

I before E (except after C—or pronounced like an A, as in neighbor and weigh)

Ex:

thief, chief, belief, relief, piece

After C: receive, perceive,  
conceive

Like A: neighbor, weigh

Ex:

(i before e)      (i before e)  
The police chief began to piece  
together the clues left by the  
(i before e)  
thieves.

## PRACTICE THE CONVERSATION:

**A:** Will you please read the example sentence?

**B:** *The police chief began to piece together the clues left by the thieves.*

**A:** How do you spell *chief*?

**B:** C-h-i-e-f.

**A:** How do you know it's spelled that way?

**B:** "I" before "E," except after "C."

**A:** Great.

