1. **Sneaky e, magic e, cvce, or silent e** at the end of the word usually makes the preceding vowel sound long.
   *ate, Pete, dime, rose, cute*

2. At the end of one-syllable words and after one short vowel sound, use **–ck** for /k/.
   *black, peck, pick, dock, pluck*

3. At the end of one-syllable words and after one short vowel sound, use **–tch** for /ch/.
   *match, sketch, witch, blotch, crutches*
   (Exceptions include such, much, which, rich)

4. Use **–dge** at the end of one-syllable words for /j/ after one short vowel sound.
   *badge, ledge, bridge, lodge, budge*

5. With a one-syllable word, double the **final consonant l, f, s, or z** after one short vowel sound.
   *mall, pass, staff, jazz, smell, mess, pill, stiff, kiss, fizz, doll, toss, off, fluff, fuss, puff, fuzz*

6. A **single vowel in the middle of the word is usually short. cvc** (A closed syllable)
   *cab, met, picnic, hot, cut*

7. **A vowel at the end of a syllable is usually long. cv**
   *va/ca/tion, be/cause, pilot, location, elocution*

8. **A vowel is almost always short if it comes before a double consonant.**
   *dinner, diner        super, supper     latter, later*

9. When **two consonants are between two vowels**, divide between the two consonants.
   *nap/kin, ten/nis, spin/ner, blot/ter, flut/ter*

10. When **one consonant is between two vowels**, it may belong to the first or second syllable.
    *grav/el, be/long, lem/on, re/bel, reb/el*

11. If there are **three consonants between two vowels**, divide the syllables between a blend and the other consonant.
    *mon/ster, pump/kin*

12. **Prefixes and suffixes are separated as syllables.**
    *ex/pect/a/tion*

13. **The letter c has the sound of /s/ if followed by e, i, or y.**
    *century, city, policy*

14. **The letter c has the sound of /k/ if followed by a, o, or u.**
    *cake, comb, cubicle*

15. **The letter g has the sound of /j/ if followed by e, i, or y.**
    *gingerly, age, apology*
16. The letter g has the sound of /g/ if followed by a, o, or u.
   game, ago, guilty

17. **When adding a suffix beginning with a vowel (-ing, -y, or –ed) in a one-syllable word with one short vowel and ending in one consonant, double the final consonant.**
   *drip: dripping, dripped, drippy*
   *wet: wetter, wettest*
   *win: winner, winning*

18. **When adding a suffix beginning with a vowel (-ing, -y, or –ed) to the final syllable in two or three-syllable words with one short vowel, if the final syllable is accented, and ending in one consonant, double the final consonant.**
   *infer: inferring*
   *omit: omitted*
   *begin: beginning*
   *happen: happening*

19. **Before adding a suffix beginning with a vowel, drop the final e.**
   *dine: diner*
   *late: later*
   *fame: famous*
   *invite: inviting*

20. **Before adding a suffix beginning with a consonant, keep the final e.**
   *home: homeless, homely*
   *move: movement*
   *shame: shameful, shameless*

21. **If a word ends in a consonant followed by a y, change the y to i when adding suffixes; unless, the suffix begins with i or the y has a vowel in front of it.**
   *dry: dried*
   *delay: delaying, delayed*
   *imply: implied, implying*
   *rely: reliable*
   *play: player*

22. **Use i before e except after c, or when it says /a/ as in sleigh or neighbor.**
   *thief, relief, believe, receive, ceiling, weight*

23. **When a word has two or more syllables, use c for the final /k/ sound.**
   *horrific, terrific, traffic, magic*

24. **Use double s after one short vowel sound in one-syllable words.**
   *brass, mess, dress*

25. **Never end a word with a single z. Use double z after one short vowel sound in one-syllable words.**
   *fizz, jazz, buzz*

26. **Use double -ze after a long vowel sound or a double vowel.**
   *craze, breeze*

27. **“ai” is often followed by n, l, or d.**
   *brain, tail, raid*

28. **“oa” is usually found in one-syllable words.**
   *roar, boast, coat*
29. “q” is always followed by u and at least one other vowel.
   quick, quiet, queen, quail
30. “v” and x are never doubled.
31. “x” is never followed by an s.
32. No words in English end in v. (They end in –ve and it does not matter if the
   vowel is long or short.)
   gave, have, love, give, home, drive
33. To keep the /g/ sound in a word, follow the “g” with a “u” when it is used
   before an i or an e.
   guest, guidelines, guess
34. “igh,” “ough,” and “augh” are usually followed by a “t”.
   light, bought, caught
35. Most words add an ‘s’ to make the plural.
   cat: cats girl: girls light: lights
36. Add –es to nouns ending in s, x, z, ch, tch, and sh to make them plural.
   dresses, boxes, churches, watches, dishes
37. Nouns ending in a vowel + -y combination (-ay, -oy, -ey) are made plural by
   adding s.
   birthday: birthdays boy: boys monkey: monkeys
38. Nouns ending in a consonant + -y combination (-dy, -ny) are made plural by
   changing the y to i and adding -es.
   lady: ladies candy: candies pony: ponies
39. Most nouns ending in f or fle form the plural by adding s.
   roof: roofs sniffle: sniffs ruffle: ruffles
40. Nouns ending in a vowel + -o combination are made plural by adding s.
   patio: patios radio: radios studio: studios
41. Nouns ending in a consonant + -o combination are riddled with exceptions and
   should be looked up in the dictionary.
   tomato: tomatoes tornado: tornadoes piano: pianos
42. Many common nouns in English have irregular plural forms.
   woman: women leaf: leaves mouse: mice
tooth: teeth ox: oxen fish: fish mother-in-law mothers-in-law
43. When in doubt, look it up.