

Student Study Words – To be used by students as a study guide.

ambulance	All the cars pulled off the road when the ambulance came by
appearance	The rock star made a guest appearance on a TV show
applaud	Everyone wanted to applaud the speech
average	My grades have always been above average
comfortable	A recliner is a comfortable chair
contribute	Every year we contribute to the Humane Society
dangerous	A dangerous shark swam near the shore
depth	At some points the depth of the Pacific Ocean is over 10,000 meters
disastrous	Drinking while driving often leads to disastrous results
elevator	We took the elevator to the tenth floor
emergency	Three emergency vehicles raced through the intersection
excellent	Many animals have excellent hearing
mechanic	Our mechanic is able to repair any kind of car
muscle	She uses an electric massager to relieve the tight muscle in her neck
nationality	The nationality of each immigrant was represented by a flag
noticeable	Her new hair color was very noticeable
penalties	The hockey team had no penalties during the first period of the game
plumber	We called the plumber when the pipes in the basement burst
preferable	It's preferable to come to school late than to not come at all
radius	The diameter of a circle is twice as long as its radius
recyclable	Newspaper is a recyclable material
reptile	The reptile exhibit included snakes and alligators
struggling	I've been struggling all day to solve this brain teaser
systematic	The detective took a systematic approach to searching the grounds
tomatoes	We used tomatoes peppers and onions to make salsa
tutor	Tim goes to a tutor to learn Arabic
underneath	I found my homework underneath my pillow
unmistakable	A skunk gives off an unmistakable odor
unsuccessful	My attempts to phone my senator have been unsuccessful
vein	The nurse drew blood from the vein in the patient's arm
wrestling	Fourteen wrestlers competed in the wrestling tournament
ancestor	Every ancestor on his family tree came from Ireland
approximately	Dinner will be ready in approximately one hour
athlete	The top athlete in each sport was awarded a trophy
beige	We used beige paint on the walls
chandelier	The beautiful chandelier was made of lead crystal
conductor	The symphony rehearsed with a guest conductor
culprit	The teacher wanted to find the culprit who put glue on her chair
examination	He made a close examination of the coins before buying them
exhausted	After babysitting five young children, Lisa came home exhausted

exhilaration	John felt a sense of exhilaration as he parachuted for the first time
fascinating	I read a fascinating biography about an early explorer
fatigue	Because of chronic fatigue, Sue takes a long nap every day
gauge	You can't always gauge your success by the amount of money you make
harass	If you continue to harass me, I will have to report you
hostile	It's hard to enjoy your job if you feel you're in an hostile environment
legibly	Please write your name legibly on this document
lieutenant	The lieutenant ordered his men into battle
maneuver	It can be hard to maneuver a large truck into a small parking space
murmur	Every time he tried to speak, a murmur went through the crowd
occasionally	Occasionally, I like to get up early on Saturdays to read a book
overwhelming	Planning the party for 600 guests was indeed overwhelming
pedestrian	The pedestrian was struck by a car that ran through a stoplight
recipe	The recipe calls for six cups of flour
recruit	The coach wanted to recruit the best players for his team
scarcity	In some regions of the world, there is a scarcity of life-saving medicines
simile	I'm as hungry as a horse is an example of a simile
skeptical	Mom is always skeptical of door-to-door sales people
traitor	The traitor was despised by those he betrayed
transferring	Tomorrow I'll be transferring my money to a new bank
vigorously	Shake the juice vigorously before drinking
visualize	If I can visualize the city map, I'll know how to get to the right address
absorb	Some paper towels can absorb a lot of water
abstain	The lawmaker announced she would abstain from the vote
absurd	It's absurd to think that pigs can fly
amphitheater	The outdoor amphitheater was the site of many summer concerts
apparatus	The breathing apparatus helped him sleep better at night
artificial	It's hard to tell that the tree is artificial
bankruptcy	The company filed for bankruptcy because it could not pay its bills
callous	Although he sometimes appears callous, the man has a kind heart
capably	The driver handled the race course very capably
celery	Celery and carrots make a healthy snack
chaotic	The three-year-old boy's birthday party quickly became chaotic
chaperone	Teachers usually chaperone the school dances
chronic	She received a reprimand for her chronic tardiness
colossal	The government spending plan proved to be a colossal failure
conscientious	A conscientious worker shows up on time and works hard
curiosity	His curiosity often put him dangerous predicaments
earliest	Please return my call at your earliest convenience
exaggeration	To say you could eat a horse sounds like an exaggeration to me!
exemplary	Mrs. Johnson is an exemplary member of our community
forbearance	He handled his many challenges with dignity and forbearance

frugal	Because Esther is frugal, she reuses sandwich bags and bread wrappers
fulfill	He will fulfill the last requirement for the job when he passes the math test
ghastly	When she realized her error, her face grew ghastly pale
impartial	A judge must be impartial when presiding over a trial
judicious	A judicious decision would be to share the property equally
management	This store is now under new management
metamorphosis	A caterpillar undergoes metamorphosis as it becomes a butterfly
misspelled	She gets annoyed when her name is misspelled
notoriety	He gained notoriety when he saved a child from drowning
opinion	The news article was really more of an opinion piece
parallel	Two parallel lines will never intersect
pastime	Woodworking is my uncle's favorite pastime
peril	The ship was in grave peril when the storm arose
pseudonym	Mark Twain was a pseudonym used by Samuel Clemens
psychologist	The psychologist kept his patient's remarks confidential
retrieve	My dog refuses to retrieve the newspaper
saga	We now rejoin the on-going saga of Kim, Mark and their lost puppy
scenery	The scenery for the play was painted on plywood

Super Challenge Words

If your spellers manage to breeze through all the words in our list above, use these 15 super-challenge words for your spelling bee. We've included the language of origin, **primary** pronunciation, and part of speech, the most common definition and one sentence for each word.*

Pronunciations

We've included the most popular pronunciations. Additional pronunciations may exist for some words. We've chosen to use very few special symbols and markings.

Pronunciation Guide:

(a) - as in *sad, tap, latch*

(ā) - as in *a* in *pay, late, cape*

(ä) - as in *father, hot*

(e) - as in *led, set, deck*

(ē) - as in *feel, deal, easy*

(ə) - as in *about, confuse*

(i) - as in *lip, fish*

(ī) - as in *tide, white, ripe*

(ō) - as in *cone, rope, snow*

(u) - as in *sun, umbrella*

(oo) - as in *poodle*

(yoo) - as in *bugle, uniform*

(g) – as in *gum, gorilla*

(t) - any letter inside parenthesis within another syllable may or may not be pronounced.

The main emphasis in each word belongs on the syllable in bold type.

1. hackneyed (**hak**-nēd) overused, trite. No one like the new love song because its lyrics were so hackneyed.
2. behemoth (bi-**hē**-muth) noun: a very large object or creature. Grandpa's old truck is a behemoth compared to our compact car.
3. assuage (ə-**swāj**) verb: make less severe. Visits from friends served to assuage the widow's grief.
4. coalesce (kō-ə-**les**) verb: to unite so as to form one whole. Opposing groups finally decided to coalesce and avoid a civil war.
5. erudite (**er**-yoo-dīt) adjective: learned, scholarly. The erudite speaker had a difficult time relating to her young audience.
6. garrulous (**gar**-ə-ləs) adjective: overly talkative. The garrulous newcomer soon bored the other guests at the party.
7. harangue (hə-**rang**) noun or verb noun: a long verbal attack or scolding. The teacher's harangue only served to make the student more nervous.
8. quiescent (kwē-**es**-ənt, kwī-**es**-ənt) adjective: quiet or inactive. After the high-pressure deal had been made, the relieved executive entered a quiescent state of relaxation.
8. puissant (**pyoo**-ə-sənt) adjective: powerful, potent. The puissant speech moved many to join the protest.
9. precocious (pri-**kō**-shəs) adjective: talented beyond one's age. It was apparent to everyone that the young pianist was quite precocious.
10. adulation (əj-ə-**lā**-shən) noun: high or excessive praise. The rock star had become accustomed to cries of adulation at his concerts.
11. ephemeral (i-**fem**-rəl) adjective: momentary, fleeting. She was saddened that the joys of the day were so ephemeral.
12. psoriasis (sə-**rī**-ə-sis) noun: a chronic inflammatory skin disease. The scaly psoriasis on her scalp became very dry and itchy.
13. camaraderie (kām-**rā**-də-rē) noun: friendship, comradeship. The camaraderie among the foursome was as enjoyable as the golf game.
14. milieu (mil-**yoo**) noun: surroundings. The upperclass neighborhood was a milieu that was both unfamiliar and uncomfortable to him.
15. vignette (vin-**yet**) noun: a small illustration or photograph, a brief scene or essay. The vignette at the beginning of each chapter captured the mood of the text.