

HOMOPHONEMES

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How many different spellings can one phoneme or sound have? **Sēz** has at least 28. All are in W3 except the possessive forms, Holy See (OED), the plural of Se(lenium), sēz, Spanish *si*, and -sies.

cees = ces = cs	plurals of the letter c: W3 (<i>Webster's 3rd New Int'l. Dict.</i>)
cee's = ce's = c's	possessives of the letter c
-cies, cy's	plural and possessive of -cy, a suffix of action, practice, rank, etc
Cs, C's	ditto of Century, Roman 100, etc
seas, sea's	ditto of sea
sees, see's	ditto of the word see, or contraction of 'see is' as in "See's a trigram."
Sees, See's	ditto of a term for the Papacy, the Holy See, or of other named sees.
seize	
Ses Se's	ditto of the chemical abbreviation for Selenium
-ses	plural of -sis, a suffix but a headword in W3 as with other -fixes in this list
sēz	phonetic spelling of sees, seize, etc.
sis, si's	English plural and possessive of Spanish yes, a frequent English borrowing
-syes, -sy's	plural and possessive of -sy, an affectionate suffix for small one, eg mopsy
-sies	informal plural of -sy; mopsies
Szis, Szi's	members of or possessive of a Himalayan people

In addition, 27 phonemes sometimes pronounced like sēz in different accents or in slurred talk give a shonky total of 55 spellings. I've excluded 9 other (not so) near homophones involving a long i.

cease	
cedes, cede's	plural and possessive of the word cede; or contraction of "cede is"
cis, cis-	on the same side of a molecule, both a word and a prefix
cist	a rock-lined pit or grave, or a wicker sacrament vessel
cyst, -cyst	word and suffix
says, sez	verb and a frequent colloquial spelling thereof
sces = sess = sezz	sinsemilla cannabis (<i>Cassell Dict. of Slang</i>)
seeds, seed's	
Sias = Zias	members of a Pueblo people and language group
Sia's = Zia's	possessive of same
SIDS	sudden infant death syndrome, abbreviation used as a word, like AIDS
siege	
Sis, Si's	plural and possessive of the chemical abbreviation for silicon
zees, zs	plurals of the letter Z (US pronunciation)
zee's, z's	possessive of same

Are there any other spellings of sēz? Can you find a phoneme or word with even more spellings?