

Spelling list: *qu* and *squ* words

The /kw/ sound in English is almost always spelled *qu* . You'll notice this in words like *quick* and *quiet* . It's a simple pattern: *q* is almost always followed by *u* .

This also applies to words starting with *squ* , where the *s* sound is added before the *qu* , as in *squid* or *square* .

You can use this rule for longer words that feature the /kw/ sound, like *question* and *conquest* .

quick Do you have time for a **quick** chat?

quite It's **quite** a long way to walk.

quiet It was very **quiet** in the church.

quilt It was cold so he slept under a **quilt** .

query I sent my **query** by email.

question He was reluctant to answer my **question** .

squid A **squid** has eight arms.

square There is a fountain in the market **square** .

liquid The medicine comes in **liquid** or tablet form.

request I hope you won't refuse my **request** .

conquest We are studying the **conquest** of the Aztecs by the Spanish.

require The seller will **require** your payment by Friday.

equal The teacher asked her students to draw a triangle with three **equal** sides.

equator Latitude is how far North or South a place is from the Equator.

equipment A machine operator installed the **equipment** .

inquiry There will be an **inquiry** into the plane crash.

aquarium There were many exotic fish in the **aquarium** .

earthquake

The **earthquake** made the ground shake.

inquisitive

An **inquisitive** child asks many questions.