

–cede, –ceed, and –sede

16c. In English, the only word ending in *–sede* is *supersede*. The only words ending in *–ceed* are *exceed*, *proceed*, and *succeed*. Most other words with this sound end in *–cede*.

EXAMPLES *concede*, *intercede*, *precede*, *recede*

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, underline the word in parentheses that is spelled correctly.

Example 1. I (*conceed*, *concede*) that you are right.

- The new sales strategy (*superseeds*, *supersedes*) the old one.
- Some people wonder if any state will ever again (*seceed*, *secede*) from the union.
- Nate (*conceded*, *conceeded*) the winning point to Zeina.
- A flash of lightning (*preceeds*, *precedes*) a crash of thunder.
- Looking at his grandfather, Noel wondered if his own hairline would someday (*receed*, *recede*).
- Some people say that to (*succeed*, *succede*) in life means to be happy with yourself.
- After pausing to answer a question, Bettina (*proceeded*, *proseeded*) with her speech.
- “You have (*exceded*, *exceeded*) my highest expectations,” Ms. Khuu said to me.
- Your guidance counselor can (*intercede*, *interceed*) on your behalf.
- I have (*succeded*, *sucseded*) in earning the money I need for the trip!

EXERCISE B Most of the sentences below contain a misspelled word ending in *–cede*, *–ceed*, or *–sede*. Cross out any word that is misspelled. Then, above the crossed out word, write the word correctly. If the word ending in *–cede*, *–ceed*, or *–sede* is spelled correctly, write C above it.

Example 1. We will now ~~procede~~^{proceed} to the playing field.

- After the flood waters reseded, we could play again on the banks of the river.
- “If you want to succede at the kickball game, listen to the rules,” said Esteban.
- My new kickball game rules superceed the old ones.
- If there is a dispute, I will interceed to resolve it.
- The number of players on one team cannot exsede seven.
- The assignment of a player to the position of kicker presedes all else.
- No player is allowed to intercede when the kicker has the ball.
- If you interrupt the kicker, you conceed a point to the opposing team.
- The amount of time a ball is in play must exceed sixty seconds, or it is a “dead ball.”
- When the teams have taken their places, we’ll prosede.