



Read Write Inc. Spelling 3

Unit 10: Adding the suffix **-ian**

President Alpha

Welcome, Earthlings! You are about to enter the Spelling Zone. Our Star Speller for today is... Zeta!

Zeta

Hello everyone. It's me again. Now, you already know how much I enjoy performing and singing, but I've decided I should learn to play an instrument, too. I'd love to be a **musician** – that is the word for someone who can create music. It is all very exciting. Not only that, but the word 'musician' gave me an idea for our spelling session today, so let's get spelling.

Let's play My turn/Your turn to say these root words. Repeat them after me.

magic
electric
music

What do you notice about the last letter in each of these words?

Turn to your partner.

The answer is – they all end in the letter **c**.

Now, do you remember that the ending that sounds like **shun** at the end of words can be spelt in different ways?

Well, we can add **-ian** to our words that end in **c** to change them into nouns that mean a person who does or is something. Like this:

mag**ic** mag**ician**.

So if the root word ends in the letter **c** we just add **-i-a-n**:

mag**ic** + **ian** = mag**ician**

For example:

The **magician** showed us the most amazing tricks!

Watch me! My trick is to change a word into a noun that means a person who does or is something by adding a suffix.



root word	root word + suffix -ian
magic c	magic ci an
electric c	electric ci an
music c	music ci an
optic c	optic ci an

By the way, I'm sure you know that an optician is someone who checks people's eyes.

The root word is 'optic' and means 'of the eye or vision'.

Hold on – I can hear a Weird Word Warning coming through.

Ah yes! I almost forgot!

If the root word ends in **cs** we must **drop** the **s** before adding **-ian**:

politi**cs** + **ian** = politi**ci**an

For example:

A **politician** was interviewed on the children's TV news channel last night.

Let's see some word building:

politics + **ian** = politician

mathematics + **ian** = mathematician

That's all for today. Bye for now!

President Alpha

You are about to leave the Spelling Zone. Take your new spelling knowledge with you. Goodbye, Earthlings...