Spelling list: ie and ei words: rulebreakers

Have you ever noticed some *ie* and *ei* words don't follow the *i before e except after c* rule? English can be tricky this way, with some words breaking the rule entirely. This list includes examples like *ancient*, *efficient*, and *weird*, all of which don't follow the usual pattern but are still common words in everyday use.

Learning rulebreakers is an important for improving your spelling. Why not try a *spelling game* to help you study? It's a fun way to test your skills and reinforce your memory of these tricky words.

ancient Greece has many **ancient** ruins.

efficient He was an **efficient** worker.

sufficient Do you have **sufficient** money for a bus ride home?

conscience My **conscience** is completely clear.

protein A balanced diet should contain **protein**.

seize Did you see him **seize** my purse?

weird I heard a very **weird** noise in the night.

foreign We love **foreign** travel.

sovereign A reigning king or queen is a **sovereign**.

forfeit He will **forfeit** his chance of promotion.

counterfeit They found **counterfeit** money at his home.

height He was at the **height** of his popularity.

either You can have **either** of these two cakes.

neither Neither of my friends could come out to play.

leisure I enjoy a balance of work and **leisure** time.

science David hopes to excel in his **science** exam.