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## (POST & (E)MAIL)

## **Truly disappointing**

*From:* Simon Cole, Institute of Foreign Language Education, Kurume University Mii Campus, Kurume, Japan

I would like to applaud Christo-

pher Upward for his article "In defence of spelling reform" (*ET* 57, Jan 99, pp. 31–34). Like him, I have a great deal of respect for David Crystal's work. It is truly disappointing that he appears to be defeatist with regard to spelling reform. I have been teach-

ing English for 11 years and in that time I have seen how difficult English can be to learn for adults, even youths. In that time I slowly developed a spelling system that I am now comparing to other systems with a mind to doing my MA thesis in it. Cheers Mr Upward.