2023 Scripps National Spelling Bee®

bee

words of the champions

YOUR KEY TO THE BEE

GREETINGS, CHAMPIONS!

About this Study Guide

Do you dream of winning a school spelling bee, or even attending the Scripps National Spelling Bee National Competition? *Words of the Champions* is the official study resource of the Scripps National Spelling Bee, so you've found the perfect place to start. Prepare for a 2022 or 2023 classroom, grade-level, school, district, county, regional or state spelling bee with this list of 4,000 words.

All words in this book have been selected by the Scripps National Spelling Bee from our official dictionary, Merriam-Webster Unabridged (http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com).

Words of the Champions is divided into three difficulty levels, ranked One Bee (825 words), Two Bee (2,025 words) and Three Bee (1,150 words). These are great words to challenge you, whether you're just getting started in spelling bees or if you've already participated in several. At the beginning of each level, you'll find the *School Spelling Bee Study List* words. For any classroom, grade-level or school spelling bee, study the 150-word One Bee *School Spelling Bee Study List*, the 150-word Two Bee *School Spelling Bee Study List* and the 150-word Three Bee *School Spelling Bee Study List*: a total of 450 words.

Following the *School Spelling Bee Study List* in each level, you'll find pages marked "Words of the Champions." Are you a school spelling bee champion or a speller advancing to compete beyond the school level? Study these pages to make sure you're prepared to do your best when these words are asked in the early rounds of competition. And remember, although spelling bees will start with words from this guide, they often end with words you haven't studied.

Each year, the Scripps National Spelling Bee will release a new version of *Words of the Champions* featuring 800 new words, including an all-new *School Spelling Bee Study List*.

Your spelling bee journey starts now, and taking the first step toward becoming a star athlete of the English language makes you a *Champion*. These *Words* are for you.

About the Scripps National Spelling Bee

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational program. By inspiring the exploration of words, the Scripps National Spelling Bee illuminates pathways to lifelong curiosity, celebrates academic achievement and enriches communities. Visit spellingbee.com for more information about the Bee and to check if your school is enrolled. The Scripps National Spelling Bee is administered on a not-for-profit basis by The E.W. Scripps Company.

Merriam-Webster

Official Dictionary
of the
Scripps National
Spelling Bee

merriam-webster.com

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

ONE BEE

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE BEE

School Spelling Bee Study List

adds	bill	harsh	bobbed	rare	peacock
sit	pants	porch	some	feedback	Ohio
cry	nets	crops	what	scared	elves
put	pod	order	few	lousy	uplift
look	cups	stumped	pail	coop	everyone
hey	page	blue	area	during	another
tell	top	sorry	story	faith	beetle
none	trap	many	sheesh	bandmates	sights
need	map	blast	sole	quiet	choose
poke	toys	shelf	files	minute	wonder
drag	ten	chores	wiggle	streak	belongs
off	food	bottom	baggy	freedom	model
long	five	busy	phone	stuttered	fasting
grass	tiny	copy	blame	fudge	until
came	nose	tales	skipped	damaged	nobody
make	meal	stairs	crafty	frantic	color
had	moo	white	scars	clash	OR *colour
trees	share	speck	table	funky	curly
can	help	leave	roots	tower	heavy
not	like	pace	stinky	swoop	build
plan	hot	party	only	greasy	greeting
sink	feel	smell	bones	gravy	
tote	ears	moon	marry	display	
hint	cute	washing	swept	growling	
rice	barked	two	chunks	visit	
doll	sway	trash	forget	blessings	

Great Words, Great Works Reading Program

Each year, the Scripps National Spelling Bee publishes our School Spelling Bee Study List to help students prepare for classroom and school-level spelling bees. These words come from Great Words, Great Works, a list of books carefully selected by the Bee's editorial team. Find it at spellingbee.com/book-list.

*chiefly British spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE BEE

Words of the Champions

gradual	bedlam	gargantuan	gimmick	monopolize	target
ferocious	shortfall	salsa	flannel	water	angora
frequently	cowlick	chaotic	cucumber	marathon	snippet
permission	opinionated	shrimp	McMansion	omission	ascribe
towel	slogan	mandate	janitor	newbie	hodgepodge
sundae	triumphant	turret	lionize	spreadsheet	verbiage
ornament	parenthetic	pigeon	headdress	badger	nephew
rooster	listener	satellite	ludicrous	fortification	imbibe
scold	guardian	parasite	pear	hydra	savvy
organza	dwindled	favorite	system	grouse	reckon
fragile	fraught	OR *favourite	pedigree	manta	boorish
galaxy	sturdy	cascade	empty	astonish	tarmac
complaint	treadmill	dandelion	amulet	fashionista	iteration
curries	originate	famous	guess	stubble	nurture
tennis	**forfend	pristine	magician	genius	volcano
grumbling	OR forefend	golden	carrot	nuance	forensics
garlic	eavesdrop	modesty	meteor	stencil	miraculous
hula	January	amphibian	distraught	penguin	trendy
reactionary	scruple	jealousy	freight	freckle	permafrost
muscular	moxie	remedial	honeybee	blooper	iceberg
drizzle	winnow	vouch	blemish	misconception	cactus
accurate	incentive	trivia	crumpet	lambkin	nationalism
studio	admirer	shoulder	blizzard	chowder	leeway
illusionist	emotional	zebra	squirm	sunflower	pilferer
genetic	chia	butterscotch	harmonious	lambasted	rollicking
levity	raspberry	apron	lawyer	volumetric	quart
moisture	bogus	beagle	valiant	flattery	lactose
toughness	recoup	kidney	purse	simmer	domineering
tasteless	bookworm	wistful	raisin	whisk	onion
astute	veteran	raven	trumpet	bathtub	abandon
turtle	erase	fructose	bias	fantastically	vault
Pinkerton	downcast	Amazon	lettuce	failure	junior
fortune	spinal	companion	shamrock	tolerable	hamlet
sluggard	demolition	panorama	Americana	mosquito	jubilant

In Good Company

When it comes to spelling bee participants, the more the merrier! In fact, more than 11 million spellers participate each year in qualifying spelling bees throughout the country and around the world.

*chiefly British spelling
**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE BEE

Words of the Champions

thawed	mince	puzzles	whirlybird	kennel	scrapple
uncle	bubbly	scumble	Hungary	heavenly	nominee
dawdle	graham	extinct	welding	shindig	martial
mogul	headlong	jersey	aforesaid	melody	acumen
troll	timber	trapezoid	varnish	membership	infirm
kindred	medallion	dillydally	spindle	oblong	bleary
tantrum	maximum	haggle	wheedle	yammer	attitude
science	clover	sword	whelp	whereas	beseech
cement	casino	mastiff	yonder	coercive	sunseeker
venomous	distinctive	cooperate	riffraff	bailiff	cornily
plaintiff	mister	merchandise	restive	infiltrate	contraction
mayhem	warning	melted	various	skirmish	scooter
thicket	useful	apology	giggle	constituent	acceptance
gymnastics	difficult	carnival	bowie	flounder	rugby
island	mischief	buffoonery	teemed	cleave	shore
peacenik	talent	intellectual	soppiness	millionaire	yippee
ounce	kiwi	tickled	bask	concrete	wand
memorandum	publish	domino	lateral	slurry	Merlin
bother	mutter	ignite	usher	heiress	carnation
missile	sedentary	legacy	prone	reign	neaten
munchkin	divine	splurge	selfie	spectral	depose
banana	lexicon	neigh	skydiving	dialect	frock
furnace	bristle	cabbage	memes	heist	camcorder
foothills	daresay	erode	nuggets	avenue	gossip
tongue	owlishly	formalize	frailty	pending	version
caterpillar	criminal	OR *formalise	sweltering	ewe	fluid
wasp	recipient	anyway	scrounge	stagestruck	vlogging
kudos	strong	isolation	praise	standee	diversity
alpha	canteen	measly	scripture	sailage	spangled
shebang	aviation	apprehensive	ulna	yoo-hoo	barbie
tibia	lucky	zither	fellowship	profiteer	delta
hazelnut	rocket	althorn	amass	kernel	handyman
votive	reflect	Spaniel	missive	tawny	stewardship
storm	scent	kilt	jitterbug	scalp	gruel

Cruising the Airwaves

The first broadcast of the Bee wasn't on television — it was on radio! It wasn't until 1946 that it was first televised.

*chiefly British spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE BEE

Words of the Champions

groom	amusement	riddance	bungee	charitable	corkscrew
trice	baptismal	repentant	periwinkle	physical	palpebral
brick	postural	manacle	entreat	punily	spry
privet	refrigerant	Amish	peninsular	Bengal	awry
debunk	surly	unremitting	flipperling	evacuees	truly
ballad	scornfully	condiments	fleeciness	linguistics	definitely
chide	leaven	vaccination	escapade	pulpit	mano a mano
atonement	blurb	floridly	handle	plummet	con forza
citation	elasticity	obsolete	gumption	addle	fie
hardtack	quantify	kodak	mortician	***wring	ozone
rabid	redemption	terrarium	homesteader	unfazed	derby
teenagers	zygote	posterity	nitrate	castor	sister
peat	lithium	statusy	joinery	farkleberry	canoe
harrowing	docket	mambo	literally	churchianity	knight
hobble	rubric	putrid	medusa	sclaff	tango
peddle	Hawaiian	FLOTUS	unchristened	baronetcy	goober
effortless	pendragon	insomnia	buzzworthy	lossy	knoll
moped	eggcorn	incompetent	recumbent	risposta	bilbo
groats	tabulate	Disneyfication	tiffany	tosh	bango
Highlands	cidery	congeniality	musketeers	toey	cornel
retriever	puritan	intertidal	windbaggery	Isle Royale	gist
anime	caboodle	solitude	proposal	adjure	homester
regiment	Godspeed	optician	weaponry	cockles	lovage
sterling	Thailand	gelatinous	deceitful	sodden	agave
bootless	pepita	gotcha	cinderella	griefful	loch
forgeable	lithophone	capitalist	league	aspish	locavore
transmissibility	tai chi	respite	repercussion	daft	specificity
gridiron	parasol	eighth	astounding	alpestrine	thorn
summoned	screeno	Shetland	hijab	metrical	sequel
applicable	provenance	causal	donatee	likelier	row
isms	ouster	hologram	parvo	livid	cribble
tentacled	Dudley	spiteful	apparel	caustic	sprue
exude	dicey	snitch	squeamish	scanty	cambio
bermudas	turken	maternity	Oceanian	dowdy	gab

Back in D.C.

Mark your calendar! The Scripps National Spelling Bee will take place May 28 - June 2, 2023, at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in Oxon Hill, Maryland, near Washington, D.C.

***Beginning at this point, all the words remaining in the One Bee section are new to the 2023 version of *Words of the Champions*.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE BEE

Words of the Champions

stupa	veered	scuppers	blink	quonk	cantor
slab	shipping	astral	prism	wince	nomophobia
compass	blandish	gambit	quota	vetoed	feckless
jarl	bleat	cairn	Dorking	au jus	Walter Mitty
tommyrot	wamble	paella	diva	undercroft	hoax
evildoer	skimmed	sprite	cortex	whey	greaves
collie	Sirius	sprightliness	convoy	rumor	harrier
retorts	bodkin	husk	Orion	OR *rumour	
politick	fanatic	omega	Bellatrix	oryx	
flout	trove	aurora	puckish	saltatory	
nerfing	shirk	wolfsbane	shaman	Ukrainian	
castigate	wield	weald	flashback	tutti-frutti	

A Big-Time Spellebrity

If you've watched the Bee before, you've probably seen his face. You've definitely heard his voice. We're talking about the official pronouncer of the Bee, Dr. Jacques Bailly. He won the Scripps National Spelling Bee in 1980 and took up the role of pronouncer in 2003.

*chiefly British spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

TWO BEE

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

School Spelling Bee Study List

comic
awesome
Wi-Fi
glide
spading
sifting
railings
pitch-black
jinx
hummingbird
hauling
nimble
slippery
hitched
tingle
ebb
chase
doodled
everlasting
snooty
innings
upbeat
trout
joggled
waist
landline

sparrow
whizzed
weave
slivers
spellbound
former
cottonwood
bossiness
blotch
easily
skidded
overseas
sheepish
gloomy
inkling
interesting
beginning
slouch
foster
smirk
discarded
rental
people
saints
purchase
shrivel

limbering
sockets
squinched
orca
newt
camel
**spick-and-span
OR spic-and-span
arrows
tomorrow
distracted
balance
probably
pottery
beyond
twelve
respond
grimy
arrive
archers
slather
compute
switcheroo
donkeys
disband
constant

balm
traditional
bandage
floral
bruise
astride
actually
decide
exciting
smooshed
shawl
murals
casa
kneeling
potion
devoured
riffled
adorable
section
puttering
python
apartment
yurt
bovines
rituals
Andean

scrawled
arrested
oftentimes
embrace
ceiling
adaptable
alternate
Chicago
observations
**benefited
OR benefitted
pistons
pangs
abodes
declaration
soldiers
cronies
peevish
dredged
**Navajo
OR Navaho
adjusted
temperature
poppet
intertribal
Angola

contours
republic
paradise
vertical
equipment
debit
minerals
container
economy
wrestle
overtly
innocent
tallyho
reservation
flybys
inlet
pandemic
doorjamb
torment
evaded
instead
potential
Alberta

Our Mission

By inspiring the exploration of words, the Scripps National Spelling Bee illuminates pathways to lifelong curiosity, celebrates academic achievement and enriches communities.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

hexagonal
litmus
seethe
antiquarian
phalanges
bachelorette
frontier
unctuous
fluoride
acerola
Minotaur
intermezzo
edification
vacuousness
epilepsy
importunate
recuperation
citronella
palliative
abhorrence
personnel
vexatious
faux
sophisticated
nebulous
genus
legionnaire
sternutation
subcutaneous
alacrity
choreographer
leguminous
ceramics
mimetic

unabated
petrifying
specimen
interlocutor
zemi
dulcet
salubrious
rotisserie
**paneer
OR panir
omnibus
biscotti
calibrate
appellation
duodenum
valorous
OR *valourous
isotopic
carpal
quizzical
heliotrope
squander
prenuptial
succulent
bedraggled
rectitude
uranium
inundate
wunderkind
filial
wearisome
visage
fascinator
testimony

beaucoup
banal
seismologist
spectacles
innovator
bursary
hallowed
apogee
hiatus
freesia
exoneration
duvet
turpitude
platitude
nobiliary
commerce
keratitis
honorific
OR *honourific
kookaburra
napoleon
superlative
oxygenate
annihilate
sarcophagus
surrogate
terabyte
uncouth
onerous
macrocosm
bulbous
umpirage
heredity
philharmonic

endorphin
pharmacy
fondant
cupola
herbaceous
tentativeness
pachinko
decrepitude
redux
dramaturgy
murmuration
Clydesdale
phonics
calisthenics
obediential
odiferous
combination
torrent
arsenic
invertebrate
bandanna
OR bandana
manipulable
axiomatic
indefatigable
ulterior
oligarchy
pianola
dignify
allegiance
basaltic
scorpion
planetarium
ecstatic

cinnamon
pharaoh
opponency
referendum
quaver
rabbinic
lapel
mackerel
callow
biscuit
flourish
beatific
repository
dissipate
accomplice
kerchief
whimsical
stamina
criteria
reprieve
consequent
contusion
mulligan
sabermetrics
elocution
dowager
comparison
diaphanous
agoraphobia
buffet
tortoise
surmountable
endure
bonobo

abrogate
effusive
primitive
fabulist
comportment
taciturn
sophomoric
laureate
Goliath
splenetic
legato
slovenly
aerobics
paisley
contrariwise
petroleum
regalia
incinerate
flagon
incoherent
tercentenary
vituperative
churlish
riviera
laconic
excision
emblazoned
bric-a-brac
longitude
maverick
retrograde
partridge
insignia
binomial

Who Knew?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational program.

*chiefly British spelling
**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

luminance	demographics	lupine	ingenuous	chancellor	trefoil
adjective	Jurassic	resuscitate	phonetician	pauper	designer
elucidate	myoglobin	approbatory	macular	epoch	leisure
spatula	frugal	catalepsy	simpatico	dumbwaiter	vague
triglycerides	achromatic	labyrinthine	adhesion	allergenic	wharf
stalwart	miscible	notoriety	rennet	vocabulary	altercation
bumptious	soprano	subterranean	pinnacle	vassal	fratority
farcical	cutis	aubergine	avalanche	panary	cataclysmic
ghastly	hyrax	jalapeño	cadge	tangerine	metatarsal
parkour	truncheon	attributive	exodus	pervasive	bereavement
fealty	educand	plutonomy	philosophize	haphazard	carbohydrates
perilous	Realtor	lobotomy	Requiem	legislature	sesame
steroid	billabong	assumption	glitterati	shenanigans	palatable
gullibility	bariatrics	entrepreneur	transference	inclusion	gratis
tarantula	throughout	besieged	uveal	physicists	nonvolatile
cantankerous	propulsion	placoderm	candelabrum	tempura	juvenilia
vitriolic	assailant	hermitage	vacillate	reggae	fomentation
crinoline	charioteer	permutation	phenotype	futility	reprisal
debris	solicit	conference	transposable	untenable	astrobleme
armaments	melismatic	woebegone	thrasonical	feudalism	sabotage
versatile	spurious	resplendence	trepanation	malevolent	absolution
subtlety	tempeh	aphasia	Holstein	posada	rutabaga
hangar	statistician	environs	quadrillion	acquiesce	espousal
verbena	ibuprofen	celebratory	tardigrade	apothecary	virulence
zirconium	injurious	cornucopia	varsity	summary	allocable
ventriloquy	anglophile	prominent	scholarship	brogue	effraction
circumflex	defiant	archetype	filbert	suet	limousine
calligram	substitute	travails	Galahad	koto	drupiferous
eczema	quiddity	antipathy	jadeite	jingoism	organelle
theomachy	karst	leviathan	peripheral	satchel	osprey
fibula	Brigadoon	alpaca	elevator	evanescent	elusive
aberration	vestibule	duress	chaperonage	diverge	disproportionate
necrotic	ballyhooed	eucalyptus	frittata	exemplar	cayenne
eminent	arpeggio	rambunctious	vandalize	marsupial	tabernacle

Did You Know?

Word meaning questions were first introduced as part of the Bee on the written test in 2013. Oral word meaning questions were given at the National Competition for the first time in 2021.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

phosphorescent
anxiety
conch
singultus
impromptu
oracle
condemn
scenographer
neuroticism
cannoli
platoon
solstice
swannery
probative
oblique
buoyancy
situation
lumbar
topiary
reverberant
yeanling
homicide
graphologist
principality
Nostradamus
taxonomic
beret
talisman
impecunious
reciprocity
molecule
millennial
ineffable
abnegation

beguile
centenary
matrimony
errata
stipulate
naïveté
cadence
fido
vehicular
sabbatical
ermine
pugilist
tapioca
festooned
tectonic
wizened
tomfoolery
harrumph
embezzlement
fallacy
asylum
remuneration
expostulate
integument
Hebrides
macaw
perspicacious
reimbursable
jambalaya
geriatric
striation
Appaloosa
ramifications
temerity

egress
geocaching
instigate
obscure
transcription
muchacha
steppe
palpitant
nonchalance
realm
estuary
technician
dietetic
homage
cumulus
essential
seraphic
cameist
scrumptiously
toploftical
noctambulist
visibility
ligament
plenitude
illustrious
symmetrical
pendulous
analepsis
mitigative
pyrite
sacrifice
consternation
escalator
impasto

antagonistic
affront
element
desolate
truncate
pedicure
**caftan
OR kaftan
ingratiate
sousaphone
amalgam
carnage
turmeric
zoolatry
ricochet
hackneyed
vespertine
**brusque
OR brusk
erstwhile
lolled
osteopath
kaiser
imperious
Egyptian
foible
lousicide
ewer
curfew
schism
dilapidated
peony
urgency
bifurcate

drivel
jettison
Promethean
embassy
contemptuous
okapi
welterweight
scrooge
morose
osmosis
flimflammer
astringent
mademoiselle
nouveau
heterochromia
consul
hermetically
excursion
dreadlocks
theriatrics
cumbersome
affluent
chastise
colic
atomic
fêng shui
acuity
subliminal
charismatic
phoenix
bastion
edamame
porcelain
deglaciation

recruit
tableau
sheldrake
suitable
cenotaph
Plumeria
perpetrator
cinematic
wallaby
contrivance
suffrage
thyme
phlebotomy
**anemic
OR anaemic
depravity
effervescent
soirée
churros
diadem
larceny
acetaminophen
parochial
earnestly
**gaffe
OR gaff
ostensibly
nervily
gingivitis
patience
quittance
tenement
soothsayer
varicose

From Around the World

Most spellers at the Scripps National Spelling Bee are from the United States, but spellers also come from Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Canada, Ghana, and Department of Defense Schools in Europe.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

adage	Neapolitan	caricature	bittern	twilight	regurgitate
cicada	chintzy	emerald	flotsam	proletarian	stegosaur
mauve	genteel	liege	discombobulate	vantage	statuesque
emeritus	requisition	wilco	scrutiny	discountenance	nectarine
suture	stimuli	germane	concatenate	stupefy	galvanize
obfuscate	schooner	bacteriolytic	impeachable	irrevocable	agonistic
casualty	declamatory	rhododendron	residue	trellis	rosin
perseverance	embryo	ineptitude	halibut	juxtapose	burial
apparatus	languorous	academese	spectrometer	hydrangea	bulwark
myopic	stevia	registrar	circadian	slalom	iridescent
ebullience	phycology	alma mater	servitude	corollary	quince
clairvoyance	malaise	comedienne	traverse	étude	cyclone
impetus	staid	Egeria	tungsten	cranium	usurper
affianced	acerbity	gnarled	vineyard	equivalent	phraseology
archaism	inimical	hydroponic	interrogative	portentous	caramel
commodious	kaleidoscope	combustible	scullery	nepotism	pecuniary
austere	gluttonous	factorial	tiramisu	truffle	cornea
severance	gypsum	dolma	exaggerate	varicella	resilience
financier	polypeptide	sapphire	enoki	tonsillitis	apiary
wildebeest	wushu	prevenient	profundity	thoracic	ronin
asado	contradictory	Edenic	mantra	proviso	tropical
limpa	penitentiary	tributary	escarole	netiquette	pontiff
adolescence	umbrage	laudatory	nanotechnology	paucity	omniscient
menagerie	crustaceans	jitney	bureau	doldrums	capacity
hallucinate	bubonic	wattage	burglarious	slumgullion	sewage
opprobrious	sartorial	papillon	cryptozoa	valedictorian	epoxy
nocturnal	escarpment	vertigo	preponderance	auspices	discreetly
redolent	Celsius	accumulate	bruxism	elaborative	sieve
vendage	dialysis	deltoidal	psychoanalysis	proprietary	trounce
entente	humidistat	opulent	calendar	seclusion	hydrophobia
boomslang	sardonic	paramecium	reiterate	adieu	ingot
circuitous	braille	monochrome	remorseful	tenaciously	nubuck
veracity	vignette	facade	cybernetics	indemnity	jocularity
marionette	adjudicate	evaporation	garniture	cyanosis	unfurl

The First Bee

In 1925, the first national spelling bee was organized by the *Louisville Courier-Journal* with a total of nine spellers. Frank Neuhauser won the championship title after correctly spelling "gladiolus."

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

calculator
corduroy
encore
hollyhock
qualms
mosaic
centipede
attendee
nomenclature
botany
Holocaust
augment
acoustic
eruption
auburn
virtually
glissando
stomach
demonstrative
megalomaniac
posse
declension
berserk
cathedral
deciduous
baleen
Einstein
municipal
adversaria
turbinado
brethren
tympanum
fisticuffs
propinquity

epidermis
carriage
abstemious
echinoderm
optimum
pathogen
acrostic
anthropology
cruciferous
macchiato
ancillary
toile
plaudits
serenade
heptad
engineer
pilcrow
porosity
tandoori
succumb
fervently
divestiture
roseola
installation
harbinger
raptatorial
sobriety
manumit
dentifrice
collegiality
inclement
celery
idiosyncratic
burgoo

occupancy
coriander
amnesty
condensation
aqueduct
ferret
widdershins
hostile
subsequent
whet
blatant
pyramid
terminus
agitation
tremulous
scythe
duplicitous
protectorate
placards
corral
credulity
dissonance
shoji
auditorium
reconcilable
evaluate
mastodon
denticulate
supplicate
torsion
justiciable
vernal
aardvark
census

stagflation
brontophobia
macrobiotics
glareous
rejuvenate
tubular
dodecahedron
rictus
vengeance
modular
kleptocrat
neuropathy
surrealist
secession
digression
intricate
annotate
vehemence
fervorous
septennial
hypotenuse
emancipatory
supine
fracas
disrepair
photogenic
rehearsal
irritability
vainglorious
ataxia
pageantry
vinegar
fiduciary
emulsify

lorikeet
malfeasance
sequential
intersperse
numerology
Paleozoic
funnel
syndicate
chrysalis
bethesda
cartilage
coeval
curio
ombudsman
hydrant
zeppelin
superficiality
marooned
volary
OR volery
follicle
brochure
grotesqueness
privatim
eradicate
krypton
ethanol
quadriceps
tachycardia
triceratops
sandal
pashmina
utilitarian
millivolt

herringbone
orchestra
phlox
tractability
montage
compendium
unmoored
yardang
fluctuation
flabbergast
accolade
connivery
impresario
bruschetta
dictum
premonition
stereotypical
collectanea
telepathic
banquet
upbraid
pancreas
expunge
maize
metastasize
quintessential
pollutant
brouhaha
pedantry
performance
equivocate
fission
boondoggle
phylum

Did You Know?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee was featured in the 2002 Academy Award-nominated documentary *Spellbound*.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

hypochondria
obstetrician
replete
raucous
Brandywine
surreptitious
surplus
impediment
revenant
topgallant
clandestine
genealogical
pomposity
neonatology
pituitary
fleetness
anonymity
carcinogenic
detritus
anorak
enviable
extrapolate
extinguish
pilaster
perceptible
dystopia
muesli
crux
wordmonger
wobbulator
mahogany
moribund
recriminatory
Darjeeling

recusancy
retrocedence
cauterize
immolate
résumé
extensive
transcend
freneticism
merino
pestilence
mordant
posthumous
QWERTY
foosball
accentuate
ascension
venue
microfiche
quadrilateral
turpentine
cellophane
indulgent
occipital
predicament
provincial
antithesis
gouge
salivate
laity
indolent
documentary
bromide
algae
reminiscent

menial
Moroccan
clearance
assure
compatriots
liaise
quotidian
matriculation
revulsive
gaucho
capsule
tragedian
fajitas
felonious
palatial
Mecca
albeit
vermicide
echelon
supremacy
clowder
occultation
Chihuahua
promontory
shar-pei
narcoleptic
efface
sycophant
bellwether
clarinet
capillary
disposition
remonstrance
smithereens

curator
judicious
vice versa
exercise
civet
pancetta
waiver
decennial
dynamite
Gemini
retinol
corpulent
potpourri
pallor
Yorkshire
Belgravia
casserole
semester
sacrament
terra-cotta
moratorium
cognizant
OR *cognisant
languish
protuberant
chortle
unscathed
raclette
superstitious
mawkish
flambé
patronymic
odometer
uvula

enumerated
desertification
quirky
arraign
elegant
minacious
vindictive
implacable
logarithmic
regicide
hubris
hibernaculum
bandicoot
malinger
parliamentary
rebarbative
olympiad
crocodile
venerable
chemise
campanology
persuasible
desultorily
papyrus
El Niño
anchorage
conundrum
debilitate
mittimus
mellifluous
clemency
backgammon
intuitable
divvy

fatuously
fraudulent
necessity
piety
veritable
sashay
sciatica
discomfiture
emphysema
stridency
acetone
cerebellum
pantomime
prima donna
praxis
Tinseltown
sorrel
McCoy
histrionics
cashier
polysemy
stampede
forfeit
armadillo
overweening
sacrosanct
syringe
eclipse
espadrille
corgi
caffeine
panacea
cabaret
froufrou

There's a First Time for Everything

Hugh Tosteson was the first winner from outside of the 50 U.S. states. He lived in Puerto Rico and won in 1975.

*chiefly British spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

eschew	avarice	cholera	diligence	plantain	Formica
ventricle	bouclé	**minuscule	bodega	aperture	Mylar
inducement	thoroughbred	OR miniscule	bona fide	rhythmically	rustication
vanguard	potassium	jeepney	gustatory	shazam	globular
portrait	peculate	volucrine	obliterate	bountiful	stellular
tepidity	treatise	populace	legalese	pantheon	akimbo
meridian	undergird	vetiver	rudiments	marimba	derisive
spontaneity	oompah	parameters	monitory	conduit	ineluctable
platinum	adulation	inflammable	equilibrium	bravado	eerily
nonnegotiable	minutia	pyrotechnics	roustabout	beneficent	funambulist
disparate	anticipatory	mollify	trifle	indict	apotheosis
artifice	chinook	cohesive	ambrosial	epitome	entrée
cymbals	indigent	stigmata	simultaneity	annulment	homeostasis
nucleated	merganser	prolix	gastronome	vegetarian	mummified
exorbitant	sternum	mitochondria	epithet	surimi	prehensile
reparations	par excellence	onomatopoeia	encroach	besmirch	somatotype
constabulary	thwartwise	lavender	acacia	trespass	bizarro
speculate	tae kwon do	tensile	tetanus	commandeer	dissemble
stratosphere	fenestrated	gaudery	scarlatina	bonsai	gallant
noxious	lugubrious	luxuriate	ciao	university	intensify
arbitrary	isosceles	cavalcade	genome	celestial	hurriedly
quasar	hoity-toity	gladiatorial	inviolable	preposterous	corrosive
Podunk	Mesopotamian	machination	contrite	extant	afghan
seize	Muzak	pugnacious	patrician	cogently	odontiasis
pathos	vicinity	peruse	enervate	auricular	stratification
equinox	merely	alluvial	turophile	settee	tomahawk
prosperous	abominable	epicurean	Patagonia	legitimately	artesian
sclerosis	procedure	derelict	vanquish	inoculate	mendacious
ablaut	limpid	revelation	ectoplasm	heleoplankton	gubernatorial
anabolic	syllabus	arithmetic	olfactory	pliant	pungent
jimberjawed	animus	depredation	en masse	billiards	mandrill
toilsome	trillium	ignominious	stroganoff	obstreperous	gibbous
tempestuous	Dalmatian	auction	procrastinate	frabjous	extracurricular
univocal	ufology	assiduous	purification	spiracle	punctuation

Older than Sliced Bread

The first national spelling bee was held in 1925. That makes us older than sliced bread, bubble gum and even trampolines.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

nautilus
thievery
dragoon
yuzu
ritziness
gazette
continuum
pachyderm
symposium
floribunda
salience
molasses
classical
fungible
Gothamite
affable
dopamine
pitiful
ammunition
pariah
prodigious
denominator
prorogue
fecund
laceration
nexus
decor
duchy
pagoda
establishment
ruminate
sympathy
puniness
lingua franca

triforium
**déjà vu
OR déjà vue
calabash
**chute
OR shute
impermeable
trepidation
collision
scarab
veganism
humerus
vagabonds
variegated
volition
gossamer
vincible
factitious
sculpture
annuity
quid pro quo
curmudgeon
cushion
tutelage
domiciled
theorem
accrual
grandeur
ottoman
logographic
armistice
cryogenic
catalyst
thespian

submersible
extemporaneous
ungetatable
unilaterally
ordinance
ursine
arduous
carnitas
bulgogi
fibromyalgia
terrier
captivated
onus
precursor
mochi
feign
dementia
dandle
effete
Antigua
vaudeville
frisket
brockage
malapropism
pelf
aqueous
Dianthus
olingo
Halifax
concordance
huerta
vascular
wentletrap
serrated

poblano
conclave
Gregorian
rebuff
taverna
illicitly
cribbage
crith
Namibian
tricenary
triste
interred
legerity
Vatican
fucoid
parley
meningitis
nutation
nutria
sedge
capstan
vicarious
alate
victimology
ibex
cudgel
bicameral
irrigation
labradoodle
portico
corsage
smellfungus
arboretum
Zamboni

blarney
diacritic
mephitic
complementary
Philistine
dyspeptic
inglorious
louche
avatar
grandiloquent
armature
maidenhair
aureole
spinosity
prespinous
cladistics
gasiform
valuator
deserter
jankers
Evactor
possessive
venial
seton
demerits
diaspora
pious
borough
volatile
gnocchi
surety
pileus
fez
glengarry

commissioner
grande dame
verism
dramatization
nonconformist
château
erroneous
Salvador
trillado
per se
peradventure
Ryeland
domesticity
episcopal
consecrate
trituration
neoterism
interregnum
viaticum
homiletics
psalmody
omnilegent
princeps
procurement
cribo
colubrine
immie
aretalogy
sessile
du jour
lanceolate
bowsprit
Charon
chupacabra

Find the Bee on Social Media

Connect with us! If you're 13 or older, follow the Scripps National Spelling Bee on social media. You can find us on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. Use #spellingbee to join the conversation.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

Acadians
Gippsland
froward
ensconced
cattalo
OR catalo
hypogeous
composite
Miranda
Newfoundland
fulminate
bilaterian
wootz
movimento
mandorla
pomegranate
parodic
osculatory
orthogonal
planisphere
tase
Shiba Inu
misnomer
eustress
blastogenesis
octuplicate
in silico
particulate
planogram
Pomeranian
freegan
emissary
balsamic
pothos

polysyllabic
teraphim
anserine
elicitation
advocatory
eligibility
placate
runcible spoon
goji berry
implicative
sostenuto
credence
Farsi
novemdecillion
adjugate
epidural
patella
hydrocortisone
maritime
debutante
ramson
asthmatic
pilosity
depreciate
Pierre
davenport
convocation
recreant
majuscule
Cheshire cat
phishing
Motrin
tsk-tsked
cum laude

evo-devo
lumen
catalina
Sumatran
restitutory
cholesterol
astaxanthin
Florentine
stricture
no-goodnik
agnail
perquisite
pilotage
arietta
deprivation
ante
amiably
nomancy
officinal
Cassandra
quinary
afroth
rhapsody
Franciscan
abaft
Romano
impoverish
flexitarian
parsimony
prion
ancho
polyester
anoint
appraisal

parabola
primeval
morphological
retrodict
expectorant
Tasmanian
hipsterism
melamine
eluate
heterophony
polonium
espial
kung pao
aglossal
nodosity
somniloquy
antacid
umbilical
zacate
acquit
capnometer
fontina
biomimicry
durango
pomato
inerrancy
Munich
coalition
discretionary
inveterate
***muktuk
ex libris
auklet
jiggery-pokery

sobersides
lantana
atresia
estancia
Asgard
toties quoties
hetman
zurna
villi
motherumbung
serin
**tarlatan
OR tarleton
tappet
parr
acrogeria
Jumada
wigan
struthious
parturient
ben trovato
Waf
Hathor
synanthrope
in medias res
cermet
spathe
acropachy
thimerosal
firkin
aistopod
petechia
yuga
furan

Manu
niminy-piminy
philopatry
Inuk
copernicium
homoscedasticity
Beowulf
chalaza
Asura
as nas
Dubuque
sravaka
Sfax
Sapporo
scrofula
saeta
Apistogramma
mozo
Phobos
Bosc
à fond
Beaux arts
tambour
wabeno
cushag
almuerzo
nisi
tintinnabulary
marcescent
apophyge
adsum
katana
bahr
alcarraza

The Bee's Bookshelf

The Bee's Bookshelf is the official online book club of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. It's a place to explore the connection between stories and spelling. Each month, we read a new book together and share insights, so sign up to receive our monthly emails to find out which book is next. Visit spellingbee.com/book-club to learn more.

**preferred spelling

*** Beginning at this point, all the words remaining in the Two Bee section are new to the 2023 version of *Words of the Champions.*

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions

acharya	guan	cavalletti	**smriti	creances	boniface
gaur	pelerine	chèvre	OR smrti	courgette	glabella
danta	jactance	MOOC	furcula	Corinthian	biltong
pierrot	kiva	tessitura	pampootie	fugue	démodé
rabato	scagliola	Aesir	stygian	estrepe	MIDI
Thomism	savoir faire	mandragora	chopine	zimocca	
aes rude	eudiometer	qiyas	korrigan	Sir Roger de Coverley	
calumet	coulisse	turgor	recamier	caprifig	
oud	silique	cahiers	fauchard	mondegreen	
buñuelo	accordatura	berceuse	espalier	creel	

Did You Know?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee has declared co-champions in 1950, 1957, 1962, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2019. Diana Reynard and Colquitt Dean were the first co-champs in 1950.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

THREE BEE

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

School Spelling Bee Study List

hematology
efficient
unacknowledged
brooding
pioneered
sedan
menacing
tiara
homeopathic
exhilaration
feisty
configuration
ruckus
dissolute
confiscated
enamel
retribution
aggravate
acrid
ballast
encompass
ordained
dais
serum
batten
ambient
geopolitics

broached
appendages
tenets
seminary
intubated
counterfeit
antidote
pomade
Manhattan
humbug
embossed
smite
provocation
crevices
maniacal
defunct
deviation
reenactment
offhandedly
churned
mutiny
apex
subsidence
effigy
vestments
Lithuania
Azores

tankard
starboard
maneuverable
lurid
blasphemous
chemotherapy
proscribed
emigrate
Zimbabwe
impudence
oncologist
inaudible
telenovelas
mullioned
benighted
philology
prophetically
cul-de-sac
pell-mell
Sanskrit
parathas
rejoinder
preternaturally
canid
forsooth
masa
Leander

pneumonia
subservient
mercenary
trey
urchins
xylem
fumatorium
deign
catastrophe
infrared
mausoleum
incontrovertible
assimilation
conjugate
commemoration
conifers
Beijing
architrave
andromeda
Spandau
estampies
Penelope
roulette
lustrum
Arcturus
hobbledehoy
miscellaneous

**eurhythmics
OR eurythmics
sackbuts
tilapia
caparisoned
doppelgänger
Piraeus
**misericords
OR misericordes
aye-aye
trilby
Jicarilla
thurible
Vesuvian
saltarellos
chatelaine
cuirass
chachalacas
urad
hurdy-gurdy
Alhambra
kumkum
kirpan
**biryani
OR biriani
Sikhism
cirrhosis

Bangalore
cirque
nom de plume
undine
marguerite
Tamil
garderobe
clerisy
nares
Andalusian
carillon
cortege
Gaels
fado
athenaeum
OR atheneum
Ayurvedic
chiasmus
Camelot

Give light and the people will find their own way
SCRIPPS

Our Namesake

Although the first national spelling bee occurred in 1925, it wasn't until 1941 that Scripps-Howard Newspapers, now known as The E.W. Scripps Company, assumed leadership of the program.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

imaret
cornichon
devastavit
Mediterranean
longevous
digerati
solecism
hypertrophy
ravigote
inchoate
judoka
vaccary
Adelaide
unwonted
tazza
damson
pelisse
succade
tumulus
dorsiflexor
profiterole
valetudinary
aristoi
vireo
rococo
lachsschinken
wakame
bathos
nihilism
ustion
sumpsimus
morel
abeyance
rongeur
mountebank

allelopathy
capoeira
agnolotti
ballabile
draegerman
prescient
Fribourg
proselytizer
OR *proselytiser
tenon
nubilous
iatrogenic
onychitis
roux
tuatara
chicle
sulcus
thalamus
gyttja
jibboom
vestigial
Orwellian
gimbaled
OR gimballed
cabaletta
hesped
umami
persiflage
toreador
vermicelli
frangipane
reseau
moulage
interpellate
genuflect

cinerarium
polemic
paladin
totipotency
agnomen
Bauhaus
sacerdotal
skeuomorph
binturong
mamushi
lipophilic
codicil
coulomb
violaceous
Rorschach
arthralgia
desman
jacaranda
huapango
predilection
entomophagy
paronomasia
facsimile
renminbi
interferon
sedulous
velouté
Aesopian
frigate
enoptromancy
satiety
perorate
danseur
chevalier
taurine

hierurgical
melee
emolument
ikebana
exaugural
gaillardia
caryatid
heliacal
schefflera
contrapposto
temblor
insouciance
catarrh
quattrocento
millegrain
canaille
verisimilitude
Keynesian
akaryote
azulejo
hauberk
bouillon
tarpaulin
cephalopod
pulchritude
pekoe
patois
Rubicon
Truckee
aerophilatelic
ankh
contumelious
vicissitudes
lilliputian
Sbrinz

kathakali
cozen
oxalis
myeloma
lebensraum
mufti
dirigible
surcease
ascetic
oolite
revanche
megrims
podagra
palaver
luthier
yttriferous
vermeil
Ouagadougou
bibliopegist
plagiarism
holobenthic
boutonniere
anodyne
saccharide
boulevardier
quokka
lidocaine
contretemps
a posteriori
scaberulous
anaglyphy
reconnoiter
OR reconnoitre
realpolitik
colloque

onychorrhexis
existence
vigneron
tannined
spiedini
anhinga
jai alai
Rastafarian
succussion
avifauna
joropo
toxicosis
**colporteur
OR colporter
agitprop
Achernar
cassock
meringue
mackinaw
sambal
yuloh
hermeneutics
tikkun
macaque
lassitude
oeuvre
altazimuth
Castilian
trichinosis
Gruyère
proprioceptive
oppugn
macropterous
euphonious
retinoscopy

On a Global Scale

At just 12 years old, Jody-Anne Maxwell from Kingston, Jamaica, was our first international champion. She won the Bee in 1998.

*chiefly British spelling
**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

sepulchral
sangfroid
pasilla
maringouin
argot
vicenary
ajimez
pompeii
oviparous
mangonel
coalescence
Plantagenet
bauxite
kakapo
pelagial
ague
largesses
fulgent
olecranon
toreutics
mascarpone
rissole
seneschal
pinniped
wahine
grissino
coterie
sylph
Cincinnati
diastole
mediobrome
demurrage
tristeza
trigeminal

bruja
upsilon
sakura
buccal
zocalo
**aficionado
OR afficionado
piscivorous
benison
gagaku
amygdala
scurrilous
flèche
tetrachoric
sforzando
thalassic
frazil
rapprochement
glacis
ahimsa
kanji
weltschmerz
jalousie
ichthyology
pruritus
dactylic
affogato
scrivener
dysrhythmia
dragée
choucroute
hsaing-waing
stevedore
harangue

niveau
rouille
rescissible
Jungian
Groenendael
facile
chrysolite
execrable
hangul
cartouches
Nicoise
julienne
moiety
pastitsio
modiste
deuterium
Icarian
pappardelle
Sahel
bibelot
telegnosis
loupe
oleiculture
**loess
OR löss
ruelle
Ushuaia
redingote
adscititious
hummock
internecine
duxelles
mesial
Feldenkrais

bailiwick
bozzetto
coiffure
repartee
chimera
OR *chimaera
avgolemono
exiguous
presentient
renvoi
kichel
semaphore
gambol
angiitis
Teutonic
Conestoga
zeitgeist
heinousness
nacelle
rupicolous
Pythagorean
kepi
**bulgur
OR bulghur
ushabti
puchero
nival
ascites
Véronique
planetesimal
taoiseach
obeisant
whippoorwill
Ficus

agelicism
subrident
ethylene
flaneur
Ponzi
teneramente
styptic
sopapilla
nictitate
boutade
towhee
escritoire
affenpinscher
gudgeon
beaumontage
galoot
desiccate
aporia
moraine
hirsute
shubunkin
hepatectomy
bloviate
seine
galapago
au courant
crepuscular
theca
croustade
kipuka
noumenon
chicanery
vilipend
vitiate

spodumene
leberwurst
daguerreotype
yakitori
pejorate
Aitutakian
parterre
rondeau
atlatl
allochroous
ennui
caisson
cheongsam
graticule
gyascutus
cygnet
supercilious
dysphasia
kugel
topazolite
trompe l'oeil
ailette
fetticus
rocaille
couverture
lemniscus
ad nauseam
ganache
sauger
kanban
toccata
pertinacity
gasthaus
transmontane

Word Club

Want a new way to study? The Word Club app, available for free in the App Store and the Google Play Store, will make mastering *Words of the Champions* fun! Choose from multiple different quiz and study options for both spelling and vocabulary, all with expert audio pronunciations from the Bee's official pronouncer, Dr. Jacques Bailly.

*chiefly British spelling
**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

laterigrade	Bunyanesque	unguiculate	Keplerian	pneumatocyst	xerogel
hyssop	exsect	amaryllis	codswallop	fortissimo	vizierial
naumachia	champignon	reveille	hauteur	portmanteau	crescive
focaccia	bahuvrihi	regnal	camarilla	coaxation	tryptophan
pahoehoe	panjandrum	attaché	nidicolous	ardoise	neophyte
Kjeldahl	catachresis	rafflesia	oxyacetylene	farouche	buffa
rubefacient	tiffin	ranunculus	Humboldt	farfalle	clavichord
halcyon	colcannon	pistou	hellebore	ogival	de rigueur
corrigenda	tournedos	scintillation	transhumance	stretto	secant
Zanni	ormolu	Bolognese	phloem	coccygeal	comanchero
nonage	blottesque	farrago	lacustrine	Strelitzia	meiosis
beurre	consommé	coup de grace	ageusia	tachyon	gules
jicama	ullage	tourelle	pillor	piccata	nimiety
sturnine	zortzico	notturno	deleterious	isagoge	lokelani
octonocular	teratism	ginglymus	ikat	élan	psoriasis
parallax	flagellum	hemorrhage	pylorus	breviloquence	bavardage
antenatus	panegyric	tapetum	erythroblast	kalimba	coulibiac
trouvaille	hoi polloi	golem	maillot	illative	xyloglyphy
glazier	sirenian	krewe	epenthesis	betony	Aramaic
kinesiology	nescience	toque	hinoki	bêtise	anathema
exogenous	blatherskite	avuncular	nonpareil	transience	basilica
aniseikonia	consigliere	habiliments	nyctinasty	frison	rajpramukh
guayabera	adiabatic	rubato	pointelle	flavedo	Chalcolithic
realgar	camembert	gentilitial	vinaigrette	maquillage	rinceau
anaphylaxis	ecchymosis	obnebulate	tinnient	mortadella	filar
bobolink	oppidan	allonym	aioli	stanchion	bhangra
diluent	decastich	croquembouche	pochoir	spirulina	risorgimento
urushiol	Naugahyde	kobold	glyceraldehyde	eleemosynary	agalma
andouille	lefse	mendicity	hagiographer	force majeure	analgesia
otiose	beccafico	castellated	syncope	ossicle	dengue
megacephalic	amphistylar	toponymic	icosahedron	anemone	cantatrice
souchong	saturnine	boudin	goanna	alpargata	emollient
poltroon	zaibatsu	bucatini	wassail	disembogue	parquet
Freudian	titian	reboation	ammonite	luculent	dhurrie
floruit	tokonoma	haupia	tanager	expatiate	lapidary

Home Sweet Home

While many people think the Bee is headquartered in Washington, D.C., our hive is actually located in Cincinnati, Ohio.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

cachexia
connoisseur
ferruginous
gendarme
demulcent
goosander
kwashiorkor
lecithin
cetology
plenipotentiary
foudroyant
sesquipedalian
expugnable
profligacy
yosenabe
funori
piloncillo
xiphias
étouffée
degauss
tussock
lanolated
linnet
embouchure
plangency
apocryphal
tamarack
puerilely
obloquy
dhole
Sangamon
outré
ululate
sororal

epideictic
embolus
caveola
farina
heuristic
nudibranch
triquetra
paramahamsa
duello
fjeld
tomography
effleurage
chastushka
bergère
Erewhonian
rhyton
orogeny
Pepysian
esplanade
gesellschaft
tamari
arenaceous
panettone
tmesis
clerihew
tsukupin
katakana
Parmentier
rugose
brume
hiortdahlite
extravasate
incunabula
cordillera

zazen
cabochon
après
zydeco
consanguine
bibimbap
aquiclude
demitasse
tomalley
bouffant
bas-relief
rhizome
Wensleydale
erubescent
estovers
rembrandt
marcel
croquignole
dolmen
griot
vexillologist
**halala
OR halalah
corybantic
chasuble
furuncle
pongee
acoel
acral
Koine
weka
haplography
Tchefuncte
becquerel

darnel
giallolino
krausen
Castalia
nahcolite
telamon
uraeus
teledu
gattine
mele
Marathi
nuciform
grandrelle
bordereaux
rambla
tullibee
guichet
Guarnerius
unakite
azotea
gabbro
gegenschein
hebdomadal
gypsophila
koh-i-noor
nocive
cataphora
blastema
trochee
diapason
deliquesce
aperçu
cioppino
inglenook

efflux
frugivore
lobscouse
senecio
jasmone
hawok
fructiferous
martinoe
lierre
porwigle
portugais
ligas
Osloite
sciolistic
seraya
janthina
Skeltonic
balata
balbriggan
affeer
pomology
Svengali
escheator
dogana
toorie
exchequer
habeas corpus
kerril
pudibund
toril
ryas
terai
gabarit
guerite

gallivat
charcuterie
zugzwang
triskelion
crokinole
anicca
batamote
yabbies
**salmagundi
OR salmagundy
**hutia
OR jutia
Deseret
Djibouti
Tegucigalpa
Llullaillaco
Pyxis
Bezier curve
Beauceron
ni-Vanuatu
Vulcan
anabathmoi
selah
cirri
Oort cloud
cobalamin
amuse-gueule
anent
abaculus
Dvorak
sous vide
Nethinim
Rayleigh wave
Gaia

It's All Greek to Me

We often get questions about why we use words that may not appear to be English. Most words in the English language are words that we borrowed from other languages. We borrowed them, used them, and now call them our own.

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

Ner Tamid
cathect
mange-tout
whakapapa
Astur
Casimir effect
Devanagari
bismillah
deceleron
Ardipithecus
Equatoguinean
limaçon
Kannada
Bundt
Strigolniki
Bavarian cream
hysteron proteron
rooseveltite
temalacatl
darmstadtium
Eris
flehmen
au bleu
pou sto
kapparah
Kuiper Belt
Quaoar
agate
art brut
banh mi
attacca
Ryukyu
kalopanax
derring-do

Alfvén
virga
ab aeterno
Caracas
indicia
Huallaga
kufi
Novanglian
una corda
triduum
wapiti
galena
gyokuro
luftmensch
aggrandizement
battue
Tok Pisin
dvandva
ivermectin
coulrophobia
ancien régime
deathin
zowie
colocate
Aglaia
Apostolici
ubiquinone
Gurmukhi
Burkinabe
ciliopathy
logothete
grobian
rond de jambe
kyphoplasty

Aten
catjang
neem
amour propre
Sagittarius
hordeolum
trous-de-loup
vis-à-vis
Latinxua
Barnumesque
medulla
aughts
carnitine
ahuehuete
hominin
***La Tène
Gaspesian
samsara
Déné
ubi sunt
à la grecque
galatea
tic douloureux
calusar
graywacke
Panchen Lama
pot-au-feu
rubaiyat
cohosh
alleluiatic
ca'canny
Theravada
Hippolyta
Anno Hegirae

moissanite
mässig
Mirach
Dubhe
Baucis
Firbolg
Panathenaea
Furneaux
Enoch Arden
Herodotean
Schedar
taedium vitae
Shawwal
point d'appui
fête champêtre
pas seul
roi fainéant
fatshedera
Bernoulli effect
Ishihara test
Bêche-de-mer
je ne sais quoi
witch of Agnesi
Robigalia
Bartókian
Patripassianism
hei-tiki
Saoshyant
Ahura Mazda
Zdarsky tent
Menaia
Metonic cycle
Ardhamagadhi
bhikshuni

svarabhakti
poudre B
Barylambda
macushla
succès fou
Kitksan
Apabhramsa
Euroclydon
Taal
Cotoneaster
akkum
chorten
cacoëthes
caló
alouatte
tinamou
acicula
cacaxte
aegrotat
Typhoean
cynocephali
thuluth
fellahin
OR fellaheen
torii
Nabal
ahuatle
Guidonian
Aegilops
Hsia
pareidolia
Mandelbrot set
skerrick
tusche

Terre Haute
Geatish
Deimos
carcajou
pschent
Esau
esclandre
orphéon
Caerphilly
Carrickmacross
Quonset
prêt-à-porter
lebkuchen
cire perdue

One Dictionary to Rule them All

The only source for words given in the Scripps National Spelling Bee is Merriam-Webster Unabridged.
(http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com)

***Beginning at this point, all the words remaining in the Three Bee section are new to the 2023 version of *Words of the Champions.*

words of the champions

YOUR KEY TO THE BEE

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