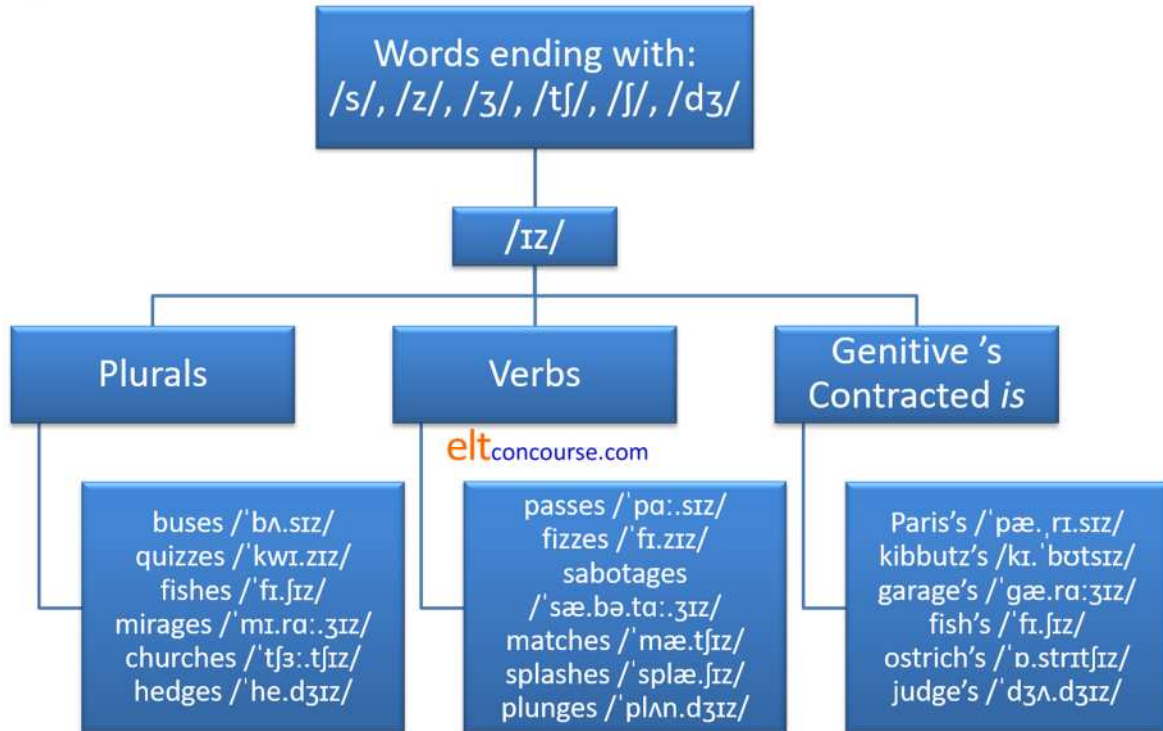


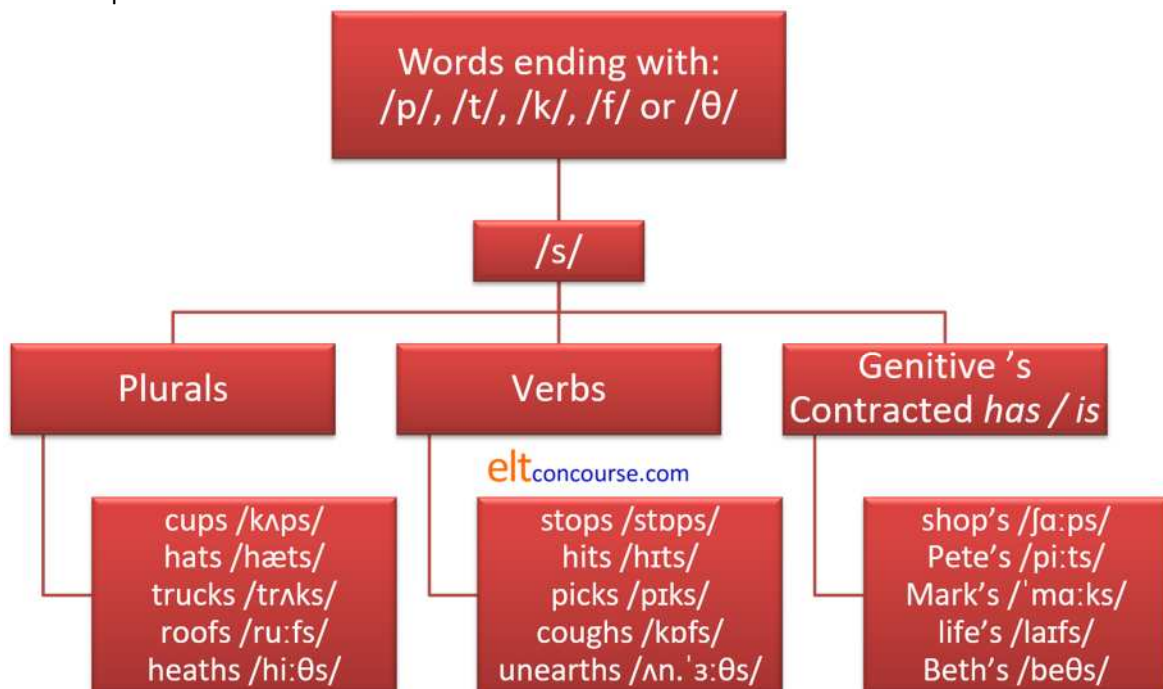
Pronouncing verb and noun inflexions: 's, -s, -es, -d and -ed

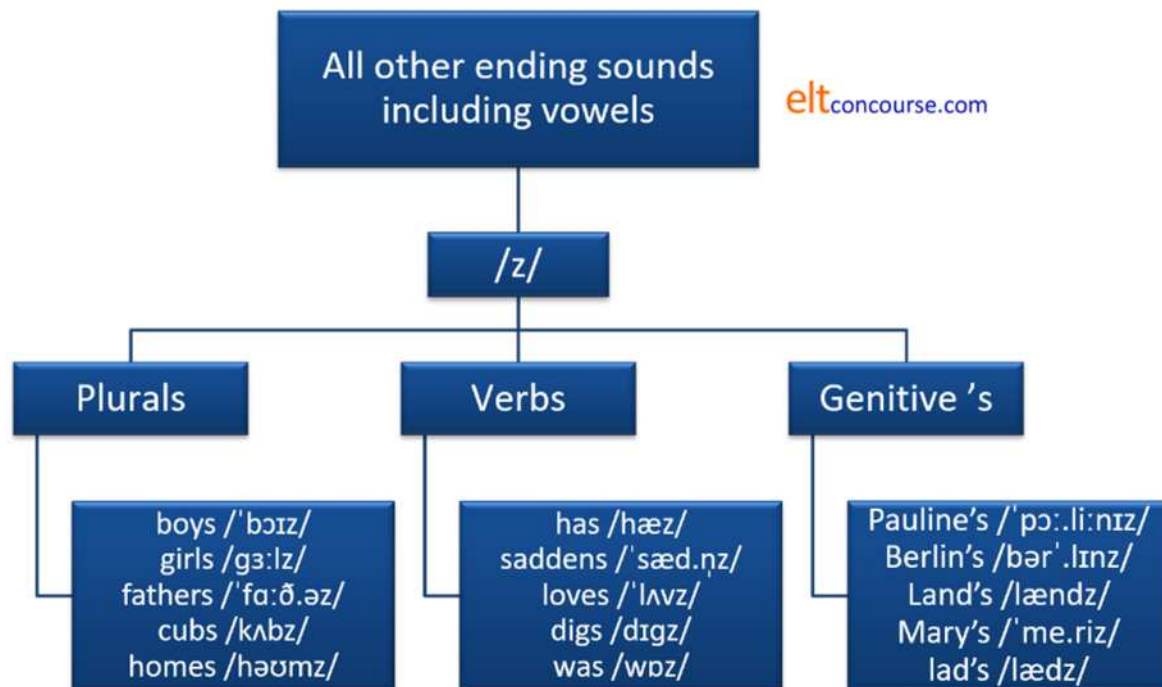


The contraction of *has* to 's is not pronounced as /ɪz/ but usually as /əz/ as in, e.g.:

*The **judge's** decided (/dʒə.dʒəz/)*

The contraction of *is* to 's is pronounced as above and sounds uncontracted because /ɪz/ is its normal full-form pronunciation.





There are a number of words in English which end with a voiced /ð/ sound when they are verbs (usually with an -e ending) but end with the unvoiced /θ/ if they are nouns. They include:

breathe /bri:ð/ vs. *breath* /breθ/
soothe /su:ð/ (verb only)
loathe /ləʊð/ (verb only)
bathe /beɪð/ vs. *bath* /bɑ:θ/
clothe /'kləʊð/ *cloth* /klɒθ/
mouth /maʊð/ vs. *mouth* /maʊθ/
seethe /si:ð/ (verb only)
sheathe /ʃi:ð/ vs. *sheath* /ʃi:θ/
teethe /ti:ð/ vs. *teeth* /ti:θ/
wreathe /ri:ð/ vs. *wreath* /ri:θ/
writhe /raɪð/ (verb only)

These words obey the rules when they take an s ending so, when used as verbs ending in /ð/, the ending is pronounced /z/ and when they are used as nouns ending in /θ/, the s inflexion is pronounced as /s/.

