Figure 9.8 Two Stages of Spelling Development

Spelling Stage	Description of Stage
Syllable Juncture	 Frequent errors in spelling unstressed vowels (the schwa) in multisyllabic words and also in consonant doubling
	 Doubling and e-drop with inflectional endings (-s, -es, -ed, -ing)
	 Long vowel patterns (ladle, complain) and r-controlled vowels (dreary, inspire) in the stressed syllable
	 Consonant assimilation (ir + relevant = irrelevant)
	Prefixes and suffixes (known as affixes)
	Typical of students 9 to 11 years of age
Derivational Constancy	Relationships between spelling and meaning (morphology)
	Morphemes are preserved even when pronunciations change (condemn-condemnation; discuss-discussion)
	Silent and sounded consonants (haste, hasten)
	 Consonant and vowel changes or alternations (express- expression; compose-composition)
	Greek and Latin roots and affixes
	Typical of students 11 years of age through adulthood