



Scripps National Spelling Bee

Vocabulary List for Difficulty Level Two Bee 2019-2020

1.	disembark	<i>(verb)</i>	to leave or go ashore from a ship.
2.	earthquake	<i>(noun)</i>	a trembling or shaking of the earth that accompanies crustal movements.
3.	brought	<i>(verb)</i>	conveyed or carried along from one place to another.
4.	gallop	<i>(noun)</i>	the natural three-beat gait of a horse.
5.	dinosaur	<i>(noun)</i>	a member of a group of extinct reptiles.
6.	ancient	<i>(adjective)</i>	existing from a long ago period or date.
7.	tapestry	<i>(noun)</i>	a heavy textile woven by hand used for hangings or curtains.
8.	delivery	<i>(noun)</i>	an instance of the physical transfer of a shipment.
9.	attagirl	<i>(interjection)</i>	— used to express encouragement or approval to a woman or girl.
10.	salamanders	<i>(plural noun)</i>	various small amphibians that resemble lizards but don't have scales, are covered with a soft moist skin, live in moist dark places, pose no harm to humans, and feed on small animals such as aquatic worms and insects.
11.	usual	<i>(adjective)</i>	in accordance with the normal custom, usage or habit.
12.	challenge	<i>(noun)</i>	a thing which one can devote energy or effort to.
13.	cahoots	<i>(plural noun)</i>	secret agreement : collusion.
14.	oozing	<i>(verb)</i>	moving slowly or without notice.
15.	Mars	<i>(noun)</i>	the planet that is fourth from the sun and is noted for its apparent red color.
16.	pelican	<i>(noun)</i>	a large web-footed bird with long wings and a very large bill having a throat pouch in which it catches fish.
17.	drastic	<i>(adjective)</i>	notably vigorous or severe.
18.	yoga	<i>(noun)</i>	a group of exercises for achieving well-being and control of mind and body.
19.	burlap	<i>(noun)</i>	a course heavy plain-woven fabric typically made from hemp or jute that is used for bagging and wrapping items.
20.	blazer	<i>(noun)</i>	a single-breasted sports jacket usually with bright stripes or in a solid color that has a notched collar and patch pockets.
21.	trombone	<i>(noun)</i>	a brass instrument that consists of a long cylindrical metal tube that ends in a bell and has a movable slide which makes musical sounds.
22.	trembling	<i>(verb)</i>	quaking due to fear or another emotion.
23.	calmed	<i>(verb)</i>	made peaceful : induced quiet and peace in place of agitation or passion.
24.	police	<i>(noun)</i>	the department of the government which is concerned with maintaining public order, safety and health, and which has the power to enforce laws.
25.	certain	<i>(adjective)</i>	given to or marked by complete conviction and assurance.
26.	barograph	<i>(noun)</i>	an automatic instrument which is used to record variations in atmospheric pressure.



This list includes 225 challenging upper elementary words. If you learn the spellings and meanings of these words, you will be well prepared for your classroom bee. If you would like to be well prepared for a school spelling bee, ask your teacher for the 450-word School Spelling Bee Study List, which includes the words listed here in addition to the words at the One Bee and Three Bee levels of difficulty.

27.	charred	<i>(verb)</i>	partly burned on the outside.
28.	Pakistan	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	a country in southern Asia which borders the Arabian Sea.
29.	pressure	<i>(noun)</i>	the burden of mental or physical distress.
30.	surmised	<i>(verb)</i>	guessed : formed an opinion without substantial proof or certain knowledge.
31.	teak	<i>(noun)</i>	the hard, strong, durable, yellowish brown wood of a tall East Indian timber tree which is highly resistant to insect attack and warping and is used for shipbuilding.
32.	transit	<i>(noun)</i>	the public transportation of people by bus, subway train or other local system of conveyance.
33.	cannonade	<i>(noun)</i>	a noisy persistent attack (as of questions).
34.	appetite	<i>(noun)</i>	the desire to eat when food is available.
35.	luggage	<i>(noun)</i>	suitcases, bags used for travel or other articles used to carry a traveler's belongings.
36.	ramparts	<i>(plural noun)</i>	protective barriers.
37.	vinyl	<i>(noun)</i>	any of a group of tough durable plastics based on resins that are used especially in the forming of films and sheeting, flooring, and sound records.
38.	anemometers	<i>(plural noun)</i>	tools used to gauge the speed of the wind.
39.	dainty	<i>(adjective)</i>	characterized by beauty that is delicate in nature.
40.	buckle	<i>(verb)</i>	to secure two loose ends of something (such as a belt) with one end having a fastening and the other a catch.
41.	vividly	<i>(adverb)</i>	intensely, sharply, keenly.
42.	briny	<i>(adjective)</i>	salty.
43.	pavement	<i>(noun)</i>	the surface of a public thoroughfare which is artificially covered.
44.	garnet	<i>(noun)</i>	a brittle material which is typically red in color and occurs mainly in crystals.
45.	furrow	<i>(verb)</i>	to cultivate or till as if with a plow.
46.	sprawl	<i>(verb)</i>	to lie or sit with arms and legs stretched out : to spread out.
47.	museum	<i>(noun)</i>	a building or institution which is devoted to the gathering, care, study and display of objects of lasting interest and value.
48.	wren	<i>(noun)</i>	any of various small brown singing birds.
49.	legend	<i>(noun)</i>	someone having a special status as a result of possessing extraordinary qualities that are typically partly real and partly mythical.
50.	transistor	<i>(noun)</i>	an electronic device made of a small block of a semiconductor with three electrodes on it and that conducts electrons moving in one direction to the opposite direction.



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51.	amplify	<i>(verb)</i>	to expand, extend or enlarge a statement or idea by adding details or illustration.
52.	security	<i>(noun)</i>	freedom from care, anxiety or fear.
53.	refrain	<i>(noun)</i>	a phrase or verse that recurs regularly typically within a poem or song.
54.	tactics	<i>(plural noun)</i>	methods : systems of procedure.
55.	shepherd	<i>(noun)</i>	a man employed in tending, feeding and guarding sheep.
56.	Angus	<i>(noun)</i>	any of a breed of hornless black or red beef cattle originally from Scotland.
57.	mulish	<i>(adjective)</i>	stubborn, inflexible or uncompromising.
58.	rivalry	<i>(noun)</i>	competition.
59.	siblings	<i>(plural noun)</i>	two or more people with the same parents.
60.	chestnut	<i>(noun)</i>	any of a genus of deciduous trees or shrubs native to temperate regions of the northern hemisphere that have a fruit consisting of a single nut.
61.	minivan	<i>(noun)</i>	a small multipurpose vehicle with rear or side doors and side panels with windows that is used to transport passengers.
62.	plaid	<i>(adjective)</i>	having a cross-barred multicolored pattern.
63.	tissue	<i>(noun)</i>	an aggregate of cells together with their intercellular substance that form one of the structural materials out of which the body of a plant or an animal is made.
64.	scoundrel	<i>(noun)</i>	a bold selfish person who is equipped with low ethical standards.
65.	amino	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to or containing the group NH ₂ united to a radical other than an acid radical.
66.	menthol	<i>(noun)</i>	an alcohol that occurs naturally in peppermint oil and Japanese mint oil and can be made artificially.
67.	Tabasco	<i>(trademark)</i>	— used for a condiment sauce made from capsicum berries.
68.	obvious	<i>(adjective)</i>	easily perceived by the mind.
69.	pulse	<i>(noun)</i>	a regular wave of distension in the arteries that is a result of blood progressing through an artery at each contraction of the ventricles of the heart.
70.	cottage	<i>(noun)</i>	a small house typically used in the summer.
71.	garland	<i>(noun)</i>	a wreath of leaves or flowers that is worn on the head or used for decoration.
72.	gnaw	<i>(verb)</i>	to bite or chew on with the teeth.
73.	comfort	<i>(noun)</i>	enjoyment in physical or mental well-being.
74.	caroling	<i>(verb)</i>	traveling outside in a group to sing Christmas songs on Christmas Eve.

OR carolling



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75.	foolishness	<i>(noun)</i>	the state of lacking seriousness : folly.
76.	constellation	<i>(noun)</i>	any of the 88 configurations of stars.
77.	sundering	<i>(verb)</i>	breaking or forcing apart.
78.	junction	<i>(noun)</i>	a seam or joint.
79.	exploits	<i>(verb)</i>	takes undue advantage of.
80.	rabble-rouser	<i>(noun)</i>	a person who stirs up the masses of the people (such as to violence or hatred).
81.	profound	<i>(adjective)</i>	hard to understand or comprehend.
82.	wreath	<i>(noun)</i>	a crown or band of intertwined flowers or leaves worn or given as a mark of honor.
83.	profile	<i>(noun)</i>	a representation of something in outline.
84.	untoward	<i>(adjective)</i>	unfortunate or unlucky.
85.	memorial	<i>(adjective)</i>	commemorative.
86.	industrial	<i>(adjective)</i>	of or belonging to a department of a craft, business or manufacture.
87.	barrier	<i>(noun)</i>	an object or objects that serve to separate or keep items apart.
88.	gratingly	<i>(adverb)</i>	with an irritating or harsh effect or sound.
89.	brayed	<i>(verb)</i>	made a loud harsh cry – used of a donkey.
90.	Harlem	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	section of New York City in northern Manhattan that was a center of African American culture in the 1920s.
91.	messenger	<i>(noun)</i>	someone who delivers a written or oral communication : a courier.
92.	beacons	<i>(plural noun)</i>	fires placed on a hill or tower that are used to communicate signals.
93.	generation	<i>(noun)</i>	development, rise.
94.	coverage	<i>(noun)</i>	the amount of reporting given to a news event.
95.	deters	<i>(verb)</i>	turns aside or discourages from acting.
96.	Nepal	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	landlocked country in Asia in the Himalayas on the northeast border of India.
97.	disinfectant	<i>(noun)</i>	a chemical used to destroy vegetative forms of damaging microorganisms.
98.	campaign	<i>(noun)</i>	a period of continuous and often competitive activity in any seasonal occupation or industry.
99.	starvation	<i>(noun)</i>	the instance of suffering from extreme hunger.
100.	gamma	<i>(noun)</i>	the third letter of the Greek alphabet.
101.	spleen	<i>(noun)</i>	an abdominal organ that plays a role in the maintenance of blood volume, the production of blood cells, the recovery of material from worn-out blood cells and the production of antibodies.



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102.	utensils	<i>(plural noun)</i>	tools or instruments used in a kitchen.
103.	depot	<i>(noun)</i>	a bus station.
104.	incident	<i>(noun)</i>	an uncommon happening.
105.	brambles	<i>(plural noun)</i>	prickly and rough vines or shrubs.
106.	trifecta	<i>(noun)</i>	a bet in which the bettor selects the first, second and third finishers in a contest or race in the correct order.
107.	shingle	<i>(noun)</i>	coarse and rounded detritus found on the seashore and which is different from regular gravel due to its large size.
108.	mason	<i>(noun)</i>	a skilled artisan who builds using stone, brick or concrete.
109.	avoid	<i>(verb)</i>	to stay clear of : to keep away from.
110.	static	<i>(adjective)</i>	stable, stagnant.
111.	samples	<i>(plural noun)</i>	portions to represent a whole.
112.	modern	<i>(adjective)</i>	contemporary : relating to the present time.
113.	chalk	<i>(noun)</i>	the prepared form of a soft limestone, earthy in texture and white, gray or buff in color used for marking or drawing.
114.	concentrate	<i>(verb)</i>	to bring all one's powers, faculties or activities to bear.
115.	proud	<i>(adjective)</i>	elated : highly pleased.
116.	expiration	<i>(noun)</i>	termination, close, extinction.
117.	batteries	<i>(plural noun)</i>	level of enthusiasm or energy.
118.	centuries	<i>(plural noun)</i>	time spans of 100 years.
119.	differed	<i>(verb)</i>	varied : changed from time to time.
120.	fearsome	<i>(adjective)</i>	arousing from fright or terror.
121.	fiercest	<i>(adjective)</i>	characterized by the most furious unrestrained vehemence or zeal.
122.	residence	<i>(noun)</i>	the place where one lives or has their home.
123.	abated	<i>(verb)</i>	lessened : decreased in force.
124.	scattering	<i>(verb)</i>	spreading widely and randomly by throwing about.
125.	toppled	<i>(verb)</i>	tumbled down : fell from top-heaviness.
126.	vane	<i>(noun)</i>	a movable device used to show the direction of the wind.
127.	vortices	<i>(plural noun)</i>	tornadoes : quickly moving and spiraling columns of air.
128.	turbulent	<i>(adjective)</i>	tempestuous or stormy.
129.	obstacles	<i>(plural noun)</i>	things that hinder progress or stand in the way.



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130.	continental	<i>(adjective)</i>	being the portion of the United States located on the continent of North America.
131.	deportment	<i>(noun)</i>	behavior or conduct.
132.	exhibits	<i>(plural noun)</i>	exhibitions or displays.
133.	agricultural	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to or used in the science or art of working the soil, harvesting crops and raising livestock.
134.	momentous	<i>(adjective)</i>	weighty : of great importance.
135.	disturbance	<i>(noun)</i>	an interruption of quiet or peace.
136.	wily	<i>(adjective)</i>	crafty : full of deceitful cunning.
137.	rookie	<i>(noun)</i>	a member who is new to an athletic team.
138.	transparencies	<i>(plural noun)</i>	matters for displaying which are made on glass, thin cloth, paper or film and which are viewed by the help of light shining through the matter.
139.	hazmat	<i>(noun)</i>	a substance that is shipped and which would be dangerous to life or the environment if released without proper precaution.
140.	Antarctic	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to the South Pole or the region surrounding it.
141.	perfume	<i>(noun)</i>	a fluid containing essences of flowers or synthetics which is used for its scent.
142.	plaiting	<i>(noun)</i>	braiding : the interweaving of three or more strands of hair.
143.	writers	<i>(plural noun)</i>	people who practice the act of literary or journalistic composition in words as a job.
144.	series	<i>(noun)</i>	a group of three or more things or events succeeding in order and having a relationship to each other.
145.	audience	<i>(noun)</i>	those present at a stage or film production or viewing of a televised program.
146.	insubstantial	<i>(adjective)</i>	imaginary : lacking substance.
147.	staggered	<i>(verb)</i>	swayed or tottered when standing or walking.
148.	assistance	<i>(noun)</i>	aid given to the needy, usually in monetary form.
149.	sanitized	<i>(verb)</i>	made hygienic through sterilization or cleaning.
150.	diminished	<i>(verb)</i>	decreased.
151.	organist	<i>(noun)</i>	someone who plays any of several large musical instruments which produce sustained tones by means of a keyboard.
152.	operator	<i>(noun)</i>	someone in charge of a telephone switchboard.



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153.	Louisiana	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	a state in the southern United States.
154.	perpetual	<i>(adjective)</i>	constant or indefinitely.
155.	blustery	<i>(adjective)</i>	stormy.
156.	molars	<i>(plural noun)</i>	teeth which are adapted for grinding due to having rounded or flattened surfaces.
157.	arrange	<i>(verb)</i>	to put in the correct or desired order.
158.	dissolved	<i>(verb)</i>	passed into an act by which a solid, liquid or gaseous substance is mixed typically with a liquid.
159.	extremely	<i>(adverb)</i>	in an intense manner.
160.	plastic	<i>(noun)</i>	any of a large group of materials of high molecular weight that usually contain a synthetic or semisynthetic organic substance, that are molded into objects of all sizes and shapes.
161.	multiplication	<i>(noun)</i>	a mathematical operation in which the first number is repeated as many times as there are units in the second number.
162.	middle	<i>(noun)</i>	the part halfway between two points.
163.	reasonable	<i>(adjective)</i>	not absurd or ridiculous : being in agreement with right thinking.
164.	closet	<i>(noun)</i>	a recess or cabinet used to hold china, clothing or other utensils.
165.	investigation	<i>(noun)</i>	study or research.
166.	accident	<i>(noun)</i>	an event that occurs by chance.
167.	discussion	<i>(noun)</i>	a consideration of a question typically occurring in informal debate.
168.	confused	<i>(verb)</i>	confounded : failed to distinguish between two or more parties.
169.	microwave	<i>(verb)</i>	to cook or heat food in an oven that prepares the food with short electromagnetic waves.
170.	gabled	<i>(adjective)</i>	furnished with the vertical triangular portion of the end of a building.
171.	settle	<i>(verb)</i>	seat : to cause to sit.
172.	somber OR sombre	<i>(adjective)</i>	dejected in appearance or mood : gloomy.
173.	tampered	<i>(verb)</i>	interfered with so as to change for the worse.
174.	loyal	<i>(adjective)</i>	devoted to a person : faithful.
175.	remarkable	<i>(adjective)</i>	worthy of being noticed.
176.	joists	<i>(plural noun)</i>	the small timbers or iron or steel beams that are arranged in a parallel fashion stretching from wall to wall in a building.
177.	scrambling	<i>(verb)</i>	moving with urgency.



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178.	inspector	<i>(noun)</i>	a police officer ranking below a superintendent.
179.	distressed	<i>(adjective)</i>	overcome with pain or grief.
180.	smudge	<i>(noun)</i>	a splotch or smear.
181.	throttle	<i>(verb)</i>	to choke : to stop the breathing of by any means.
182.	perfection	<i>(noun)</i>	flawlessness : freedom from defect.
183.	capable	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by general efficiency and by adequate resourcefulness, skill and reliability.
184.	gadgets	<i>(plural noun)</i>	typically small devices that are often considered novelties and that are found especially on pieces of machinery.
185.	channel	<i>(noun)</i>	a band of frequencies able to accommodate a single television or radio communication.
186.	chisel	<i>(noun)</i>	a tool consisting of a metal bar with a sharpened edge at one end used for working on the surface of materials by chipping or carving.
187.	chimney	<i>(noun)</i>	a vertical structure incorporated into a building that carries off smoke, fumes or gases.
188.	minnow	<i>(noun)</i>	a very small fish that can grow up to three inches long and that is common in streams.
189.	domain	<i>(noun)</i>	a large subdivision of the Internet denoted by an abbreviation consisting of computers or sites with a common purpose or a common location.
190.	shuffle	<i>(verb)</i>	to slide the feet back and forth without lifting them.
191.	carpenter	<i>(noun)</i>	a person whose career is to build or repair with wood.
192.	pruners	<i>(plural noun)</i>	a tool which is used to remove dead branches or leaves from vegetation.
193.	parcel	<i>(noun)</i>	a package.
194.	squawk	<i>(verb)</i>	to emit a loud harsh cry.
195.	Sheetrock	<i>(trademark)</i>	— used to describe a plasterboard formed of gypsum between two surfaces of hard paper.
196.	trowel	<i>(noun)</i>	a hand tool with a blade that is used to apply, spread, shape and smooth any loose material.
197.	nervous	<i>(adjective)</i>	originating in or affected by the nerves.
198.	spirit	<i>(noun)</i>	any supernatural being such as an apparition or elf.
199.	equator	<i>(noun)</i>	the circle of the celestial sphere whose plane runs perpendicular to the axis of Earth.
200.	evidence	<i>(noun)</i>	something submitted legally to a tribunal as a means of realizing the truth of any alleged matter of fact under investigation before it.
201.	solar	<i>(adjective)</i>	related to the sun and its effects on Earth and other planets.
202.	explore	<i>(verb)</i>	to search or look into.
203.	distance	<i>(noun)</i>	the amount of separation between two points.
204.	fault	<i>(noun)</i>	responsibility for failure.



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205.	colonists	<i>(plural noun)</i>	someone who settles in a new country.
206.	prudence	<i>(noun)</i>	wisdom shown in the exercise of self-control and reason.
207.	assembly	<i>(noun)</i>	a meeting scheduled for an entire student body and faculty of a school held for recreational, administrative or educational reasons.
208.	sheriff	<i>(noun)</i>	an important county officer in the United States who is typically elected by the people.
209.	tarry	<i>(verb)</i>	to dawdle or procrastinate.
210.	entity	<i>(noun)</i>	something that has an objective or physical reality and distinct character.
211.	archives	<i>(plural noun)</i>	repositories for documents of historical value.
212.	commotion	<i>(noun)</i>	noisy confusion.
213.	vacancy	<i>(noun)</i>	an empty office or post.
214.	beatboxing	<i>(noun)</i>	a musical style comprised of solo vocal imitation of percussion.
215.	mutate	<i>(verb)</i>	to undergo a significant alteration.
216.	commonplace	<i>(noun)</i>	a comment or remark lacking in originality.
217.	gingerbread	<i>(noun)</i>	a cake made with molasses and ginger which is then cut in fancy shapes and frosted.
218.	dispute	<i>(verb)</i>	to wrangle : to argue with persistence.
219.	episode	<i>(noun)</i>	a part of a television or radio serial presented in one period.
220.	confection	<i>(noun)</i>	a delicacy.
221.	autographs	<i>(plural noun)</i>	handwritten signatures.
222.	petite	<i>(adjective)</i>	little or small.
223.	station	<i>(noun)</i>	a post or position of duty.
224.	withers	<i>(plural noun)</i>	the ridge on a horse that falls between the shoulder bones.
225.	hunky-dory	<i>(adjective)</i>	fine.