

COMPUTERIZED SPELLING SENSITIVITY SYSTEM (CSSS)

Manual



Computerized Spelling Sensitivity System Manual

Acknowledgements

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Julie Masterson

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Purpose and Description of CSSS

The *Spelling Sensitivity System* was developed by Masterson and Apel (2007; 2010; 2013) to reflect the level of linguistic knowledge demonstrated by individual spellings. This system incorporates the following linguistic skills, which underlie competent spelling: phonemic awareness, orthographic pattern awareness, morphological awareness, and storage of mental graphemic representations (MGRs). The *Computerized Spelling Sensitivity System* was created by Masterson and Hrbec (2011) to increase both efficiency and reliability of the system. The SSS has been used to characterize variations in spelling associated with cultural differences (Williams & Masterson, 2010), developmental changes (Apel, Fowler, Conlin, Masterson, & Goldstein, 2008; Masterson & Apel, 2010), and spellings of children with speech and/or language disabilities (Willer Overby & Masterson, 2013; Masterson & Preston, 2012), and response to intervention (Masterson & Apel, 2013).

In this system, an individual's spellings are parsed or segmented into elements, aligned with the target elements, and scored on a 4-point scale representing linguistic accuracy. *Spelling elements* are defined as (a) the letter or letters associated with each phoneme in a base word or stem, (b) spelling modifications associated with changes to a base word or stem when adding an affix (i.e., junctures), and (c) the letter or letters used to spell an affix. If an element is spelled correctly, it is given a score of 3 points. If an element is not represented by a spelling, it is scored as 0. Examples include omitting the <u>n</u> and spelling <u>hand</u> as HAD, failing to add a juncture change such as spelling <u>hitting</u> as HITING, or failing to add an affix, spelling <u>walked</u> as WALK. If an element is spelled incorrectly, the score is based on the linguistic plausibility of the spelling used. If it is orthographically or morphologically legal (i.e., correct in some words), it is scored as a 2. For example, the spelling the vowel in <u>rain</u> with the a-consonant-e pattern, RANE, is legal, so that element would be given 2 points. On the other hand, if the vowel was spelled with a single vowel letter, RAN, the element would be given 1 point. Classification and associated rationale of various spellings are illustrated in Table 1.

Target/	Spelling/	Scoring and Rationale
Parsing	Parsing	
APPEALING	APPEALING	All elements are spelled correctly, so each would be given a 3.
a pp ea l ing	a pp ea l ing	
FEED	FEAD	The f and d are spelled correctly, so they are each given a 3. The ee
feed	fead	is spelled as ea, which is a plausible way to spell the long e sound
1 66 0	i ca u	(e.g., b <u>ea</u> d, r <u>ea</u> d), so it is given 2 points.
BANGED	BANGD	The f and d are spelled correctly, so they are each given a 3. The
h a pared	banad	affix ed is spelled with a d. Regardless of how the sound is
D'a lig eu	Dangu	pronounced, it not a plausible spelling for the past tense
		morpheme, so it is given a 1.
CATCH	СН	The c is spelled correctly, so it is given a 3. The <i>tch</i> is not spelled
c a tch	c#b	with a plausible spelling, so it is given a 1. The <i>a</i> is not represented
	C # 11	with a spelling at all, so it is given a 0.

Table 1

Installing CSSS

To install CSSS, locate the software link on the Missouri State University Language-Literacy Lab webpage at <u>www.missouristate.edu/csd/lll</u>. There are two software options at this site, (e.g., CSSS Mac.dmg for Macintosh users or CSSS Windows for PC/Windows users) so install the appropriate option for your operating system.

le in li	ibrary 🔻 Share with 💌 Burn New folder)ii • 📋	0
-	Name	Date modified	Туре	-
=	CSSS Mac June 12.dmg	6/19/2012 8:04 PM	DMG File	
	SSS Windows April 12	4/30/2012 12:30 PM	Application	

To install, double click on the link and select DOWNLOAD, then select RUN in the following pop-up box. Once your computer runs the software, you will be prompted to select components to install. Be sure to select <u>both</u> the SSS Application and Start Menu Shortcuts for the program then select NEXT.

After selecting NEXT, you will be provided with an additional pop-up box to INSTALL. Before selecting INSTALL, note the pathway for locating the program after installation. You can find this in the Destination Folder on this pop-up box.

After installation is complete, locate the program from the predetermined pathway in the installation popup box and double-click to open.

Figure 1: Examples	of Spelling Sensitivity	y System Setup Pop-Up

😙 Spelling Sensitivity System Setup 🗕 🗖 💌	😚 Spelling Sensitivity System Setup 🗕 🗆 🔼
Choose Components Choose which features of Spelling Sensitivity System you want to install.	Choose Install Location Choose the folder in which to install Spelling Sensitivity System.
Check the components you want to install and uncheck the components you don't want to install. Click Next to continue.	Setup will install Spelling Sensitivity System in the following folder. To install in a different folder, click Browse and select another folder. Click Install to start the installation.
Select components to install: SSS Application Start Menu Shortcuts Description Position your mouse over a component to see its description.	Destination Folder C:Program Files (x86)\Spelling Sensitivity System Browse
Space required: 8.4MB	Space required: 8.4MB Space available: 409.6GB
Nullsoft Install System v2.46 Next > Cancel	Nullsoft Install System v2.46 Cancel

Classification of Spellings: The CSSS Dictionary

The classification of spellings as correct, legal, illegal, or omitted is based on the entries for target words that are stored in the dictionary used by the system. Each target word included in the dictionary is parsed into spelling elements according to the principles described in the previous section. Spelling elements are delineated by placing SPACES between each one. Parsing examples appear in Table 2.

Target Word	Spelling Elements	Comments
cake	c aCe k	The pattern, "vowel-consonant-e" is used to represent
		the vowel.
bus	bus	Each consonant sound is represented by a single letter
check	ch e ck	The first and third consonant sounds are each
		represented by digraphs.
hitting	h i t t ing	The juncture segment requires doubling the final
		consonant in the word HIT before adding the suffix
		ing
tubing	t u b ing	The juncture segment requires dropping the <i>e</i> in
		TUBE before adding the suffix ing
abbreviation	ab b r e v i a t ion	The juncture segment requires dropping the <i>e</i> in the
		base word ABBREVIATE and adding the <i>ion</i> affix.

Table 2:	Parsing	examples
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After a word has been parsed, each element appears in a table. Legal spellings for each element are entered in the cells below. See Table 3 for examples of legal spellings for the word CAKE. See Figure 2 (on page 7) for a screen shot of the dictionary entry for CAKE.

	S	pelling Element	s
Target Spelling	С	aCe	k
Legal Spellings	K (kick)	eigh	c (tic)
	Ch (choir)	ei	Ck (pack)
		ay	Ch (
		ey	que
		ea	

Table J. Legal spennigs for cake	Table 3:	Legal spellings for cake
----------------------------------	----------	--------------------------

•			,	Edit Dict	ionary		-		×
Target	Prefix	Ba	se	Junct 1	Affix	Junct 2	Affix 2		<u>•</u> ^
cabin		cabin							=
cacophony		cacopho	n y						
cage		c aCe g							
cake		c aCe k							
calendar		calendar							
calf		calf							
calves		ca		lv	es				
camaraderie		camarad	e		rie				_
came		c aCe m							
camel		c a m el							
camouflage		camoufla	a ge						
campaign		c a m p ai gr	1						-
camped		camp			ed				
camping		camp			ing				
can		can							
candy		candy							-
cane		c aCe n							
canoe		c a n oe							
canyon		canyon							
careful		c aCe r			ful				
careless		c aCe r			less				\checkmark
<								>	۶
				Constants	and Constitutions		Datais Ca		1
Legal Spelling	s			Generate Le	gai speilings	Clear Legais	Retrain Ger	rerator	
	с			aCe	2		k		
k			ai			ck			
			eigh			c			
			ei						
			ay						
			ey						
			ea						
<									>
New Entry Delete	Entry		Clear		Find Word	Apply	ОК	Cancel	

Figure 2: Dictionary entry for cake

The CSSS analyses will not work unless every target word in a sample is included in the active CSSS Dictionary. Users can import a dictionary from the CSSS website, which currently contains approximately 1300 words that have been parsed into elements with legal spellings included. Alternatively, they can enter their own words, parse them into elements, and add legal spellings. Regardless of the method used to establish the dictionary, users should be familiar with the manner in which words have been parsed and the selection of spellings considered legal.

The user can make changes in both parsing and assignment of legal spellings by modifying entries in the dictionary. Some modifications may be necessary to account for differences in legal spellings associated with variations in pronunciation across dialects. For example, a rhotic dialect of English (i.e., the /r/ is pronounced regardless of whether it is followed by a vowel or not) is used in most parts of the United States, so the word <u>march</u> would have four spelling elements (m a r ch) in those regions. However, in some regions of the United States, as well as Great Britain and Australia, citizens may use a non-rhotic dialect of English (i.e., /r/ is pronounced only if it is followed by a vowel). In these areas, the word <u>march</u> would have only three spelling elements (m ar ch) since the /r/ would be silent.

Importing and Exporting the Dictionary

The CSSS Dictionary can be exported for use on other computers. Instructions for importing and exporting a dictionary and for adding new words or modifying entries for existing words are provided below.

1. To **import** the dictionary, select DICTIONARY on the toolbar then select "IMPORT DICTIONARY.

File Edit	Dictionary Help		
Transpo	Import Dictionary	Target	Spellin
	Export Dictionary		

2. The CSSS Dictionary may be modified by the user to account for differences in legal spellings associated with variations in pronunciation across dialects. To **modify the dictionary**, select DICTIONARY on the toolbar then VIEW/EDIT DICTIONARY. Use the pop-up box to search for words. This gives you the opportunity to view how words are parsed along with legal spellings for each element of the word (e.g., base, juncture, and affix).

File Edit Edit Mate	Dictionary Help		C II
Transpo	Import Dictionary	Target	Spelling
	Export Dictionary		

bala ballockgi bansna bang bang bang bang bass bass bass bass bass bass bass bas		baCak baloon baloon banana bang bass bass bass bats batt batt batt batt	E	s ed						
balloch balloch bang bang bang bass bass bass basting batting batting basting		balloon balloon banana bang bang bass bass batest batt batt battle beard beeut beeut beeut		ed ing						
balloduji benana benge benged bass baste beating beating beating beating		balloon bang bang bass bacest bath batt batt beard beaut beaut beaut	E	s ed						
banana bang banged bass baste baste batting battle beard beard		banana bang bang bass bacest bath bath batt beard beard becuse	t	ed ing						
bang banged bass baste bast bast bast bast bast bast bast bast		bang bass bacest bath bath batt beard beard becuse	t	ed ing						
benged bass baste bath batting battle beard beard		bang bass bacest bath batt battle beard beaut because	E	ed ing						
bass baste batting bottle beard		bass baCest bat bat bat beard beaut becuse	t 1	ing						
baste bath batting battle beard		baCest bath bat battle beard beaut becuse	t I	ing						
bath batting battle beard		bath bat battle beard beaut because	t I	ing						
batting battle beard		bat battle beard because	1	ing						
bøttle beard		battle beard beaut because	1							
beard		beard beaut because	I							
		beaut because	1							
beautitul		be cause		ful						
because		had								
bed		Dec								
bedroom		bedroom								
bee		bee								
been		been								
beet		b ee t								
before		befoCer								
beginning		begin	0	ing						
behind		behind								
heinn	-	be		ing.			-			
heleve		baliase		~~						
heleved		believ	*	ed						
helicerent		belinerant	-							
helaw	_	helaw								
becafit	-	benefit					-			
benent		benefit								
better	-	better					-			
better		o e il er								
4	D	CVCR								
								1 1		_
Legal Spelli	ngs					Generate Legal	Spellings	Clear Legals	Retrain Generator	
	ь		а			o	0		n	
						ui.				
						ou				
		0				en				
						eu				
						10				
						1			1	
New Entry Del	ete Entry			Clear	Fina	d Word		Apply	OK Cano	6

Figure 3: Example of Edit Dictionary Pop-Up

a. To **modify an existing entry**, select DICTIONARY on the toolbar then VIEW/EDIT DICTIONARY. Use the pop-up box to search for specific entry in question.

Edit Diction	ary	Transport.	Spelling.	Takat Bas	and Palette		
Target	Prefix	Base	Junct 1	Affix	Junct 2	Affix 2	A
0							
a		а					
abbreviation	ab	brevia	t	ion			
able		a b le					
absence		a b se n		ce			
accept		accept					
accident		a ccident					
accommodate	ac	c o mm o d aCe t					
acquaintance		a cqu ai n t		ance			
acquiesce		a c qu i e sce					
across		across					
address		a dd r e ss					
adjustments		adjust		ment		s	
adventure		a d v e n tu re					
advertisement		a d v er t iCe s		ment			
affidavit		affidavit					
affront		affront					
afeatd		a firmed					
•							4
Legal Spe	ellinas		Generate Le	gal Spellings	Clear Legal	s Retrain	Generator
				K			
New Entry	Delete Entry	Clear	Fine	d Word	Apply	ок	Cancel

Use the curser to highlight the entry. Parsing of elements and classification as base, juncture, or affix can be modified by using the space bar or entering into the appropriate column (see arrow A below). Modification of spellings that will be counted as legal (and given a score of 2) can be modified in the table of legal spellings that appears at the bottom of the screen for the highlighted word (see arrow B below).

Edit Dictio	nary	Tangat	-	Taxa a	-	-	-			x
Target	Prefix	Base	Junct 1	Affi	x	Junct 2		Affix 2		A
0										
a		a		🔺 A.						
abbreviation	ab	brevia	t	ion						
able		a b le								
absence		a b se n		се						
accept		accept								
accident		a ccident								
accommodate	ac	c o mm o d aCe t								
acquaintance		a cqu ai n t		ance						
acquiesce		a c qu i e sce								
across		across								
address		a dd r e ss								
adjustments		a djust		ment			s			
adventure		a d v e n tu re								
advertisement		a d v er t iCe s		ment						
affidavit		affidavit								
affront		affront	_							
offenid		a finai d	B .							
•										P
Legal Sp	ellings		Generate L	egal Spelling	s	Clear Legal	s	Retrain	Generato	or
а		СС	6	•		р			t	
e	x		ea				-			
i	ks									
0	CS									
u	xc									
•										• •
New Entry	Delete Entr	y Clear	Fit	nd Word		Apply		ОК	Cance	el

b. To **delete an existing entry**, select the target word on the pop-up box and delete.

Legal Spellings									
ь	а	Ш							
	e	I							
	i								
	0								
	u								
	1								
<									
New Entry Delete Entry	Clear								

c. To **add a word**, select NEW ENTRY and enter the target word, parse it into elements and legal spellings for each addition.

Legal Spellings								
b	а	н						
	e	I						
	i							
	0							
	u							
<								
New Entry Delete Entry	Clear							

3. To **export the dictionary**, select DICTIONARY on the toolbar, EXPORT DICTIONARY, then save the new dictionary in the desired location.

File Edit	Dictionary Help		
Edit Matc	View/Edit Dictionary	Target	Spellin
Transpo	Import Dictionary		
	Export Dictionary		

Entering Student Spellings: Determining Analyzability, Parsing, and Alignment

Data for analysis can be collected in various ways (e.g., predetermined word lists, connected writing samples, etc.). All spellings must be entered in lower case letters and entries cannot contain any extra spaces or punctuation.

Determining CSSS Analyzability

CSSS analyses is useful only if the correspondence between a students' spelling and the target word is sufficient to allow reasonable conclusions about the level of linguistic awareness it represents. Any target spelling for which there is no student attempt should be excluded from the sample. Next, each item must be classified as an analyzable or non-analyzable attempt of the target spelling. To be considered an *analyzable attempt*, the spelling should include two elements that were either spelled correctly or represented by a common legal spelling or diagraph. The number or percent of unanalyzable spellings itself can be a valuable measure of the spelling accuracy of students (see Masterson & Apel, 2014, for an example).

Entering Analyzable Spellings into CSSS

1. <u>Entering data directly into CSSS (New Session</u>): Data may be entered into the CSSS program directly. You can do this by opening the CSSS program, placing your curser in the top left cell and typing your data. Target words must be placed in column A with attempts placed in column B.

Target	Spelling	Total Element Points	Word Score
bake	bak	7	1
→ →			

2. <u>Entering data via a spreadsheet (New Session from CSV File)</u>: To use the CSSS, target spellings and associated user spellings are stored in a spreadsheet (typically Excel) in a comma-separated-value (CSV) format. Target spellings appear in Column A, and the corresponding student spellings go in Column B. The file then is imported into the CSSS.

ŀ	FILE	HOME	INSE	RT	PAGE LAYO	UT FORM	IULAS	DATA	REVIEW	VIEW							
	*	Cut	[Calibri		11 · A	_A ≡	= _ %	-	Wrap Text		General		Ŧ	≠		Normal
Pa	ste ↓	Format Pair	iter	B I	<u>U</u> -	- 👌 - 🗛	• =	≡ ≡ €	≣ 🗄	Merge & Cent	er -	\$ • %	, ;	.0 .00 00 - € 00	Conditional Formatting *	Format as Table *	Check Cel
	Clip	board	E.		Font		E.		Alignment		E.	Nur	nber	E.			
Н	20	•	\times	 V 	f_x												
	Α	В		С	D	E	F	G	н			J	K	L	М	N	0
1	honey	honey															
2	why	wy															
3	leaf	leef															
4	jet	jet															
5	unite	unice															
6	cure	suce															
7	penni	es penny	s														
8	pool	pool															

			Savin	ig as a CSV I	lle				
🔾 🖓 – 📄 🕨 Lik	oraries 🕨 [Documents 🕨				- ↓	Search Documents	:	٩
Organize 🔻 Ne	w folder							!≡ - (2
X Microsoft Excel		Documents library					Arrange by:	Folder 🔻	
🔆 Favorites 📃 Desktop	1	Name		Date modified	Туре	Size			
Downloads		🍌 Camtasia Studio		8/21/2014 11:47 AM	File folder				
Becont Diacon		Custom Office Templates		10/4/2014 2:29 PM	File folder				
Mecent Places		SnagIt Catalog		8/21/2014 11:46 AM	File folder				
 Libraries Documents Music Pictures Videos 	-								
File name:	Participar	nt 1							-
Save as type:	CSV (Com	nma delimited)							-
Authors:	Add an aut	thor	Tags: Add a tag		Title: A	dd a title			
) Hide Folders						Tools 🔻	Save	Cancel	

COTT CI

~

Loading a New Session from CSV file

Fit Edit Dictionary Help	1	
New session	Target	Spell
New session from CSV file		
Load Saved Session		

3. <u>Saving Sessions for Additional Analyses (Save Session)</u>: Sessions may be saved and revisited at a later point for further analyses. To **save a session**, select FILE then SAVE SESSION or SAVE SESSION AS, type the desired file name, then select SAVE. Note that the session will be saved in an .SSS Session Files format.



To retrieve a Saved Session, select LOAD SAVED SESSION, then retrieve your previously saved file for further analyses.

Fit Edit Dictionary Help		
New session	Target	Spell
New session from CSV file		1
Load Saved Session]
Save Session		

Parsing and Aligning Spellings with Targets

The CSSS performs preliminary parsing of the student's spellings, and the user inspects each parsing and adjusts if necessary. Following are general principles for parsing student spellings and aligning them with the elements in the target.

- 1. Align consonant spellings with consonant targets and vowel spellings with vowel targets.
- 2. Use alignment of vowels as the anchor(s).
- 3. Focus on spellings as <u>elements</u>, which often consists of vowel combinations (e.g., vowelconsonant-e, vowel pairs) and consonant digraphs or trigraphs (sh, wh, tch).
- 4. When making decisions about which consonant elements were deleted, consider manner. For example, if *ancient* was spelled as ASHET, the S and H would not be simply aligned with the *n* and the *c*. Instead, SH would be considered an attempt for the target element *ci* because both are representations for the fricative /S/and the *n* would be considered omitted.
- 5. Consider Transposition Transposition is the number of times the spelling error is due to repeating other consonants represented in the word (e.g., KITE spelled as KIKE). If this is suspected, click the Transposition box located under the Edit Match button for the specific entry being analyzed.

Making Adjustments to Parsing and Alignments

First, place your curser in the row in question and direct your attention to the upper left-hand corner of the screen. You will see that there is a parsed spelling of the target word above the parsed and aligned spelling attempt.

If you agree with the parsing and alignment, move on to the next word. If adjustments are needed, select EDIT MATCH above the target word and align segments by using the spacebar until desired alignment is achieved. Continue this process for the entirety of your data collection.

File Edit Dictionary Help	
Edit Match Toggle vCe	Targe
honev	
honey	
3333	

"Edit" and "Toggle vCe" Buttons

The Edit button located above the target word in the upper left-hand corner may be utilized to adjust alignments of spelling attempts as necessary.

The Toggle vCe button may be used if there is a word that contains a vowel-consonant-e within the aligned spelling. By selecting this button, the system will determine that the vowel before the final consonant was a long vowel due to the added *e* on the end of the attempt. This is important for determining the difference between legal and illegal spellings.

Example Number	Target	Participant's Spelling	E	Spellin	g ts		Explanation
1	cat	ct	с	а	t		
			с		t		CT for CAT. The <i>c</i> and <i>t</i> align with the target <i>c</i> and <i>t</i> ; no vowel is represented in the child's spelling.
2	chain	cane	ch	ai	n		
			с	aCe	n		CANE for CHAIN. The <i>c</i> aligns with <i>ch</i> ; the "aCe" pattern aligns with the <i>ai</i> pattern; the <i>n</i> aligns with the <i>n</i>
3	catch	cach	с	а	tch		
			с	а	ch		CACH for CATCH. The <i>c</i> and <i>a</i> match the <i>c</i> and <i>a</i> ; the <i>ch</i> matches <i>tch</i>
4	baby	tbe	b	а	b	у	
			t		b	e	TBE for BABY. The <i>t</i> matches the <i>b</i> ; no vowel matches, the <i>b</i> matches the target <i>b</i> , the <i>e</i> matches the target <i>y</i>

 Table 4: Parsing/Aligning Examples and Explanations

CSSS Output

When parsing and alignment are complete, scores are exported into reports in CSV format, which can then be opened in Excel, SPSS, etc. for additional analyses. A column for each of the following characteristics is included and contains data for each individual spelling (see Figure 4). The headings for each column are defined in Table 5.

F	ile	Home	Insert Pi	age Layout	Formulas	Data	Revi	tw	View	Ac	robat												_											
	3	n Cut	Calibri		11 · A A	= ;	= =	37	•	Wr	ap Text		Gen	ieral				145		1	Norm	al		Bad			Good	ί.		Neu	itral			Ě
Pa	ste	Format Pair	nter B I	<u>u</u> • 🖽	• <u>ð</u> • <u>A</u> •		= =	課	(年)	- Me	rge & Cer	nter *	\$	- %	,	•.0 .00 •.0 •.0	Cor	dition	Forn	nat	Calcu	lation		Cheo	k Cell		Explo	inato	ry	Inpu	ıt			In
	CI	pboard	15	Font	1			Al	ignmen	ıt		15		Nun	nber		FOR	natting	- as lat	Die -					Styles									
_		A6	- (*	fx Sp	elling Sample	1																												
d	A	В	С	D	E	F	G	н	1	J	K	L	Μ	N	0	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	Х	t Y	1	Z A	A A	BA	AC /	AD	AE	AF	AG
1	Participant	Target	TargetElements	Spelling	SpellingElements	TotalElements	BaseElements	JunctureElements	AffixElements	ElementsOmitted	BaseElementsOmitted	JuncturesOmitted	AffixesOmitted	Elementsillegal	BaseElementsIllegal	Juncturesillegal	AffixesIllegal	ElementsLegal	BaseElementsLegal	JuncturesLegal	AffixesLegal	ElementsCorrect	BaseElementsCorrect	JuncturesCorrect	AffixesCorrect	TotalElementPoints	WordScore	ElementScore	Transposition	Syliables	*- Itablas	Transparency	Frequency	Complexity
2	Spel	llistop	stop	stop	stop	4	4	4	0	0	0 0	0	(0	0	0 0)	0	0 0		0	0	4	4	0	0	12	3	3	0				

	Scores Report Column Heading	Definition
1	Participant	Individual from whom the sample was collected
2	Target	Target words for spelling
3	Target Elements	Target word parsed into spelling elements
4	Spelling	Spelling attempt of target word
5	Spelling Elements	Spelling parsed into spelling elements
6	Total Elements	Total number of elements in the target word
7		Total number of elements in the base portion of the target word (e.g., happiness -> h a pp i
	Base Elements	ness)
8	I I DI I	Total number of elements in the juncture portion of the target word (e.g., happiness -> h a pp i
0	Juncture Elements	ness)
9	Affix Elements	ness)
10	Elements Omitted	Total number of omitted elements in the spelling attempt
11	Base Elements	
	Omitted	Number of omitted elements in the base portion of the spelling attempt.
12	Junctures Omitted	Number of omitted elements in the juncture portion of the spelling attempt
13	Affixes Omitted	Number of omitted elements in the affix portion of the spelling attempt
14	Elements Illegal	Total number of illegal elements in the spelling attempt
15	Base Elements Illegal	Number of illegal elements in the base portion of the spelling attempt
16	Junctures Illegal	Number of illegal elements in the juncture portion of the spelling attempt
17	Affixes Illegal	Number of illegal elements in the affix portion of the spelling attempt
18	Elements Legal	Total number of legal elements in the spelling attempt
19	Base Elements Legal	Number of legal elements in the base portion of the spelling attempt
20	Junctures Legal	Number of legal elements in the juncture portion of the spelling attempt
21	Affixes Legal	Number of legal elements in the affix portion of the spelling attempt
22	Elements Correct	Total number of correct elements in the spelling attempt
23	Base Elements	
	Correct	Number of correct elements in the base portion of the spelling attempt
24	Junctures Correct	Number of correct elements in the juncture portion of the spelling attempt
25	Affixes Correct	Number of correct elements in the affix portion of the spelling attempt
26	Total Element Points	Total number of overall element points earned in the student's spelling
07	W/ 10	The overall classification of the word as correct (3), legal (2), represented but illegal (1), not fully
2/	Word Score	represented (0). The Word Score is equal to the lowest single element score within that word.
20 20	Element Score	I ne average element score in the spelling attempt.
29	I ransposition	Set to 1 if the user clicked on Transposition when checking student spelling
21	Syllables	Not currently operational in CSSS (this feature could be added to an exported file in Excel)
20	Transparency	Not currently operational in CSSS (this feature could be added to an exported file in Excel)
52	Frequency	Not currently operational in CSSS (this feature could be added to an exported file in Excel)
33	Complexity	1 Not currently operational in CSSS (this feature could be added to an exported file in Excel)

Table 5: Column Definitions

Useful Metrics

The SSS metrics in the SSS system allows specialists to chart the percentage of spellings used in each category (i.e., omissions, illegal, legal, correct) as demonstrated by various individual attempts. Development would be evidenced by progressing from omissions, to illegal, to legal, to correct spellings. The SSS metrics are more sensitive to developmental changes at the earliest stages of spelling than traditional right/wrong scoring (Masterson & Apel, 2010).

Mean Scores

The *SSS*-*Elements* (SSS-E) is calculated by dividing the mean element score for each spelling attempt by the total number of spellings in the sample. The *SSS*-*Words* (SSS-W) is calculated by dividing the word score for each spelling attempt by the total number of spellings in the sample. The SSS-E and SSS-W can be used as dependent measures in inferential statistical analysis (e.g., T-Tests, ANOVA) and measures of effect size.

Because score reports can be exported (see below), they can be imported into statistical packages such as SPSS. Additional measure such as percent affixes correct and percent junctures correct may also be useful.

Spelling Category Frequencies

The SSS-E and SSS-W represent average scores across or within words, so it is possible that collapsing the types of spellings to determine mean scores might sometimes mask potential changes or group differences. Consequently, frequencies of each type of spelling (i.e., correct, legal, illegal, omissions) can be determined and results analyzed with Chi Square.

Target	Target Elements	Spelling	Spelling Elements	Word Score	Average Element Score
appealing	a pp ea l ing	appealing	a pp ea l ing	3	3.00
attached	a tt a ch ed	attacht	attach t	1	2.60
baby	baby	babby	b a bb y	2	2.75
banged	b a ng ed	bangd	b a ng d	1	2.50
bass	b a ss	bas	bas	2	2.67
better	b e tt er	beter	b e t er	2	2.75
bite	b iCe1 t	bit	bit	1	2.33
blouses	blou se s	blouces	blouces	1	2.60
bomb	bomb	bom	bom	2	2.67
bossed	b o ss ed	bust	bust	1	1.50
bottle	b o tt le	bodaly	b o d aly	1	2.25
bowl	b ow l	bole	b o le	1	2.00
bucks	bucks	bocks	b o ck s	1	2.50

Table 0: 555-E and 555-w scores	Table 6:	SSS-E and SSS-W	scores
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Report Format

Option 1 – Export Scores

Scores for each word in a target sample on listed on a single row. Consequently, an individual participant's spellings will be displayed across several rows and each spelling will contain 29 columns of corresponding descriptive data.

Select FILE on the toolbar, then EXPORT SCORES. Below is an example of the file that you will receive:

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Option 2 - Export Scores Single Row

Scores for **each participant** in a target sample on listed on a single row. Because each spelling entry is associated with 29 columns of data, files in this format can consist of hundreds or even thousands of columns. This format may be particularly useful in studies that focus on spelling trends within an individual across words or across time.

1. Select FILE on the toolbar, then EXPORT SCORES SINGLE ROW.

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