

# What are **Word Placement Clues**?

Details about where letters are used in a word.

## Standard phonics rules:

**Y** can say the first sound in yellow, or

I like the letter name or

E like the letter name

## Phonics rules with **word placement clues**:

**Y** when it is the first letter in a word says the first sound in yellow.

**Y** at the end of a two or three letter word says I like the letter name

**Y** at the end of a word with 4 or more letters says E like the letter name.

Two major studies, Hannah in 1967 and the Abbot study in 2000 both found that word placement **clues improved accuracy of phonics rules by 75%**

Most estimates place **standard phonics rules as 50-75% accurate.**

**English Decoder rules** (which use word placement clues) **are 95% accurate\***.

*Accuracy: is how often a rule will tell a reader correct letter sounds for normal text.*

\*Tested on The Book of Proverbs in the New American Standard Bible (11<sup>th</sup> grade reading level in modern standard English)

