

STUDENT NAME: _____

DATE: _____

CLASS: _____

SCORE: _____

LESSON 173 • THE VOWEL Y EQUALS LONG I (Y = Ī = /Aɪ/)

RHYME • TY-RANT • FLY-ING = /Aɪ/

Wheeler's Elementary Speller • Page 90

The Dual Roles of Vowel Y • Greek Roots & Participle Mechanics

In English, the letter y acts as a vowel representing long i (/aɪ/) in two primary linguistic positions:

Greek Roots (6 Words): *rhyme, ty-rant, cy-clone, hy-phen, py-thon, cy-press*

Participles in -ing (6 Words): *dy-ing, ly-ing, ty-ing, fly-ing, cry-ing, dry-ing*

CONCEPT

1

Greek Stems vs. -ing Participles Sorting • 26px Track

Group the 12 words under their orthographic category:

Greek Roots: rhyme • ty-rant • cy-clone • hy-phen • py-thon • cy-press

Participles: dy-ing • ly-ing • ty-ing • fly-ing • cry-ing • dry-ing

2

The ie → y Suffixation Rule Studio

Observe how monosyllabic base verbs ending in -ie change to y before -ing:

die + -ing → dying lie + -ing → lying tie + -ing → tying

3

Contextual Sentences • Application

Complete the sentences using *rhyme, flying, tying, cyclone*:

1. The swift bird was _____ high above the green forest.

2. The scholar composed a delightful _____ about springtime.

WHEELER'S ORTHOEPIC RULES • VOWEL Y AS LONG I

1. 1. **Greek Origin of Vowel Y:** In words of Greek origin (*rhyme, tyrant, cyclone, hyphen*), the letter y represents the Greek upsilon (Υ), pronounced long /aɪ/.

2. 2. **The -ie to -y Rule Before -ing:** Verbs ending in -ie (*die, lie, tie*) change -ie to -y before adding -ing: *dying, lying, tying*, preventing triple vowels.

3. 3. **Silent H in Rhyme:** *rhyme* was historically spelled *rime*; the h was inserted in the 16th century by analogy with Greek *rhythm*.

LESSON 173 TEACHER GUIDE & ANSWER KEY

ORTHOEPY • VOWEL Y • SUFFIX RULES

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WORD	IPA	LINGUISTIC PATTERN	TEACHING PRESCRIPTION
rhyme	/raɪm/	Greek rh- + y	Silent h; vowel y = long /aɪ/ before consonant + e.
tyrant	/'taɪrənt/	Greek tyrannos	Open syllable ty- = long /aɪ/.
cyclone	/'saɪkloun/	Greek kyklos	Soft c before y = /s/; open syllable = long /aɪ/.
hyphen	/'haɪfən/	Greek hyphen	Digraph ph = /f/; vowel y = long /aɪ/.
dying	/'daɪ.ɪŋ/	die + -ing	Base die changes -ie to y before -ing.
tying	/'taɪ.ɪŋ/	tie + -ing	Base tie changes -ie to y before -ing.

COMPLETE ANSWER KEY & SOLUTIONS

WHEELER'S EXERCISES

Exercise 2 Suffixation Key:

- die + -ing → dying.
- lie + -ing → lying.
- tie + -ing → tying.

English avoids writing double ii (never write *dīing* or *tīing*).

Exercise 3 Solutions:

- fly**ing**.
- rh**yme**.

Spelling Clinic: Remind children that *rhyme* has a silent *h* just like *rhythm*.

SOCRATIC GUIDING PROMPTS & PEDAGOGICAL INSIGHTS

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES

- Why do we change 'tie' to 'tying' instead of just adding '-ing'?
- What letter makes the /aɪ/ sound in 'tyrant' and 'cyclone'?
- What silent letter is hiding in the word 'rhyme'?

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

- Poets write beautiful lines of verse with musical rhyme.
- Wild geese were flying swiftly across the stormy autumn sky.
- The little boy was tying a sturdy knot in his shoestring.
- A violent cyclone swept across the open southern prairie.