

Reflection essay #4 — Should English spelling be reformed?

- Background: Napoli & Lee-Schoenfeld (2010), ch 11, “English spelling is hard...” (and relevant course material)
- For this reflection essay, address the following questions:
 - Napoli (the specific author of this chapter) addresses the question of whether English spelling should be reformed. How does Napoli **define** *spelling reform*? Can you relate Napoli’s definition of spelling reform to any **concepts** we have discussed in class, especially about levels of language structure?
 - Napoli makes three main arguments *against* trying to impose a reform of English spelling, based on (a) phonetics, (b) morphology, and (c) accessibility of written records (not necessarily in that order). Choose **two** of these arguments against spelling reform, briefly **describe** them, and **explain** which one you find more convincing and why.
 - What is **your position** on reforming the spelling of English? Do you support Napoli’s version of spelling reform? Do you support a different conception of spelling reform? Do you oppose trying to reform the spelling of English? **State** your position, and give one **argument** or discuss one **example** to support your position. Refer to **concepts from our course** where possible.