



2022

WORDS OF THE CHAMPIONS

YOUR KEY TO THE BEE

Celebrating our 2021 Finalists!

2021 WINNING WORD

Murraya

[MUR-ee-uh] | noun



Roy Seligman

AGE: 12
7TH GRADE



Bhavana Madini

AGE: 13
7TH GRADE



Sreethan Gajula

AGE: 14
8TH GRADE



Ashrita Gandhari

AGE: 14
8TH GRADE



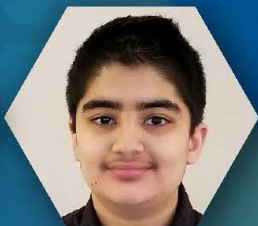
Avani Joshi

AGE: 14
8TH GRADE



Vivinsha Veduru

AGE: 11
5TH GRADE



Dhroov Bharatia

AGE: 12
7TH GRADE



Vihaan Sibal

AGE: 12
6TH GRADE



Akshainie Kamma

AGE: 13
7TH GRADE



Chaitra Thummala

AGE: 12
6TH GRADE



2021 WINNER

Zaila Avant-garde

AGE: 14 | 8TH GRADE

New Orleans Chapter of The Links
New Orleans, Louisiana
Clover Lane Homeschool

GREETINGS, CHAMPIONS!

About this Study Guide

Do you dream of winning a school spelling bee, or even attending the Scripps National Spelling Bee? *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 2021 or 2022 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 (900 words), Two Bee (2,075 words) and Three Bee (1,025 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. The purpose of the Scripps National Spelling Bee is to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives. 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.





DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE BEE

School Spelling Bee Study List

wide	last	sprung	china	bonnet	wallet
part	well	zoomed	stopped	rodeo	focus
mink	mess	large	also	salad	circus
tummy	left	closed	floor	cousin	aware
goods	rush	plates	frames	camera	mango
nook	gone	matching	studied	wrenches	firmly
jelly	drill	track	spikes	goggles	imagined
slow	meet	chart	speech	inflate	reveal
tufts	lid	bread	shoe	single	ached
cold	lisp	clock	prize	polish	fabric
lane	post	crusts	smug	dolphin	detour
son	bent	pain	rapids	skiing	impolite
same	mice	loud	slide	Texas	squiggles
much	rope	flapped	goals	mumble	because
deer	logs	cell	shelter	direct	teachers
silk	hat	cheese	creak	detail	ordinary
cove	swim	beak	gutter	alas	capture
thing	read	cog	booth	barrels	feline
try	upon	poor	frankly	clerks	gusto
duckling	idea	power	knot	forty	kitchen
mask	singing	foam	search	embers	
hike	kites	clutch	crouched	paddles	
car	feet	knife	found	whiskers	
rage	must	place	gloves	condition	
gift	turning	oil	pretty	slumped	
very	wanted	gushed	baskets	blurred	



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 a list of books carefully selected by the Bee's editorial team. That list of books is called Great Words, Great Works. Find it at spellingbee.com/book-list.



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	Yankee	teaspoon	wafer
uncle	bubbly	scumble	dim sum	worrywart	software
dawdle	graham	extinct	moose	developer	factoid
mogul	headlong	jersey	cuckoo	shopaholic	marvelous
troll	timber	trapezoid	dilemma	magma	OR marvellous
kindred	medallion	dillydally	outrageous	briefcase	evinced
tantrum	maximum	haggle	silver	deputy	season
science	clover	sword	fedora	mangrove	horizon
cement	casino	mastiff	wildcat	enfranchise	arborio
venomous	distinctive	cooperate	monstrosity	kiln	cartoon
plaintiff	mister	merchandise	sofa	webisode	dough
mayhem	warning	melted	eggplant	kangaroo	emperor
thicket	useful	apology	kosher	Romeo	utterable
gymnastics	difficult	carnival	minority	emerge	leniency
island	mischievous	buffoonery	default	twitchy	frivolous
peacenik	talent	intellectual	heroic	arrogant	potato
ounce	kiwi	tickled	bombard	normative	wholehearted
memorandum	publish	domino	furtive	homework	metadata
bother	mutter	ignite	journal	mildew	farewell
missile	sedentary	legacy	tulip	pattern	hypnotic
munchkin	divine	splurge	myself	coffee	jewel
banana	lexicon	neigh	marine	botch	tangible
furnace	bristle	cabbage	cloudy	receptacle	nourish
foothills	daresay	erode	cricket	bagpipe	vulpine
tongue	owlishly	formalize	motto	bonfire	aloha
caterpillar	criminal	OR *formalise	torch	abruptly	entrance
wasp	recipient	anyway	pamper	bushel	kindergarten
kudos	strong	isolation	pleasant	skedaddle	restaurant
alpha	canteen	measly	robin	toddler	excavating
shebang	aviation	apprehensive	historical	everglades	dodge
tibia	lucky	zither	rules	pellet	iota
hazelnut	rocket	invoke	geometric	klutz	gelato
votive	reflect	upshot	villa	envoy	hankering
storm	scent	climate	midriff	postpone	esteem

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

knack	restive	infiltrate	contraction	rabid	redemption
satisfactory	various	skirmish	scooter	teenagers	zygote
barefoot	giggle	constituent	acceptance	peat	lithium
trope	bowie	flounder	rugby	harrowing	docket
knock	teemed	cleave	shore	hobble	rubric
whittle	soppiness	millionaire	yippee	peddle	Hawaiian
joyful	bask	concrete	wand	effortless	pendragon
genuine	lateral	slurry	Merlin	moped	eggcorn
recluse	usher	heiress	carnation	groats	tabulate
shield	prone	reign	neaten	Highlands	cidery
tiger	selfie	spectral	depose	***retriever	puritan
romaine	skydiving	dialect	frock	anime	caboodle
migraine	memes	heist	camcorder	regiment	Godspeed
oasis	nuggets	avenue	gossip	sterling	Thailand
navigator	frailty	pending	version	bootless	pepita
humane	sweltering	ewe	fluid	forgeable	lithophone
polenta	scrounge	stagestruck	vlogging	transmissibility	tai chi
delicacy	praise	standee	diversity	gridiron	parasol
noggin	scripture	sailage	spangled	summoned	screeno
background	ulna	yoo-hoo	barbie	applicable	provenance
thistle	fellowship	profiteer	delta	isms	ouster
althorn	amass	kernel	handyman	tentacled	Dudley
Spaniel	missive	tawny	stewardship	exude	dicey
kilt	jitterbug	scalp	gruel	bermudas	turken
whirlybird	kennel	scrapple	groom	amusement	riddance
Hungary	heavenly	nominee	trice	baptismal	repentant
welding	shindig	martial	brick	postural	manacle
aforesaid	melody	acumen	privet	refrigerant	Amish
varnish	membership	infirm	debunk	surly	unremitting
spindle	oblong	bleary	ballad	scornfully	condiments
wheelde	yammer	attitude	chide	leaven	vaccination
whelp	whereas	besech	atonement	blurb	floridly
yonder	coercive	sunseeker	citation	elasticity	obsolete
riffraff	bailiff	cornily	hardtack	quantify	kodak

Back in D.C.

Mark your calendar! The Scripps National Spelling Bee will take place May 30 - June 3, 2022, 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 2022 version of *Words of the Champions*.



DIFFICULTY LEVEL: ONE BEE

Words of the Champions

terrarium	optician	bungee	joinery	cinderella	punily
posterity	gelatinous	periwinkle	literally	league	Bengal
statusy	gotcha	entreat	medusa	repercussion	evacuees
mambo	capitalist	peninsular	unchristened	astounding	linguistics
putrid	respite	flipperling	buzzworthy	hijab	pulpit
FLOTUS	eighth	fleeciness	recumbent	donatee	plummet
insomnia	Shetland	escapade	tiffany	parvo	addle
incompetent	causal	handle	musketeers	apparel	
Disneyfication	hologram	gumption	windbagery	squeamish	
congeniality	spiteful	mortician	proposal	Oceanian	
intertidal	snitch	homesteader	weaponry	charitable	
solitude	maternity	nitrate	deceitful	physical	



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.



DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

School Spelling Bee Study List



cleat	scuba	gauze	canopy	triplicate	elation
bustling	trickster	exception	scrawny	emboldened	expanse
scarf	glib	cavity	classified	Java	chai
surface	sneer	Neptune	telescope	biome	metropolis
Nile	absent	notification	fidgeting	Wales	mousse
scrolls	texture	ogre	mulberry	Avalon	contessa
shimmery	scuffle	simplicity	surrounded	corridor	acutely
indent	irregular	lavished	associated	cardigan	granules
sitcom	**savor	archduke	furthermore	columns	pedestals
detect	OR savour	dingoes	weird	cubicle	wreaked
blindfolded	hedgehog	passersby	dependable	interjected	renowned
basically	stoats	nada	summit	withered	colleagues
squints	talons	Juneteenth	conkers	cambric	invigorating
s'mores	inclined	parsnips	mutual	hackles	sudoku
clobbered	wardrobe	curtains	dormitories	faltered	dutifully
relative	revved	adorned	tuxedo	Lincoln	mournful
cringed	dire	loneliness	decimal	granite	professional
drone	masthead	caverns	alibi	radiation	exerts
rattled	vibrant	novice	orientation	wattles	arid
indie	wizard	invasions	inlaid	tartan	deceptively
eyesore	nudged	dedicated	cobblestone	surveyed	sustenance
playlist	Leghorn	symbol	devious	emitting	
throat	shrine	reduce	sardine	preened	
hull	Jamestown	destination	contraption	wretched	
outright	pineapple	ostriches	technique	contorted	
squabbling	crockery	grudgingly	flaxen	charlotte	

Our Purpose

The purpose of the Bee is to help students improve their spelling, increase their vocabularies, learn concepts and develop correct English usage that will help them all their lives.

**preferred spelling



DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions



hexagonal	unabated	beaucoup	endorphin	cinnamon	abrogate
litmus	petrifying	banal	pharmacy	pharaoh	effusive
seethe	specimen	seismologist	fondant	opponency	primitive
antiquarian	interlocutor	spectacles	cupola	referendum	fabulist
phalanges	machete	innovator	herbaceous	quaver	comportment
bachelorette	dulcet	bursary	tentativeness	rabbinic	taciturn
frontier	salubrious	hallowed	pachinko	lapel	sophomoric
unctuous	roisserie	apogee	decrepitude	mackerel	laureate
fluoride	**paneer	hiatus	redux	callow	Goliath
moorage	OR panir	freesia	dramaturgy	biscuit	splenetic
Minotaur	omnibus	exoneration	murmuration	flourish	legato
intermezzo	biscotti	duvet	Clydesdale	beatific	slovenly
edification	calibrate	turpitude	phonics	repository	aerobics
vacuousness	appellation	platitude	calisthenics	dissipate	paisley
epilepsy	duodenum	nobiliary	obediential	accomplice	contrariwise
importunate	valorous	commerce	odiferous	kerchief	petroleum
recuperation	OR *valourous	keratitis	combination	whimsical	regalia
citronella	isotopic	honorific	torrent	stamina	incinerate
palliative	carpal	OR *honourific	arsenic	criteria	flagon
abhorrence	quizzical	kookaburra	invertebrate	reprieve	incoherent
personnel	heliotrope	napoleon	bandanna	consequent	tercentenary
vexatious	squander	superlative	OR bandana	contusion	vituperative
faux	prenuptial	oxygenate	manipulable	mulligan	churlish
sophisticated	succulent	annihilate	axiomatic	sabermetrics	riviera
nebulous	bedraggled	sarcophagus	indefatigable	elocution	laconic
genus	rectitude	surrogate	ulterior	dowager	excision
legionnaire	uranium	terabyte	oligarchy	comparison	emblazoned
sternutation	inundate	uncouth	pianola	diaphanous	bric-a-brac
subcutaneous	wunderkind	onerous	dignify	agoraphobia	longitude
alacrity	filial	macrocosm	allegiance	buffet	maverick
choreographer	wearisome	bulbous	basaltic	tortoise	retrograde
leguminous	visage	umpirage	scorpion	surmountable	partridge
ceramics	fascinator	heredity	planetarium	endure	insignia
mimetic	testimony	philharmonic	ecstatic	bonobo	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	fraternity
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	jingoisism	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. 2021 was the first year in which word meaning questions were asked orally.



DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions



phosphorescent	beguile	egress	antagonistic	drivel	recruit
anxiety	centenary	geocaching	affront	jettison	tableau
conch	matrimony	instigate	element	Promethean	sheldrake
singultus	errata	obscure	desolate	embassy	suitable
impromptu	stipulate	transcription	truncate	contemptuous	cenotaph
oracle	naïveté	muchacha	pedicure	okapi	Plumeria
condemn	cadence	steppe	**caftan	welterweight	perpetrator
scenographer	fido	palpitant	OR kaftan	scrooge	cinematic
neuroticism	vehicular	nonchalance	ingratiate	morose	wallaby
cannoli	sabbatical	realm	sousaphone	osmosis	contrivance
platoon	ermine	estuary	amalgam	flimflammer	suffrage
solstice	pugilist	technician	carnage	astringent	thyme
swannery	tapioca	dietetic	turmeric	mademoiselle	phlebotomy
probative	festooned	homage	zoology	nouveau	anemic
oblique	tectonic	cumulus	ricochet	heterochromia	OR anaemic
buoyancy	wizened	essential	hackneyed	consul	depravity
situation	tomfoolery	seraphic	vespertine	hermetically	effervescent
lumbar	harrumph	cameist	**brusque	excursion	soirée
topiary	embezzlement	scrumptiously	OR brusk	dreadlocks	churros
reverberant	fallacy	toploftical	erstwhile	theriatrics	diadem
yeanling	asylum	noctambulist	loll	cumbersome	larceny
homicide	remuneration	visibility	osteopath	affluent	acetaminophen
graphologist	expostulate	ligament	kaiser	chastise	parochial
principality	integument	plenitude	imperious	colic	earnestly
Nostradamus	Hebrides	illustrious	Egyptian	atomic	**gaffe
taxonomic	macaw	symmetrical	foible	fêng shui	OR gaff
beret	perspicacious	pendulous	lousicide	acuity	ostensibly
talisman	reimbursable	analepsis	ewer	subliminal	nervily
impecunious	jambalaya	mitigative	curfew	charismatic	gingivitis
reciprocity	geriatric	pyrite	schism	phoenix	patience
molecule	striation	sacrifice	dilapidated	bastion	quittance
millennial	Appaloosa	consternation	peony	edamame	tenement
ineffable	ramifications	escalator	urgency	porcelain	soothsayer
abnegation	temerity	impasto	bifurcate	deglaciation	varicose

From Around the World

Most spellers at the Scripps National Spelling Bee are from the United States, but spellers also come from American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Canada, Ghana, Jamaica, Japan, South Korea 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	cutaneous	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	epidermis	occupancy	stagflation	lorikeet	herringbone
corduroy	carriage	coriander	brontophobia	malfeasance	orchestra
encore	abstemious	amnesty	macrobiotics	sequential	phlox
hollyhock	echinoderm	condensation	glareous	intersperse	tractability
qualms	optimum	aqueduct	rejuvenate	numerology	montage
mosaic	pathogen	ferret	tubular	Paleozoic	compendium
centipede	acrostic	widdershins	dodecahedron	funnel	unmoored
attende	anthropology	hostile	rictus	syndicate	yardang
nomenclature	cruciferous	subsequent	vengeance	chrysalis	fluctuation
botany	macchiato	whet	modular	bethesda	flabbergast
Holocaust	ancillary	blatant	kleptocrat	cartilage	accolade
augment	toile	pyramid	neuropathy	coeval	connivory
acoustic	plaudits	terminus	surrealist	curio	impresario
eruption	serenade	agitation	secession	ombudsman	bruschetta
auburn	heptad	tremulous	digression	hydrant	dictum
virtually	engineer	scythe	intricate	zeppelin	premonition
glissando	pilcrow	duplicious	annotate	superficiality	stereotypical
stomach	porosity	protectorate	vehemence	marooned	bergamot
demonstrative	tandoori	placards	fervorous	volary	telepathic
megalomaniac	succumb	corral	septennial	OR volery	banquet
posse	fervently	credulity	hypotenuse	follicle	upbraid
declension	divestiture	dissonance	emancipatory	brochure	pancreas
berserk	roseola	shoji	supine	grotesqueness	expunge
cathedral	installation	auditorium	fracas	privatim	maize
deciduous	harbinger	reconcilable	disrepair	eradicate	metastasize
baleen	raptorial	evaluate	photogenic	krypton	quintessential
Einstein	sobriety	mastodon	rehearsal	ethanol	pollutant
municipal	manumit	denticulate	irritability	quadriceps	brouhaha
adversaria	dentifrice	supplicate	vainglorious	tachycardia	pedantry
turbinado	collegiality	torsion	ataxia	triceratops	performance
brethren	inclement	justiciable	pageantry	sandal	equivocate
tympanum	celery	vernal	vinegar	pashmina	fission
fisticuffs	idiosyncratic	aardvark	fiduciary	utilitarian	boondoggle
propinquity	burgoo	census	emulsify	millivolt	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	recusancy	menial	curator	enumerated	fatuously
obstetrician	retrocedence	Moroccan	judicious	desertification	fraudulent
replete	cauterize	clearance	vice versa	quirky	necessity
raucous	immolate	assure	exercise	arraign	piety
Brandywine	résumé	compatriots	civet	elegant	veritable
surreptitious	extensive	liaise	pancetta	minacious	sashay
surplus	transcend	quotidian	waiver	vindictive	sciatica
impediment	freneticism	matriculation	decennial	implacable	discomfiture
revenant	merino	revulsive	dynamite	logarithmic	emphysema
topgallant	pestilence	gaucho	Gemini	regicide	stridency
clandestine	mordant	capsule	retinol	hubris	acetone
genealogical	posthumous	tragedian	corpulent	hibernaculum	cerebellum
pomposity	QWERTY	fajitas	potpourri	bandicoot	pantomime
neonatology	foosball	felonious	pallor	malingering	prima donna
pituitary	accentuate	palatial	Yorkshire	parliamentary	praxis
fleetness	ascension	Mecca	Belgravia	rebarbative	Tinseltown
anonymity	venue	albeit	casserole	olympiad	sorrel
carcinogenic	microfiche	vermicide	semester	crocodile	McCoy
detritus	quadrilateral	echelon	sacrament	venerable	histrionics
anorak	turpentine	supremacy	terra-cotta	chemise	cashier
enviable	cellophane	clowder	moratorium	campanology	polysemy
extrapolate	indulgent	occultation	cognizant	persuasible	stampede
extinguish	occipital	Chihuahua	OR *cognisant	desultory	forfeit
pilaster	predicament	promontory	languish	papyrus	armadillo
perceptible	provincial	shar-pei	protuberant	El Niño	overweening
dystopia	antithesis	narcoleptic	chortle	anchorage	sacrosanct
muesli	gouge	efface	unscathed	conundrum	syringe
crux	salivate	sycophant	raclette	debilitate	eclipse
wordmonger	laity	bellwether	superstitious	mittimus	espadrille
wobulator	indolent	clarinet	mawkish	mellifluous	corgi
mahogany	documentary	capillary	flambé	clemency	caffeine
moribund	bromide	disposition	patronymic	backgammon	panacea
recriminatory	algae	remonstrance	odometer	intuitable	cabaret
subaqueous	reminiscent	smithereens	uvula	divvy	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 National Spelling Bee was first 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	triforium	submersible	kraken	nephrolith	xenoglossy
thievery	**déjà vu	extemporaneous	stanzaic	adipose	smorgasbord
dragoon	OR déjà vue	ungetatable	putrescent	quorum	electrode
yuzu	calabash	unilaterally	nostalgia	pharynx	sporadically
ritziness	**chute	ordinance	dechlorinate	epistolary	sudation
gazette	OR shute	ursine	unconscionable	pursuit	cytoplasm
continuum	impermeable	arduous	Pembroke	esoteric	affectionately
pachyderm	trepidation	carnitas	liquefaction	grapheme	Pulitzer
symposium	collision	bulgogi	palazzo	trigonometry	vitreous
floribunda	scarab	fibromyalgia	miasma	alloy	wraith
salience	veganism	terrier	concoct	Belgium	insulin
molasses	humerus	captivated	modicum	audacious	phlegmatic
classical	vagabonds	onus	javelin	exasperate	spasmodic
fungible	variegated	precursor	spoonerism	Mandarin	bouquet
Gothamite	volition	mochi	complicit	Kelvin	denizen
affable	gossamer	feign	gyrocopter	vellum	duopoly
dopamine	vincible	dementia	**medieval	enunciate	alpinist
pitiful	factitious	voilà	OR mediaeval	tarsier	abracadabra
ammunition	sculpture	habanero	licensure	autodidact	plethora
pariah	annuity	Francophone	Herculean	parable	rappelled
prodigious	quid pro quo	convivium	pilgrimages	rowan	conceit
denominator	curmudgeon	atrium	oriel	tripartite	tapas
prorogue	cushion	italicization	preeminent	Bohemian	sediment
fecund	tutelage	preliminary	alfresco	succinct	emulate
laceration	domiciled	echoed	loquacious	inquietude	caveat
nexus	theorem	reticulated	prosthetic	compunction	doubloons
decor	accrual	authenticate	latency	decumbiture	oscillation
duchy	grandeur	fiscal	epitaphs	multivalent	enzyme
pagoda	ottoman	oblige	solitaire	artillery	dinero
establishment	logographic	viscount	dishevel	quotient	comestibles
ruminate	armistice	plague	Limburger	ricotta	stenographer
sympathy	cryogenic	preferential	tuffet	guttural	mezzanine
puniness	catalyst	bazooka	epact	atrocious	lozenge
lingua franca	thespian	complacency	abstruse	vivacious	tedious

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



resonate	triste	armature	peradventure	fulminate	sostenuto
suspicion	interred	maidenhair	Ryeland	bilaterian	credence
repudiate	legerity	aureole	domesticity	wootz	Farsi
emporium	Vatican	spinosity	episcopal	movimento	novemdecillion
Victorian	furoid	prespinous	consecrate	mandorla	adjugate
forestallment	parley	cladistics	trituration	pomegranate	epidural
Iberian	meningitis	gasiform	neoterism	parodic	patella
dandle	nutation	valuator	interregnum	osculatory	hydrocortisone
effete	nutria	deserter	viaticum	orthogonal	maritime
Antigua	sedge	jankers	homiletics	planisphere	debutante
vaudeville	capstan	Evactor	psalmody	tase	ramson
frisket	vicarious	possessive	omnilegent	Shiba Inu	asthmatic
brockage	alate	venial	princeps	misnomer	pilosity
malapropism	victimology	seton	procurement	eustress	depreciate
pelf	ibex	demerits	cribo	blastogenesis	Pierre
aqueous	cudgel	diaspora	colubrine	octuplicate	davenport
Dianthus	bicameral	pious	immie	in silico	convocation
olingo	irrigation	borough	aretalogy	particulate	recreant
Halifax	labradoodle	volatile	sessile	planogram	majuscule
concordance	portico	gnocchi	du jour	Pomeranian	Cheshire cat
huerta	corsage	surety	lanceolate	freegan	phishing
vascular	smellfungus	pileus	bowsprit	emissary	Motrin
wentletrap	arboretum	fez	Charon	balsamic	tsk-tsked
serrated	Zamboni	glengarry	chupacabra	pothos	cum laude
poblano	blarney	commissioner	Acadians	polysyllabic	evo-devo
conclave	diacritic	grande dame	Gippsland	teraphim	lumen
Gregorian	mephitic	verism	froward	anserine	catalina
rebuff	complementary	dramatization	ensconced	elicitation	Sumatran
taverna	Philistine	nonconformist	cattalo	advocatory	restitutory
illicitly	dyspeptic	château	OR catalo	eligibility	cholesterol
cribbage	inglorious	erroneous	hypogeous	placate	astaxanthin
crith	louche	Salvador	***composite	runcible spoon	Florentine
Namibian	avatar	trillado	Miranda	goji berry	stricture
tricenary	grandiloquent	per se	Newfoundland	implicative	no-goodnik

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 2022 version of *Words of the Champions*.



DIFFICULTY LEVEL: TWO BEE

Words of the Champions



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



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.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

School Spelling Bee Study List

reflexology	aerials	menorahs	humus	Montmorency	Confucianism
intentionally	surgeon	heirloom	Cantonese	justaucorps	Chaucerian
cocoon	Judaism	pallid	herbalist	ducats	Edinburgh
motley	stalemate	renal	fortuitous	condyles	Carlisle
fetlocks	thoroughfare	mete	poultice	Yom Kippur	Mantua
ranchero	transgressions	russet	guarantor	Firenze	Jains
intolerance	abdomen	topologically	adduced	kaddish	ziggurat
gluten	appeasement	burgundy	impertinent	Chelonia	Arapaho
pulverized	liability	brocade	fractious	Quasimodo	OR Arapahoe
OR *pulverised	pendant	heresy	Darwinism	Helvetia	Durham
mystified	propensity	perdition	transept	lachrymose	derrick
swankiest	instinctive	incorrigibles	condescendingly	quatrains	Kerala
clouting	infectious	porcine	rhetorical	katabatic	chandleries
demeanor	Minnesota	dispensation	phenomenal	bivouac	bier
OR *demeanour	adversity	Richter scale	mortification	fata morgana	Des Moines
mallet	convictions	palpable	covenant	hawser	conurbation
Singapore	intestine	congealing	throes	Bayreuth	Sioux
disembodied	discriminating	bantlings	semblance	vambrace	refectory
Korea	exile	prioress	aversion	plastron	presidio
aisles	lineage	embroidery	primordial	linsey-woolsey	
unsportsmanlike	coaxing	coronation	moppet	Albion	
ensnarement	permanence	padre	assassinate	paschal	
morbidity	larkspur	mien	vuvuzela	coracle	
proctors	drudgery	resinous	adzuki	abalones	
trodden	ransacked	scree	allée	repast	
torturous	**kimchi	chaplain	d'orsay	Bloomsbury	
referral	OR kimchee	fainted	Wiesbaden	aquiline	

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.

*chiefly British spelling

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

imaret	allelopathy	cinerarium	hierurgical	kathakali	onychorrhexis
cornichon	capoeira	polemic	melee	cozen	existence
devastavit	agnolotti	paladin	emolument	oxalis	vigneron
Mediterranean	ballabile	totipotency	ikebana	myeloma	tannined
longevous	draegerman	agnomen	exaugural	lebensraum	spiedini
digerati	prescient	Bauhaus	gaillardia	mufti	anhinga
solecism	Fribourg	sacerdotal	caryatid	dirigible	jai alai
hypertrophy	proselytizer	skeuomorph	heliacal	surcease	Rastafarian
ravigote	OR *proselytiser	binturong	schefflera	ascetic	succussion
inchoate	tenon	mamushi	contrapposto	oolite	avifauna
judoka	nubilous	lipophilic	temblor	revanche	joropo
vaccary	iatrogenic	codicil	insouciance	megrims	toxicosis
Adelaide	onychitis	coulomb	catarrh	podagra	**colporteur
unwonted	roux	violaceous	quattrocento	palaver	OR colporter
tazza	tuatara	Rorschach	millegrain	luthier	agitprop
damson	chicle	arthralgia	canaille	yttriferous	Achernar
pelisse	sulcus	desman	verisimilitude	vermeil	cassock
succade	thalamus	jacaranda	Keynesian	Ouagadougou	meringue
tumulus	gyttja	huapango	akaryote	bibliopegist	mackinaw
dorsiflexor	jibboom	predilection	azulejo	plagiarism	sambal
profiterole	vestigial	entomophagy	hauberk	holobenthic	yuloh
valetudinary	Orwellian	paronomasia	bouillon	boutonniere	hermeneutics
aristoi	gimbaled	facsimile	tarpaulin	anodyne	tikkun
vireo	OR gimballled	renminbi	cephalopod	saccharide	macaque
rococo	cabaletta	interferon	pulchritude	boulevardier	lassitude
lachsschinken	hesped	sedulous	pekoe	quokka	oeuvre
wakame	umami	velouté	patois	lidocaine	altazimuth
bathos	persiflage	Aesopian	Rubicon	contretemps	Castilian
nihilism	toreador	frigate	Truckee	a posteriori	trichinosis
ustion	vermicelli	enoptromancy	aerophilatelic	scaberulous	ecclesiology
sumpsimus	frangipane	satiety	ankh	anaglyphy	teppanyaki
morel	reseau	perorate	contumelious	reconnoiter	cicatrize
abeyance	mouflage	danseur	vicissitudes	OR reconnoitre	somnolent
rongeur	interpellate	chevalier	lilliputian	realpolitik	intonaco
mountebank	genuflect	taurine	Sbrinz	colloque	realia

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

grison	toroidal	speleothem	sangfroid	upsilon	rouille
phulkari	bialy	euripus	pasilla	sakura	rescissible
garrulous	appurtenances	samarium	maringouin	buccal	Jungian
paroxysm	corsair	variscite	argot	zocalo	Groenendael
communiqué	zabaglione	bolide	vicenary	**aficionado	facile
Chantilly	velamen	vervain	ajimez	OR aficionado	chrysolite
jacquard	sporrán	chanoyu	pompeii	piscivorous	execrable
sorghum	clematis	hamadryad	oviparous	benison	hangul
guilloche	kente	calumny	mangonel	gagaku	cartouches
appositive	ranine	escabeche	coalescence	amygdala	Nicoise
dirndl	riparian	ad hominem	Plantagenet	scurrilous	julienne
latke	**accoutrement	oubliette	bauxite	flèche	moiety
martinet	OR accouterment	béchamel	kakapo	tetrachoric	pastitsio
asterion	radicchio	repoussage	pelagial	sforzando	modiste
hypallage	dudgeon	otacoustic	ague	thalassic	deuterium
solenoid	nitid	naranjilla	largesses	frazil	Icarian
veridical	Basenji	elegiac	fulgent	rapprochement	pappardelle
threnody	concinuate	pâtissier	olecranon	glacis	Sahel
Jacobean	Stradivarius	Yeatsian	toreutics	ahimsa	bibelot
ballotage	synecdoche	surfeit	mascarpone	kanji	telegnosis
ocotillo	tulsi	limicolous	rissole	weltschmerz	loupe
dubitante	sebaceous	girandole	seneschal	jalousie	oleiculture
disciform	papeterie	googol	pinniped	ichthyology	**loess
mizuna	litigious	étagère	wahine	pruritus	OR löss
trichotillomania	phytophilous	anechoic	grissino	dactylic	ruelle
huipil	meunière	leonine	coterie	affogato	Ushuaia
mustelid	hilum	laulau	sylph	scrivener	redingote
prestidigitation	fanfaronade	Gruyère	Cincinnati	dysrhythmia	adscititious
soupçon	malachite	proprioceptive	diastole	dragée	hummock
diphtheria	urticaria	oppugn	mediobrome	choucroute	internecine
bdelloid	capsaicin	macropterous	demurrage	hsaing-waing	duxelles
nugatory	ptosis	euphonious	tristeza	stevedore	mesial
commorients	pejerrey	retinoscopy	trigeminal	harangue	Feldenkrais
immiscible	horologist	sepulchral	bruja	niveau	bailiwick

Word Club

Want a new way to study? The Word Club app, available 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.

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

bozzetto	ethylene	yakitori	pahoehoe	panjandrum	attaché
coiffure	flaneur	pejorate	Kjeldahl	catachresis	rafflesia
repartee	Ponzi	Aitutakian	rubefacient	tiffin	ranunculus
chimera	teneramente	parterre	halcyon	colcannon	pistou
OR *chimaera	styptic	rondeau	corrigenda	tournedos	scintillation
avgolemono	sopapilla	atlatl	Zanni	ormolu	Bolognese
exiguous	nictitate	allochroous	nonage	blottesque	farrago
presentient	boutade	ennui	beurre	consommé	coup de grace
renvoi	towhee	caisson	jicama	ullage	tourelle
kichel	escritoire	cheongsam	sturnine	zortzico	notturmo
semaphore	affenpinscher	graticule	octonocular	teratism	ginglymus
gambol	gudgeon	gyascutus	parallax	flagellum	hemorrhage
angiitis	beaumontage	cygnet	antenatus	panegyric	tapetum
Teutonic	galoot	supercilious	trouvaille	hoi polloi	golem
Conestoga	desiccate	dysphasia	glazier	sirenian	krewe
zeitgeist	aporia	kugel	kinesiology	nescience	toque
heinousness	moraine	topazolite	exogenous	blatherskite	avuncular
nacelle	hirsute	trompe l'oeil	aniseikonia	consigliere	habiliments
rupicolous	shubunkin	aillette	guayabera	adiabatic	rubato
Pythagorean	hepatectomy	feticus	realgar	camembert	gentilial
kepi	bloviolate	rocaille	anaphylaxis	ecchymosis	obnebulate
**bulgur	seine	couverture	bobolink	oppidan	allonym
OR bulghur	galapago	lemniscus	diluent	decastich	croquemouche
ushabti	au courant	ad nauseam	urushiol	Naugahyde	kobold
puchero	crepuscular	ganache	andouille	lefse	mendicity
nival	theca	sauger	otiose	beccafico	castellated
ascites	croustade	kanban	megacephalic	amphistylar	toponymic
Véronique	kipuka	toccata	souchong	saturnine	boudin
planetesimal	noumenon	pertinacity	poltroon	zaibatsu	bucatini
taoiseach	chicanery	gasthaus	Freudian	titian	reboation
obeisant	vilipend	transmontane	floruit	tokonoma	haupia
whippoorwill	vitiate	laterigrade	Bunyanesque	unguiculate	Keplerian
Ficus	spodumene	hyssop	exsect	amaryllis	codswallop
agelicism	leberwurst	naumachia	champignon	veillee	hauteur
subridant	daguerreotype	focaccia	bahuvrihi	regnal	camarilla

Home Sweet Home

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

*chiefly British spelling

**preferred spelling

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: THREE BEE

Words of the Champions

nidicolous	coaxation	crescive	connoisseur	embolus	cabochon
oxyacetylene	ardoise	tryptophan	ferruginous	caveola	après
Humboldt	farouche	neophyte	gendarme	farina	zydeco
hellebore	farfalle	buffa	demulcent	heuristic	consanguine
transhumance	ogival	clavichord	goosander	nudibranch	bibimbap
phloem	stretto	de rigueur	kwashiorkor	triquetra	aquiclude
lacustrine	coccygeal	secant	lecithin	paramahansa	demitasse
ageusia	Diplodocus	comanchero	cetology	duello	tomalley
pillor	tachyon	meiosis	plenipotentiary	fjeld	bouffant
deleterious	piccata	gules	foudroyant	tomography	bas-relief
ikat	isagoge	nimiety	sesquipedalian	effleurage	rhizome
pylorus	élan	lokelani	expugnable	chastushka	Wensleydale
erythroblast	breviloquence	psoriasis	profligacy	bergère	erubescence
maillot	kalimba	bavardage	yosenabe	Erewhonian	estovers
epenthesis	illative	coulibiatic	funori	rhyton	rembrandt
hinoki	betony	xyloglyphy	piloncillo	orogeny	marcel
nonpareil	bêtise	Aramaic	xiphias	Pepysian	croquignole
nyctinasty	transience	anathema	étouffée	esplanade	dolmen
pointelle	frison	basilica	degauss	gesellschaft	griot
vinaigrette	flavado	rajpramukh	tussock	tamari	vexillologist
tinnient	maquillage	Chalcolithic	lanolated	arenaceous	**halala
aioli	mortadella	rinseau	linnet	panettone	OR halalah
pochoir	stanchion	filar	embouchure	tmesis	corybantic
glyceraldehyde	spirulina	bhangra	plangency	clerihew	chasuble
hagiographer	eleemosynary	risorgimento	apocryphal	tsukupin	furuncle
syncope	force majeure	agalma	tamarack	katakana	pongee
icosahedron	ossicle	analgesia	puerilely	Parmentier	acoel
goanna	anemone	dengue	obloquy	rugose	acral
wassail	alpargata	cantatrice	dhole	brume	Koine
ammonite	disemboque	emollient	Sangamon	hiortdahlite	weka
tanager	luculent	parquet	outré	extravasate	haplography
pneumatocyst	expatiate	dhurrie	ululate	incunabula	Tchefuncte
fortissimo	xerogel	lapidary	sororal	cordillera	becquerel
portmanteau	vizierial	cachexia	epideictic	zazen	darnel

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

giallolino	frugivore	charcuterie	cathect	virga	catjang
krausen	lobscouse	zugzwang	mange-tout	ab aeterno	neem
Castalia	senecio	triskelion	whakapapa	Caracas	amour propre
nahcolite	jasmone	crokinole	Astur	indicia	Sagittarius
telamon	hawok	anicca	Casimir effect	Huallaga	hordeolum
uraeus	fructiferous	batamote	Devanagari	kufi	trous-de-loup
teledu	martinoe	yabbies	bismillah	Novanglian	vis-à-vis
gattine	lierre	**salmagundi	deceleron	una corda	Latinxua
mele	porwige	OR salmagundy	Ardipithecus	triduum	Barnumesque
Marathi	portugais	**hutia	Equatoguinean	wapiti	medulla
nuciform	ligas	OR jutia	limaçon	galena	aughts
grandrelle	Osloite	Deseret	Kannada	gyokuro	carnitine
bordereaux	sciolistic	Djibouti	Bundt	luftmensch	ahuehuete
rambla	seraya	Tegucigalpa	Strigolniki	aggrandizement	hominin
tullibee	janthina	Llullaillaco	Bavarian cream	battue	
guichet	Skeltonic	Pyxis	hysteron proteron	Tok Pisin	
Guarnerius	balata	***Bezier curve	rooseveltite	dvandva	
unakite	balbriggan	Beauceron	temalacatl	ivermectin	
azotea	affeer	ni-Vanuatu	darmstadtium	coulrophobia	
gabbro	pomology	Vulcan	Eris	ancien régime	
gegenschein	Svengali	anabathmoi	flehmen	deathin	
hebdomadal	escheator	selah	au bleu	zowie	
gypsophila	dogana	cirri	pou sto	colocate	
koh-i-noor	toorie	Oort cloud	kapparah	Aglaia	
nocive	exchequer	cobalamin	Kuiper Belt	Apostolici	
cataphora	habeas corpus	amuse-gueule	Quaoar	ubiquinone	
blastema	kerril	anent	agate	Gurmukhi	
trochee	pudibund	abaculus	art brut	Burkinabe	
diapason	toril	Dvorak	banh mi	ciliopathy	
deliquesce	ryas	sous vide	attacca	logothete	
aperçu	terai	Nethinim	Ryukyu	grobian	
cioppino	gabarit	Rayleigh wave	kalopanax	rond de jambe	
inglenook	guerite	Gaia	derring-do	kyphoplasty	
efflux	gallivat	Ner Tamid	Alfvén	Aten	

One Dictionary to Rule them All

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

**preferred spelling

***Beginning at this point, all the words remaining in the Three Bee section are new to the 2022 version of *Words of the Champions*.



About Scripps

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