

How many ways are there to pronounce '-s'? Enter these verbs into the correct column according to the pronunciation of the ending. Make any necessary changes of spelling. Then try to work out the rules.

INFINITIVE	'-s' /s/	'-s' /z/	'-es' /ɪz/
1 amuse			
2 bathe			
3 belong			
4 climb			
5 emphasize			
6 fix			
7 fly			
8 go			
9 halve			
10 help			
11 judge			
12 laugh			
13 like			
14 operate			
15 push			
16 reply			
17 say			
18 unearth			
19 watch			
20 worry			

**Rules.** The '-(e)s' ending has three pronunciations:

**/s/** after voiceless consonants such as: /p/ /t/ /k/ /f/ /θ/

**/z/** 1) after vowel sounds: /ɪ/ /eɪ/ /aɪ/ ...

2) after voiced consonants such as:

/b/ /d/ /g/ /v/ /ð/ /l/ /m/ /n/ /ŋ/

**/ɪz/** 1) after the following voiceless consonants: /s/ /ʃ/ /tʃ/

2) after the following voiced consonants: /z/ /ʒ/ /dʒ/  
(spelling forms: -s, -ss, -sh, -ch, -ce, -ge, -dge, -x, -z)

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5 emphasize			emphasizes
6 fix			fixes
7 fly		flies	
8 go		goes	
9 halve		halves	
10 help	helps		
11 judge			judges
12 laugh	laughs		
13 like	likes		
14 operate	operates		
15 push			pushes
16 reply		replies	
17 say		says	
18 unearth	unearths		
19 watch			watches
20 worry		worries	

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