

Weekly Dose Variant Spellings

Question: What is a variant spelling word?

Answer: This may sound like a simple answer but basically means; another spelling variation for the same word.

Thoughts to live by as a braille transcriber. "In transcribing text into braille, the exact spelling of a word that is present in print MUST be used in braille."

In the example below is the use or non-use of a silent e before the suffixes *able*, *ably*, or *ability*. For example,

diagnosable (common spelling)

diagnoseable (variant spelling)

In *diagnoseable* the *ea* sign is used. However, it bears repeating that the transcriber must use the exact spelling of each word as it is presented in the print copy and cannot change the spelling of a word because of a variant form. Sound familiar?

Source: The Braille Enthusiast's Dictionary UEB Edition