



Scripps National Spelling Bee

Vocabulary List for Difficulty Level Three Bee 2019-2020

1.	ignoble	<i>(adjective)</i>	despicable.
2.	diaphoresis	<i>(noun)</i>	profuse sweating.
3.	kurta	<i>(noun)</i>	a long, loosely fitting shirt without a collar that originated in India.
4.	Hyperion	<i>(noun)</i>	a Titan who fathered Helios, Selene and Eos.
5.	lacrosse	<i>(noun)</i>	a game played with two teams of 10 players each with each player using a long-handled stick to catch and throw a ball, and with the object being to throw the ball into the opponents' goal.
6.	Geiger	<i>(noun)</i>	a tool which consists of a gas-filled counting tube whose purpose is to detect the presence of cosmic rays or radioactive substances.
7.	thermohaline	<i>(adjective)</i>	in oceanography, involving the joined effect of salinity and temperature.
8.	gannet	<i>(noun)</i>	any of several large web-footed sea birds.
9.	palladium	<i>(noun)</i>	something that provides protection.
10.	brevet	<i>(noun)</i>	a document which grants a privilege or title on behalf of the government.
11.	pamphlet	<i>(noun)</i>	an unbound publication with a small number of pages.
12.	palindrome	<i>(noun)</i>	a word or sentence that reads the same both forwards and backwards.
13.	visite	<i>(noun)</i>	a short coat that was formerly worn in the summertime by women.
14.	satsuma	<i>(noun)</i>	a cultivated mandarin tree producing seedless fruit.
15.	stirrups	<i>(plural noun)</i>	rings or bent pieces of metal, wood or leather made to hold and support the foot of a rider on horseback.
16.	Connemara	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	a district in Ireland located in western Galway.
17.	abundance	<i>(noun)</i>	a large supply.
18.	calamitous	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by disaster.
19.	dropsonde	<i>(noun)</i>	a miniature radio transmitter which is dropped by a parachute in order to measure the temperature and moisture of the air.
20.	proclamation	<i>(noun)</i>	an official formal public announcement.
21.	hokum	<i>(noun)</i>	a device used to elicit a desired reaction from an audience.
22.	colossal	<i>(adjective)</i>	characterized by extreme bulk, force, power or strength.
23.	coltan	<i>(noun)</i>	a dull black ore that is a mixture of columbite and tantalite.
24.	squadron	<i>(noun)</i>	a division of organization in the military.



This list includes 100 challenging middle school 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 Two Bee levels of difficulty.

25.	marinate	<i>(verb)</i>	to set meat, fish or vegetables in a liquid infused with vinegar or oil, spices and herbs.
26.	anagrams	<i>(plural noun)</i>	phrases or words that are created from the letters of other words or phrases.
27.	verandas OR verandahs	<i>(plural noun)</i>	porches.
28.	Himalayan	<i>(noun)</i>	a breed of domestic cats.
29.	McIntosh	<i>(noun)</i>	a bright red apple for eating.
30.	aspersions	<i>(plural noun)</i>	slandorous expressions.
31.	culminate	<i>(verb)</i>	to reach a decisive point.
32.	helium	<i>(noun)</i>	a very light colorless inert gas used for diluting oxygen, inflating balloons, and in many chemical and metallurgical processes.
33.	steeplechasing	<i>(noun)</i>	the sport of horse riding in races which involve jumping over barriers.
34.	Teflon	<i>(trademark)</i>	— used for a tough resin characterized by good resistance to chemicals, heat and weathering.
35.	bantam	<i>(adjective)</i>	small.
36.	apprentice	<i>(noun)</i>	a person who is in training to learn a trade from a skilled worker.
37.	reluctant	<i>(adjective)</i>	unwilling.
38.	heritage	<i>(noun)</i>	a legacy.
39.	sojourner	<i>(noun)</i>	a person who stays somewhere as a temporary resident.
40.	derogatory	<i>(adjective)</i>	expressive of disdain.
41.	palsy	<i>(noun)</i>	partial or complete loss of motion or sensation in any part of the body.
42.	Lascaux	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	a cave in France that contains prehistoric paintings.
43.	synesthesia OR synaesthesia	<i>(noun)</i>	a subjective image or sensation of a sense (such as a color) different from the one (such as a sound) that is being stimulated.
44.	nefarious	<i>(adjective)</i>	detestable or wicked.
45.	halogens	<i>(plural noun)</i>	the five elements (fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine and astatine) that form group VII A of the periodic table.
46.	gallium	<i>(noun)</i>	a rare bluish-white metallic element that is hard and brittle at low temperatures, melts just above room temperature and expands on freezing.
47.	smelters	<i>(plural noun)</i>	furnace operators who fuse or melt ore often with an accompanying chemical change typically to separate the metal.



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48.	hymnal	<i>(noun)</i>	a collection of church songs that have been adapted for singing during religious services.
49.	tartaric	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to or derived from a substance containing a white crystalline salt and yeast or a type of acid obtained from that substance.
50.	bindi	<i>(noun)</i>	a piece of jewelry or a mark (such as a red spot) worn on the forehead especially by Hindu women.
51.	Haitian	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to the people of Haiti or the island itself.
52.	divan	<i>(noun)</i>	a type of couch that usually doesn't have arms or a back and is often meant to be used as a bed.
53.	badminton	<i>(noun)</i>	a game played on a court by two or four people who use rackets to volley a shuttlecock over a net.
54.	bayonet	<i>(noun)</i>	a steel blade made to be attached to the muzzle end of a type of firearm that is fired while braced against the shoulder.
55.	currycomb	<i>(noun)</i>	a grooming tool for horses that has rows of serrated ridges or metallic teeth.
56.	haughty	<i>(adjective)</i>	arrogant or disdainfully proud.
57.	hesitate	<i>(verb)</i>	to delay or pause typically for a moment.
58.	opportunity	<i>(noun)</i>	a combination of time, place and circumstances that is favorable or suitable for a specific action or activity.
59.	Apollo	<i>(noun)</i>	a young man of graceful beauty.
60.	accordance	<i>(noun)</i>	agreement, such as of opinion, action or will.
61.	atmospheric	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to the entire mass of air that surrounds Earth.
62.	levees	<i>(plural noun)</i>	raised earth or gravel structures that are designed to prevent flooding.
63.	precariously	<i>(adverb)</i>	in a manner marked by a lack of stability or security.
64.	proportionate	<i>(adjective)</i>	being in balance or symmetry.
65.	suffused	<i>(verb)</i>	flushed, filled.
66.	accelerates	<i>(verb)</i>	speeds up the normal development or progress of something.
67.	coincidence	<i>(noun)</i>	the conjunction of circumstances or events significant to one another but that have no obvious causal connection.
68.	prestigious	<i>(adjective)</i>	having a greatly respected name or reputation : esteemed : honored.
69.	emphatic	<i>(adjective)</i>	commanding attention by insistence or prominence.
70.	contaminated	<i>(verb)</i>	deemed not fit for use by the introduction of elements that are undesirable or unwholesome.
71.	Madagascar	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	an island in the western Indian Ocean off southeastern Africa that is known for its unique flora and fauna.



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72.	exposure	<i>(noun)</i>	a condition of being subjected to an influence or to an experience.
73.	parachuted	<i>(verb)</i>	descended by means of a folding umbrella-shaped device made of light fabric that is used to slow the speed of the person or thing attached to it.
74.	periodically	<i>(adverb)</i>	frequently : recurrently.
75.	intriguing	<i>(adjective)</i>	fascinating.
76.	absorptive	<i>(adjective)</i>	characterized by, tending to or causing assimilation.
77.	incomprehensible	<i>(adjective)</i>	existing beyond the reach of the human mind.
78.	Merrimack	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	a river in southern New Hampshire and northeastern Massachusetts that flows south and northeast into the Atlantic.
79.	Sinai	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	a peninsula in northeastern Egypt between the Red Sea and the Mediterranean that forms an extension of the continent of Asia.
80.	misdemeanor	<i>(noun)</i>	a crime that is not punishable by death or imprisonment in a state penitentiary.
	OR		
	*misdemeanour		
81.	asparagus	<i>(noun)</i>	a plant that is widely grown for its edible and tender young shoots.
82.	solace	<i>(verb)</i>	to console.
83.	argyria	<i>(noun)</i>	permanent dark skin discoloration caused by absorption after overuse of medicinal silver preparations.
84.	guanine	<i>(noun)</i>	a crystalline purine base found especially in the excrement of bats and in many leguminous plants and that is obtained by hydrolysis of nucleic acids.
85.	xylyl	<i>(noun)</i>	any of several isomeric radicals each with a valence of one that is derived from the three xylenes by the removal of a hydrogen atom.
86.	therapeutic	<i>(adjective)</i>	relating to the treatment of disease or disorders by medicinal or curing agents or methods: curative.
87.	tumultuous	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by overwhelming or violent commotion, turbulence or radical change.
88.	commodore	<i>(noun)</i>	an officer of the navy who typically ranks next below a rear admiral and above a captain.
89.	playwright	<i>(noun)</i>	a person who writes a composition arranged for enactment by actors, intended to tell a story through the actions and usually dialogue of the actors.
90.	senile	<i>(adjective)</i>	displaying a loss of mental abilities associated with old age.
91.	laryngitis	<i>(noun)</i>	inflammation of the vocal cords.
92.	proximo	<i>(adjective)</i>	of or taking place in the next month after the current one.



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| 93. | **guerrilla
OR guerilla | <i>(noun)</i> | a member of an independent band engaged in plundering, violent wartime military expeditions. |
| 94. | Giza | <i>(geographical entry)</i> | a city in northern Egypt that is near Cairo and that lies on the western bank of the Nile River. |
| 95. | fixity | <i>(noun)</i> | the state or quality of being stable or not subject to change or fluctuation. |
| 96. | jodhpurs | <i>(plural noun)</i> | pants for horseback riding that are full through the hips, fit closely from the knee to the ankle and typically have a strap under each foot. |
| 97. | hydrargyrum | <i>(noun)</i> | the element mercury. |
| 98. | carborane | <i>(noun)</i> | any of a class of compounds that are thermally stable and that are used in the synthesis of lubricants and polymers. |
| 99. | denouncement | <i>(noun)</i> | the act of making known or declaring someone such as a culprit to people in command. |
| 100. | Columbia | <i>(noun)</i> | the United States. |