

The long **i** sound spelled with “**y-e**” as in “**type**”



**The “y-e” Rule:** One consonant between two vowels is too weak to keep the two vowels from helping each other (from walking together).

As in “**type**,” one “p” is too weak to keep the “y” and the “e” apart and thus the silent “e” makes it possible for the “y” to sound like long **i**. Not only the “p” but also any one consonant between “y” and “e” is too weak to keep “y” and “e” apart.

**rhyme or rime**

It is possible that this spelling pattern was first used to tell apart two words like “**rhyme**” and “**rime**,” and once the pattern was used, more words ended up being spelled with it. Note that this “y-e” spelling pattern is in a limited number of words.

**y-e = i**

**One consonant between  
vowels is too weak.**

Compare “**tip**” with “**type**.” The “**i**” in “**tip**” has short the “**i**” sound and it does not sound like the name of the letter **I**.



Compare:

**tip**, **type**

**Tim**, **thyme**, **time**

**rim**, **rhyme**, **rime**

**tick**, **tyke**, **tike**



The “y-e” phonic occurs in approximately **30** words; read them aloud slowly:

**type**

**types**

**typed**

**typ·ing**

**stereo·type**

**stereo·types**

**stereo·typed**

**stereo·typing**

**Lyle**

**Kyle**

**style**

**styled**

**styl·ing**

**styl·ish**

**styl·ist**

**en·zyme**

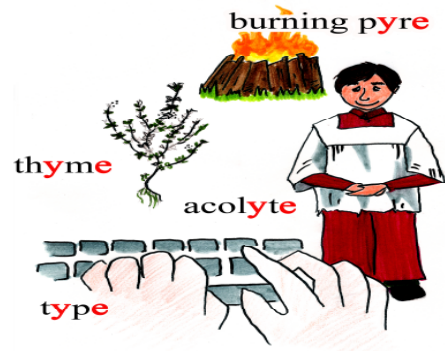
**thyme**

**rhyme**

*rhymes*

*rhymed*

*rhym·ing*



an·a·*lyze*

an·a·*lyzed*

an·a·*lyz·ing*

an·a·*lyz·er*

par·a·*lyze*

par·a·*lyzed*

an·o·*dyne*

ac·o·*lyte*

*pyre*