

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 146 • MEMORY GEMS & THE SILENT E DROPPING RULE

TRĚMBLE → TRĚMBLING • SWĚRVE → SWĚRVING

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Page 77

Poetic Gems • Amelia B. Welby & James Whitcomb Riley

"For every wave with dimpled face / That leap'd upon the air, / Had caught a star in its embrace, / And held it **trembling** there!" — Amelia B. Welby

Wheeler's Silent E Dropping Rule: Words ending in silent e drop the e before a suffix beginning with a vowel: tremble + -ing → trembling, swerve + -ing → swerving, love + -ing → loving.

CONCEPT

1

Poetic Gem Copywork • 26px Penmanship Track

Copy the opening lines of Welby's poetic gem neatly:

For every wave with dimpled face that leap'd upon the air, _____

Had caught a star in its embrace, and held it trembling there! _____

2

Silent E Dropping Studio • Base Verb + -ing

Drop silent e and add -ing:

tremble → trembling swerve → swerving curve → curving _____

love → loving write → writing shake → shaking _____

3

Poetic Gem 2 Copywork • James Whitcomb Riley

Copy lines from Riley's *The Brook-Song* on the handwriting track:

Little brook! You have such a happy look, as you swerve and curve and crook. _____

WHEELER'S ORTHOEPIK RULES • THE SILENT E DROPPING LAW

1. 1. Drop Silent E Before Vowel Suffix: Silent final e is dropped when adding a suffix that begins with a vowel (-ing, -ed, -er, -able): tremble → trembling, curve → curved.

2. 2. Retain Silent E Before Consonant Suffix: Before suffixes beginning with a consonant (-ful, -less, -ly, -ment), retain silent final e intact: hope → hopeful, safe → safely.

3. 3. Poetic Personification: In both gems, poets personify inanimate objects, giving the wave a 'dimpled face' and the brook a 'happy look', elevating literary vocabulary.

LESSON 146 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

LITERATURE • POETRY • SILENT E RULE

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BASE VERB	IPA	ADD -ING (DROP E)	TEACHING & ORTHOGRAPHIC NOTE
tremble	/ˈtrembəl/	trembling (/ˈtremblɪŋ/)	Drop silent e before vowel suffix -ing.
swerve	/swɜːrv/	swerving (/ˈswɜːrvɪŋ/)	Final ve dropped before -ing.
curve	/kɜːrv/	curving (/ˈkɜːrvɪŋ/)	Drop silent e; root Latin <i>curvus</i> .
embrace	/ɪmˈbreɪs/	embracing (/ɪmˈbreɪsɪŋ/)	Soft c retained before i in -ing.
write	/raɪt/	writing (/ˈraɪtɪŋ/)	Silent w; drop e; note single t in <i>writing</i> .

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 2 Solutions:

- tremble → trembling.
- swerve → swerving.
- curve → curving.
- love → loving.
- write → writing.
- shake → shaking.

Pedagogical Alert:

Ensure students do NOT double the consonant when dropping e: *write* → *writing* (never *writting*), *come* → *coming*.
Have students recite both stanzas with expressive inflection.

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Look at 'tremble'. What letter is at the end? What happens to it when we add '-ing'?
- Why doesn't 'writing' have two 't's'? What rule applies here?
- What does it mean when the poem says the wave 'had caught a star in its embrace'?

DICTATION & ORAL APPLICATION SENTENCES (READ SLOWLY AT NORMAL SPEAKING PACE):

- The trembling star was reflected upon the surface of the wave.
- The playful brook swerved and curved through the green meadow.
- Loving thoughts are the seeds of beautiful actions.
- She was writing a cheerful letter to her dear friend.