



WORD LIST

IN-SCHOOL
SPELLING BEE

LEVEL:
Hard



- Fortieth** *The whole family gathered to celebrate their parents fortieth wedding anniversary. Being the ordinal number of forty in numbering or counting order, position, time, etc.*
- Gourmet** *The food critic believed himself to be a real gourmet.*
Noun. A person who cultivates a discriminating palate for the enjoyment of good food and drink.
- Harbinger** *The black cat can be seen as a harbinger of luck.*
A person or thing that announces or indicates the approach of something.
- Hyphen** *A hyphen separates two parts of a word.*
The punctuation mark (-), used to separate the parts of some compound words.
- Hypocrite** *He was accused of being a hypocrite.*
A person who pretends to be what he is not.
- Hypothetical** *Winning the lottery is a hypothetical situation as your numbers may not come up.*
Having the nature of a hypothesis; existing only as an idea or concept.
- Insatiable** *The hungry man was insatiable.*
Not able to be satisfied.
- Instinct** *The mother hen's instinct kicked in when she saw the fox near the hen house.*
The innate capacity of an animal to respond to a given stimulus in a relatively fixed way.
- Imperceptible** *The change in the picture was imperceptible to the average viewer.*
Too slight, subtle, gradual, etc, to be perceived
- Jambalaya** *Jambalaya is a dish that originates in the Caribbean.*
Noun. A Creole dish made of shrimps, ham, rice, onions, etc.
- Karaoke** *Holly demanded to be first up and heckled the karaoke host until she got her way.*
An entertainment of Japanese origin in which people take it in turns to sing well-known songs over a prerecorded backing tape.
- Liberate** *The army moved in to liberate the city from the dictator's control.*
To give liberty to; make free.
- Library** *There is a massive selection of books to be found in a library.*
A room or set of rooms where books and other literary materials are kept.
- Labyrinth** *The cave was a labyrinth of tunnels and caverns.*
A maze-like network of tunnels, chambers or paths, either natural or manmade.
- Middling** *The weather was neither good nor bad, just middling.*
Mediocre in quality, size, etc; neither good nor bad, esp in health (often in the phrase fair to middling).
- Muffle** *The committee issued a report which recommended action to muffle the noise from the airport.*
1 (often foll by up) to wrap up (the head) in a scarf, cloak, etc, esp for warmth 2 to deaden (a sound or noise), esp by wrapping. 3 a kiln with an inner chamber for firing porcelain, enamel, etc, at a low temperature
- Muesli** *Add extra banana to your muesli to give you energy throughout the day.*
Noun. A mixture of rolled oats, nuts, fruit etc, eaten with milk.
- Meticulous** *The surgeon was meticulous about cleaning his hands.*
Very precise about details, even trivial ones; painstaking.
- Millennium** *A millennium is a period of time equal to one thousand years.*
A period or cycle of one thousand years.
- Marionette** *The little theatre showed plays using a marionette.*
An articulated puppet or doll whose jointed limbs are moved by strings.
- Megalomania** *The evil villain suffered from megalomania.*
A mental illness characterized by delusions of grandeur, power and wealth.
- Numeral** *He wrote out the time, one numeral after another.*
A symbol or group of symbols used to express a number.
- Nonchalant** *The more the teacher warned the bully, the more nonchalant he became.*
adj. casually unconcerned or indifferent; uninvolved.



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- Orient** *Using the sun to orient herself, she was able to avoid the thorn bushes.*
Another word for east; the eastern sky or the dawn.
- Olfactory** *Dogs have a good olfactory sense.*
Of or relating to the sense of smell.
- Panorama** *They stood on the hilltop to admire the panorama.*
An extensive unbroken view, as of a landscape, in all directions.
- Particular** *There are some particular tastes that I don't like.*
Of or belonging to a single or specific person, thing, category, etc; specific; special.
- Peculiar** *The sour milk had a peculiar smell.*
Strange or unusual; odd; distinct from others; special.
- Perpetrate** *The guards were sure that the man was about to perpetrate a crime.*
To perform or be responsible for (a deception, crime, etc.)
- Paparazzo** *The paparazzo followed the actor to the restaurant.*
A freelance photographer who specialises in candid shots of famous people.
- Peristalsis** *In vertebrates, food is passed to the stomach by peristalsis via the oesophagus.*
(Physiology) The succession of waves of involuntary muscular contraction of various bodily tubes, esp of the alimentary tract, where it effects transport of food and waste products.
- Queue** *People were asked to form an orderly queue before they entered the stadium.*
A line of people, vehicles, etc, waiting for something.
- Quintuplicate** *The pop group performed in the form of its quintuplicate membership.*
"1. adjective: Fivefold or quintuple 2. verb: To multiply or be multiplied by five 3. noun: A group or set of five things"
- Recession** *The news reports were full of stories about the recession.*
A temporary depression in economic activity or prosperity.
- Renegade** *The renegade soldier posed a serious danger.*
A person who deserts his or her cause or faith for another, a prostate; traitor.
- Redundant** *The landline telephone is redundant in many homes.*
Surplus to requirements; unnecessary or superfluous.
- Referendum** *The decision would be made by way of a referendum.*
Submission of an issue of public importance to the direct vote of the electorate.
- Repartee** *At the dinner party John and his old friends engaged in their usual repartee.*
Noun. 1. Sharp, witty, or aphoristic remark made as a reply 2. Terse rapid conversation consisting of such remarks 3. Skill in making sharp witty replies or conversation.
- Rhapsody** *She was in rhapsody when she heard the music.*
An expression of ecstatic enthusiasm.
- Sacrament** *Confession is a Catholic sacrament.*
An outward sign combined with a prescribed form of words and regarded as conferring some specific grace upon those who receive it.
- Sarcasm** *Some people did not appreciate Paul's sarcasm.*
Mocking, contemptuous, or ironic language intended to convey scorn or insult.
- Sabotage** *The spy was going to sabotage the plan.*
The deliberate destruction, disruption, or damage of equipment, a public service, etc, as by enemy agents, dissatisfied employees, etc.
- Solemn** *People are expected to remain solemn at church services.*
Characterized or marked by seriousness or sincerity.
- Shingle** *There was a band of shingle at the bottom of the beach.*
Coarse gravel, esp the pebbles found on beaches.
- Sovereign** *The sovereign ruled the country fairly.*
A person exercising supreme authority, esp. a monarch.
- Tachometer** *The haulage company fitted a tachometer to each of their trucks.*
Any device for measuring speed, esp the rate of revolution of a shaft. Tachometers are often fitted to cars to indicate the number of revolutions per minute of the engine.