

# Scripps National Spelling Bee

## Study Words for Seventh Graders

### 2013–2014 School Year



*This list includes 50 challenging seventh grade words and, to extend learning, 50 challenging eighth grade words. If you learn the spellings and meanings of these 100 words, you will be well prepared for a seventh grade 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.*

1. **grouse** (verb) to complain typically with sustained grumbling.
2. **diadem** (noun) a crown; specifically : an ornamental headband worn (as by Eastern monarchs) as a badge of royalty.
3. **aura** (noun) distinctive appearance or impression.
4. **regnal** (adjective) of or relating to a reign, kingdom, or king.
5. **nigh** (adverb) near in place, time, or relationship.
6. **lucrative** (adjective) producing wealth : moneymaking : profitable.
7. **asylum** (noun) a place of refuge and protection.
8. **famished** (verb) deprived of food : starved.
9. **derivative** (adjective) made up of or marked by elements or qualities taken or received from something else : lacking originality.
10. **verdure** (noun) fresh and green growing vegetation.
11. **dawdle** (verb) spend more time than is necessary or usual in doing something : loiter.
12. **adroitly** (adverb) in a manner that is dexterous in the use of the hands.
13. **divvy** (verb) divide : share : distribute.
14. **betrothal** (noun) the act of promising in marriage.
15. **lambasted** (verb) administered a verbal or written thrashing to.
16. **insinuate** (verb) impart or communicate with artful indirect wording or oblique reference : hint, imply.
17. **travesty** (noun) literary or artistic imitation usually grotesquely incongruous in style, treatment, or subject matter : parody.
18. **bric-a-brac** (noun) miscellaneous objects regarded as decorative or of a sentimental value and usually collected in one place : curios.



*Join Word Club on [spellingbee.com](http://spellingbee.com) for  
online quizzes and audio pronunciations.*

19. **propulsion** (*noun*) the action or process of driving forward or ahead.
20. **leonine** (*adjective*) resembling or suggesting that of a lion.
21. **hackamore** (*noun*) a bridle that consists of a halter often of soft rope or braided horsehair and is used especially in breaking and training horses.
22. **emblazoned** (*verb*) set off conspicuously (as by rich or brilliant decorations).
23. **stridency** (*noun*) the quality or state of loudly or obtrusively commanding notice or recognition.
24. **bulbous** (*adjective*) resembling or suggesting a bulb especially in roundness or in the enlargement of a part.
25. **photogenic** (*adjective*) eminently suitable for being photographed especially from the aesthetic point of view.
26. **torsion** (*noun*) the act of turning or twisting : the state of being twisted.
27. **winnow** (*verb*) to analyze and assort to obtain the most desirable : select, separate, sift.
28. **bountiful** (*adjective*) abundant : plentiful.
29. **affluent** (*adjective*) having an abundance of goods or riches : wealthy.
30. **rosin** (*noun*) a translucent pale yellow or amber to dark red or darker brittle resin that is obtained from dead wood of pine trees, and that is used chiefly in making varnishes, lacquers, printing inks, binding materials, polishes, and on bows for violins and other str
31. **mammalian** (*adjective*) of, relating to, or characteristic of the highest class of Vertebrata comprising man and all other animals that nourish their young with milk, that have the skin usually more or less covered with hair, and warm blood.
32. **corduroy** (*noun*) a cut-pile fabric with vertical ribs or wales, usually made of cotton.
33. **exorcism** (*noun*) the act or practice of driving out or driving away an evil spirit especially by use of a holy name or magic rites.
34. **imperious** (*adjective*) arrogant : overbearing : domineering.
35. **tangible** (*adjective*) capable of being touched : able to be perceived as materially existent especially by the sense of touch.
36. **evince** (*verb*) to display clearly : exhibit, manifest, express.
37. **hermitage** (*noun*) a secluded residence or private retreat.
38. **congressional** (*adjective*) of or relating to the supreme legislative body of a nation and especially of a republic.

39. **rejuvenate** (*verb*) impart renewed vitality to : reinvigorate.
40. **bodega** (*noun*) a combined wineshop and grocery store.
41. **wheelde** (*verb*) to gain or get away with by using soft words or flattery.
42. **charioteer** (*noun*) one that drives a 2-wheeled vehicle usually drawn by two horses and used in ancient warfare and also in processions and races.
43. **panache** (*noun*) dash or flamboyance in style and action : swagger, verve.
44. **malaise** (*noun*) an indefinite feeling of generalized lack of health often indicative of or accompanying the onset of an illness.
45. **acrylics** (*plural noun*) paints in which the binder is a glasslike thermoplastic.
46. **extinguish** (*verb*) cause (as a fire or light) to cease burning.
47. **moustache or mustache** (*noun*) the hair growing on a person's upper lip or that on either side of the upper lip.
48. **vitriolic** (*adjective*) marked by a caustic biting quality.
49. **netiquette** (*noun*) the rules of conduct governing communication on the Internet.
50. **vice versa** (*adverb*) with the relations reversed : conversely.
51. **sedentary** (*adjective*) characterized by or requiring sitting or slight activity.
52. **Pavlovian** (*adjective*) of or relating to the Russian physiologist Ivan Pavlov or to his work and experiments.
53. **cumbersome** (*adjective*) of an excessive size, shape, or length : unwieldy.
54. **histrionics** (*plural noun*) staged or stagy conduct or exhibition of temperament usually intended to produce some particular effect or response in others.
55. **gustatory** (*adjective*) of, relating to, affecting, or associated with the sense of taste.
56. **perceived** (*verb*) became aware of through the senses.
57. **illustrious** (*adjective*) notably or brilliantly outstanding.
58. **quadrillion** (*noun*) one followed by 15 zeros, or ten to the 15th power.
59. **anticipatory** (*adjective*) characterized by the act of looking forward.
60. **abstruse** (*adjective*) difficult to comprehend or understand.
61. **chancellor** (*noun*) the chief minister of state in any of certain European countries who is charged with responsibilities corresponding to those of a prime minister.

62. **recoup** (*verb*) to compensate (as oneself) for something (as expenses, losses).
63. **Herculean** (*adjective*) of extraordinary might or tremendous difficulty.
64. **ombudsman** (*noun*) a government official appointed to receive and investigate complaints made by individuals against abuses or capricious acts of public officials.
65. **porosity** (*noun*) the quality or state of being capable of absorbing moisture.
66. **dodecahedron** (*noun*) a solid having 12 plane faces.
67. **injurious** (*adjective*) inflicting or tending to inflict damage : hurtful, harmful, detrimental.
68. **prognosticate** (*verb*) to foretell from signs or symptoms : predict, prophesy.
69. **complacency** (*noun*) satisfaction or self-satisfaction accompanied by unawareness of actual dangers or deficiencies.
70. **omnibus** (*adjective*) of, relating to, or providing for many things or classes at once : containing or including many items.
71. **carcinogen** (*noun*) a substance or agent producing or inciting cancerous growth.
72. **tomahawk** (*noun*) a light axe used both as a missile and as a hand weapon by Native North Americans.
73. **monochrome** (*noun*) the art of producing a painting or drawing in a single hue.
74. **gluttonous** (*adjective*) marked by or given to greedy or excessive indulgence of any desire or faculty.
75. **ostracism** (*noun*) exclusion by general consent from common privileges or social acceptance.
76. **rappelled** (*verb*) descended a precipitous cliff by means of a rope.
77. **presumptuous** (*adjective*) assuming a prerogative, privilege, or permission without warrant : taking liberties.
78. **annihilation** (*noun*) the act of destroying totally or the state of being destroyed totally.
79. **petroglyphs** (*plural noun*) carvings or inscriptions on a rock.
80. **courtier** (*noun*) a gentleman attendant or frequenter of a sovereign's residence or establishment.
81. **bonsai** (*noun*) a potted plant (as a tree) dwarfed by special methods of culture.
82. **schism** (*noun*) a division of a group into two discordant groups.
83. **appellate** (*adjective*) having the power to review and affirm, reverse, or modify the judgment or decision of another tribunal.

84. **elegiac** (*adjective*) of, relating to, befitting, or comprising a song or poem expressing sorrow or lamentation especially for one who is dead.
85. **sapphire** (*noun*) a precious stone of transparent rich blue corundum of great value.
86. **vestigial** (*adjective*) of, relating to, or being a small and degenerate body part or organ that remains from one more fully developed in an earlier stage of the individual, in a past generation, or in closely related forms.
87. **laureate** (*noun*) a recipient of an honor or award for outstanding achievement in an art or science.
88. **plagiarism** (*noun*) an act or an instance of stealing and passing off as one's own the ideas or words of another.
89. **ragamuffin** (*noun*) a ragged and unkempt youth.
90. **agitprop** (*noun*) propaganda and agitation especially in behalf of communism.
91. **circumstantial** (*adjective*) belonging to, consisting of, influenced by, or dependent on conditions, facts, or events accompanying others.
92. **guineas** (*plural noun*) English gold coins issued from 1663 to 1813 worth 21 shillings.
93. **armistice** (*noun*) temporary suspension of hostilities as agreed upon by those engaged in the hostilities.
94. **importunate** (*adjective*) troublesomely urgent : overly persistent in request or demand.
95. **lingua franca** (*noun*) something (as a system of common interests or social symbols) that functions like a common language in making individuals comprehensible to one another.
96. **occipital** (*adjective*) of or relating to the back part of the head of a vertebrate or an insect.
97. **queue** (*noun*) a sequence of messages or jobs held in auxiliary storage awaiting transmission or processing.
98. **focaccia** (*noun*) a flat Italian bread typically seasoned with herbs and olive oil.
99. **aficionado or aficionado** (*noun*) an ardent follower, supporter, or enthusiast : fan.
100. **genoise** (*noun*) a light cake of sugar, flour, melted butter, and stiffly beaten eggs.