Silent E Switch

Sort words made by adding -ing.

3.W.8.c.I "Using correct spelling for irregularly spelled words (e.g., said, does, gone) and other studied words and for adding affixes to base words."

NAME _____ DATE _____

SPELLED RIGHT

When a base word ends in a silent e, drop the e before adding -ing. In this group, the e was dropped.

riding

NEEDS FIXING

In this group, the silent e was kept before -ing. Drop the e to fix the spelling.

bakeing

1 SORT

8 items

Circle RIGHT or FIX beside each word, then choose one word from each group and explain how you know.

1.	smiling	RIGHT	FIX
2.	making	RIGHT	FIX
3.	danceing	RIGHT	FIX
4.	taking	RIGHT	FIX
5.	writeing	RIGHT	FIX
6.	slideing	RIGHT	FIX
7.	hiking	RIGHT	FIX
8.	hopeing	RIGHT	FIX

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Choose one word from each group and explain how you know.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new -ing word that is RIGHT and one that needs a FIX; do not use words already on this page.

RIGHT _____

FIX _____

CHALLENGE

Fix closeing, then write its base word and explain what changed.

ANSWER KEY

Silent E Switch

GRADE 3 · 3.W.8.c.I

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	smiling	**RIGHT**	The silent e in smile was dropped before adding -ing.
2	making	**RIGHT**	The silent e in make was dropped before adding -ing.
3	danceing	**FIX**	The silent e in dance should be dropped: dancing.
4	taking	**RIGHT**	The silent e in take was dropped before adding -ing.
5	writeing	**FIX**	The silent e in write should be dropped: writing.
6	slideing	**FIX**	The silent e in slide should be dropped: sliding.
7	hiking	**RIGHT**	The silent e in hike was dropped before adding -ing.
8	hopeing	**FIX**	The silent e in hope should be dropped: hoping.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Task: Choose one word from each group and explain how you know.
Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **RIGHT**: waving
- **FIX**: moveing

Challenge: closing; close; I dropped the silent e before adding -ing.

For Part 2, look for an explanation that connects each chosen word to the silent e rule. Part 3 samples are listed in RIGHT, then FIX order.