word with the correct spelling.

1. The r____gn of Queen Elizabeth I of England lasted forty-five years. She was one of England’s most important rulers.

2. My parents read me lots of fairy tales when I was a child. I used to bel____ve they were true!

3. Eleanor rec____ved beautiful hand-made gifts from her children for Mother’s Day. She was so happy!

4. Marion is an excellent supervisor. She is very professional and effic____nt. Everyone loves to work on her team.
5. It is important for athletes to have very healthy diets. They need to eat lots of fruits and vegetables, as well as prot____n.

6. I am going on vacation to the beach with my family for ___ght days. My suitcase is packed and I am ready to go.

7. Peter works in a formal office, so he must wear a t____ every day. He likes his red one best.

8. I have some delicious cheese here. Would you like a p____ce?Personally, I prefer the Swiss cheese.
B. Look at the two pictures and the sentences below them. Write the reason for the spelling of the words in the sentences. Each pair uses one rule.

a. I before E after letters other than C when the IE has a long E sound

b. E before I after C when the EI has a long E sound

c. EI with a long A sound

d. Exceptions: EI with a long E sound

e. IE with a long E sound at the end of a plural noun (adding -s)

f. IE with a long E sound at the end of a verb (adding -ed)

g. Exceptions: IE after C

1. The bride wore a beautiful, long
   v____l at the wedding.

   My n____ghbor, Felicity, is a
   professional yoga instructor.
2. I carried this heavy backpack all day. I am tired! We worried a little about the rain, but we had a good day.

3. Graduating is a big achievement! I read a brief article about it.

4. I had a very weird dream about a friendly monster. Could I have herbal tea instead of coffee? Caffeine makes me nervous.
5. What color did you paint the ceiling in your kitchen? It is fun to give and receive gifts at Christmastime.

6. Some owls are endangered species. Are you interested in science?

7. I love birthday parties. The two ladies are talking.

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A.

1. The reign of Queen Elizabeth I of England lasted forty-five years. She was one of England’s most important rulers.

2. My parents read me lots of fairy tales when I was a child. I used to believe they were true!

3. Eleanor received beautiful hand-made gifts from her children for Mother’s Day. She was so happy!

4. Marion is an excellent supervisor. She is very professional and efficient. Everyone loves to work on her team.

5. It is important for athletes to have very healthy diets. They need to eat lots of fruits and vegetables, as well as protein.

6. I am going on vacation to the beach with my family for eight days. My suitcase is packed and I am ready to go.

7. Peter works in a formal office, so he must wear a tie every day. He likes his red one best.

8. I have some delicious cheese here. Would you like a piece? Personally, I prefer the Swiss cheese.
B.

1. c. EI with a long A sound
2. f. IE with a long E sound at the end of a verb (adding -ed)
3. a. I before E after letters other than C when the IE has a long E sound
4. d. Exceptions: EI with a long E sound
5. b. E before I after C when the EI has a long E sound
6. g. Exceptions: IE after C
7. e. IE with a long E sound at the end of a plural noun (adding -s)
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