The 'shul' sound: answers

Practised: hearing the /ʃəl/ ('shul') ending and knowing it is usually spelt –cial or –tial (Years 5–6 spelling).

Page 1 · Warm up

Ring: **special**, **partial**, **social**. Not 'shul': animal, pedal, metal.

Page 2 · Clap and sort

–cial: special, social, official, crucial
–tial: partial, essential, potential
Not 'shul': animal, pedal, medal, signal, hospital

Page 2 · A. Two columns

'shul': facial, initial, racial, essential
Other: total, normal, central, local

Page 3 · B. Leo's words

special · social · partial · official

Page 3 · C. Beats

ar · ti · fi · cial · con · fi · den · tial · es · sen · tial · cru · cial (small differences in splitting are fine, as long as the 'shul' beat is right)

Page 3 · D. Endings

spe**cial** · par**tial** · so**cial** · essen**tial**

Page 3 · E. Sentence

Answers will vary, e.g. **It is essential to keep your special badge.**

Challenge: No. Say them slowly: spe-**shul**, an-i-**mul**. Animal ends with 'mul', not 'shul', so it is just **animal**. Only words that end with the 'shul' sound use cial or tial.

Watch out for

- **Spelling it as it sounds** ("speshal"). Say, "We hear 'shul', but we write cial or tial."
- **Mixing up other -al words** (animal, medal). Stretch the last beat and listen: is it 'shul'?
- Which ending, **cial** or **tial**? That comes in the next chapters. For now, hearing the sound is the goal.

Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Shul spotter:** on a car journey or walk, take turns to say a word; clap if it ends with 'shul'.
- **Beat it:** tap out the beats of special, essential and artificial on the table.
- **In the game:** Chapter 2, Use –cial after a vowel letter, shows when to choose cial.