

# Spelling Rules: Is It TION or SION?



Writers are often confused as to when they should use the suffix -tion and when they should use -sion. We *usually* add -sion to a word when:

- 1) the word ends in the letter *l* (propel propulsion)
- 2) If the suffix will follow an *n* or *r*, especially if the original word ends in -se or *d* (extend extension)
- 3) the word originally ends in -ss or -mit (discuss discussion admit admission)

We *usually* add -tion to a word when:

- 1) the word ends in -ate (vacate vacation)
- 2) Any word that ends in a consonant besides *l*, *n*, or *r*, especially those ending in *t* or -te (act action describe description)

Circle the correct spelling of each word below.

- |    |            |            |
|----|------------|------------|
| 1. | invension  | invention  |
| 2. | decision   | decition   |
| 3. | expeltion  | expulsion  |
| 4. | position   | posision   |
| 5. | persuation | persuasion |
| 6. | permission | permiton   |
| 7. | ambision   | ambition   |

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|-----|---------------|---------------|
| 8.  | education     | educasion     |
| 9.  | comprehention | comprehension |
| 10. | exersion      | exertion      |
| 11. | provision     | provition     |
| 12. | emosion       | emotion       |
| 13. | interruption  | interruption  |
| 14. | affection     | affecasion    |