

# SPELL-ING

- 1. the act of one who spells words.
- 2. the way in which a word is spelled.

Southern Oregon Regional Spelling Contest

# STATE OF OREGON REGIONAL SPELLING CONTEST

District and County Level For Southern Oregon

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Sponsored by Southern Oregon University and participating schools in Jackson and Josephine Counties.

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# **PRACTICE LISTS**

Test words will be provided by SOU Pre-College Youth Programs for the district and county contest levels and are not necessarily on these practice lists.

These lists are a sample of the types of words that have been used in past years. Check a dictionary for spelling just in case there may be an error.

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# **Spelling Contest Timeline**

**February – April** Materials sent to schools by Spelling Contest

Coordinator. Practice lists included.

Class, school and district competitions held. Southern Oregon University Pre-College Youth

Programs will furnish final word lists.

**April** Names of winners in each division are submitted

by School Districts to SOU Spelling Coordinator by

early April. Contest held at Southern Oregon

University at the beginning of May for Jackson and

Josephine Counties. Word lists provided by

Oregon Spellers.

**End of May** Winner's names will be submitted to Oregon

Spellers in hopes they will be able to compete at

the State Competition should it be held.

Mid to Late Summer By July, 1st place winners must register to attend

the State Championship.

Jackson and Josephine County winners compete

at the Oregon State Fair in Salem over Labor Day

Weekend.

### **DIVISIONS**

Jackson and Josephine County school districts, in cooperation with Southern Oregon University Pre-College Youth Programs, sponsor the spelling contest following Oregon Spellers guidelines. In 2021 the district and regional contests will be oral. Classes and schools are welcome to hold written or oral contests as fits the Covid-19 rules and regulations set forth by their school and the state of Oregon. Area school districts can hold competitions within each school as either in person or virtual competitions. Winners then advance to a district-wide contest. District winners then compete in a regional county-wide contest held in May. Competition involves three age groups:

DIVISION I Grades 1-5

DIVISION II Grades 6-8

DIVISION III Grades 9-12

Division winners receive the honor of displaying the "traveling trophy" in their home school until the next year's competition. County division winners also earn the right to compete in the Spelling Contest held at the Oregon State Fair in Salem.

### **PROCEDURES**

Small school districts will have one person per division to represent a school district. Large school districts are entitled to two in each division.

Private and Charter schools are encouraged to participate, but all schools will be considered collectively as one district. Therefore, competition must be coordinated among private schools so that only one student per division competes in the contest.

Students need no materials.

A quiet room is necessary during tests. Only the director of the division and students reciting their words will be permitted to speak.

Students will compete in alphabetical order by last name.

Each word will be pronounced, used correctly in a sentence and pronounced again. Contestants will have approximately 10 seconds to respond with an oral spelling of the word.

Judges will write that spelling down and will make note of whether the student has indeed spelled the word correctly. If a student has misspelled a word then the judges will let that student know that they need to step down. If they are correct then the next word will be dictated to the next student.

Judges are not to be disturbed at any time.

Words will be continued to be read until we have reached a winner.

# SUGGESTIONS FOR COMPETITION

Since the spelling contest involves reciting the correct spelling then practice should include oral tests as the most important activity. Practice can include other activities as well: spelling bees, team contests, special word games (Scrabble), etc., with classes competing against one another.

Each competing school needs to schedule its own activities, including a district competition so winners' names may be submitted to the coordinator by early April.

Practice words will not be the same as those at the Regional competition held at SOU. They can be analyzed for levels of difficulty, spelling rules, roots, prefixes and suffixes. Teachers can compile other practice lists of comparable difficulty. For other practice word sources, go to

http://www.oregonspellers.org/practice-words and http://www.myspellit.com/

Word lists for class and school level competitions should be compiled cooperatively by teachers whose students are competing and kept confidential until the actual competition to advance students to the District levels.

District level words will be provided by Southern Oregon University Youth Programs. All Districts will be using the same words, so these also should be

kept confidential until the submission date for fairness to everyone participating.

School and district competitions should be promoted and advertised within the community so that all students have the opportunity to participate.

Basic Skills are BIG News!

Any questions regarding process should be directed to the school district coordinator or Youth Programs 541-552-7007.

More information is available at https://inside.sou.edu/youth/competitions/spelling

## **HINTS FOR TEACHERS**

- 1. Educators for decades have debated how to teach spelling. Some school districts don't have a formal spelling curriculum or grading process. Words from reading curriculum instead may be a good alternative.
- 2. Students should learn to spell words they will use in their education. E. Horn asked in 1960 the cruciality of a word -"Is it a word, the misspelling of which would penalize the writer?" McPherson said 25 years later, "The most important thing about spelling is that it's something writers use. Until writers need to use it, spelling has no value."
- 3. Give students the spelling words in a list form rather than in sentence or paragraph form.
- 4. The utilization of a pre-test is a must," Fitzsimmons and Loomer wrote in 1980. After the pre-test, students can study the words they have difficulty with.
- 5. Under the teacher's direction, students should correct their own spelling tests. According to T. Horn (1946), "The self-corrected test appears to be the most important single factor contributing to achievement in spelling."

- 6. Spending more than 60 minutes on spelling each week won't guarantee better spellers. "What is needed is not more time, but spirited, efficient use of instructional procedures," E. Horn wrote in 1960.
- 7. Learning to spell a word should involve the student forming a correct visual image of the whole word. The presentation of words in syllabified form has no advantage over whole-word presentation.
- 8. "Correct spelling taught with multi-sensory instruction addresses ALL learning styles, thus avoids discrimination." Riggs Institute
- 9. Students should use spelling words in writing. "Writing words repeatedly in meaningful context provides up to five times more transfer." (McSweeney, 1959).
- 10. "Children should not be required to make repeated writings of words without intervening attempts at recall," Green and Petty wrote in 1968. "The practice of having a child copy a word five times or ten times encourages poor habits and attitudes."
- 11. Few spelling rules will help students become better spellers. Teach students the way a word is spelled so they won't depend on any one approach to spelling a speech sound.
- 12. Make spelling a weekly activity students look forward to. Use spelling games to generate excitement not for the sake of spelling itself, but for learning words that students will use in writing for the rest of their lives.
- 13. Normally our recommendation is that students should write the word on paper rather than spell it orally. However for 2021 a combination of both is recommended.

# Why Study Spelling?

- 1. Correct English spelling is the basis of accurate and fluent reading, with comprehension.
- 2. Correct spelling taught with a mnemonic marking system and the application of 47 of the rules of English teaches analytical thinking and reasoning skills.

3. Correct Spelling is the only means of mapping human speed to standard book print for reading.

## A NOTE TO TEACHERS ABOUT THE PRACTICE LISTS

The word lists presented on pages 9-20 have been provided by an outside source. We've made every attempt to assure that each word is spelled correctly. Please contact us if you find words that are incorrectly spelled so that we may fix them.

### HINTS FOR STUDENTS

Ten common steps used by good spellers when they encounter new words:

- Look at the word
- 2. Copy the word
- 3. Remember how the word looks
- 4. Listen to the pronunciation of the word
- 5. Pronounce the word
- 6. Divide the word into syllables
- 7. Say the letters of the word in order
- 8. Write the word to get its "feel"
- 9. Study the difficult parts of the word
- 10. Use the word in a sentence that has meaning

Another way to become a good speller is to have fun with words - study their origin, their relation to similar words in other languages, and the way they've changed through the years. Such study is called "etymology."

For example: recalcitrant

LATIN *re* meaning back or backward LATIN *calx* meaning hoof

LATIN, these two were put together into *recalcitrare*, meaning "to kick back"

Dictionaries now define a recalcitrant person as stubbornly rebellious. How does this definition fit the meaning of the word in ancient times?

## **PRACTICE LISTS**

# DIVISION I, GRADES 1 – 5

abalone ambit abscess ampere abscond analysis absence ancient acacia anniversary accent annoy accidentally annual acclaimed annuity accompaniment antenna accumulate anthropologist acquaintance apologized acuity appreciatively adamant appropriate aqueduct adjunct adolescence arable adulation argyle aerial armistice aerosol artillery aesthetic or esthetic asparagus affable aspirin alibi assessment allowance assimilate allege assistant altar asylum attention altitude amateur auditorium

auspicious bacteria bailiff ballistic balloted bane bankrupt bankruptcy banquet barometer barrage bazaar beige belligerent besieged bewildered bilingual biographical biscuit boisterous bored boughless bouquet boutique brevity bullion

cache continuation epoch equivalence caffeine continuously equivalent caisson cordial erratic cornice cajole erudition corporal calculus esteem corridor callous estuary council camouflage exaggerate counterfeit campaign examination cryptography camphor excellent curlier caprice exhaustion curriculum carton fallow cyclone catamaran fascinating cymbal catastrophe dachshund fatigue faucet caucus dahlia fiend cedar dauntless fifteenth cemetery debris figurative debtor censured financier decadent centipede fissure deceit ceremonial flagrant defamation certificate fluoride deficient cessation flues deft chalet forbearance delicatessen chameleon foreign denv chamois forests desirous chandelier forfeit devious

forty chasm diagnostic fragmentation chateau dichotomous fraternities diffusion chauffeur fraught diesel chenille frieze dignity cholesterol frontier discernment cinnamon fuselage dishevel circuit gaiety divot coherence gales document coheres gabardine domesticate colossal gambit drought colloquial gamut easel commentator gaunt eclipse competent genealogy ecology complaint genes ecstasy genitive compliment efficiency elegant geyser complimentary ghetto elicit concede gigantic embarrass conceited gnarled embroidery concentrate gnome enclave concussion grandeur enjoyable condemn grievous entremets

epic

epicures

epistle

dewlaps

forthright

grouchiest

grunion

guffaw

fatuous

changeable

condescend

conqueror

congratulations

conscientious

hale kilometer necktie hallelujah or halleluiah kindergarten necessary knoll handicapped negotiate happenstance knuckle neighbor kowtow haughty nemesis heifer kudos neoprene height kumquat nephew limousine heirs nevertheless heritage laborious nineteenth hippopotamus labyrinth nocturnal hokey laconic nomad lacquer humorous nominative larynx humus nuclei hydrolysis lasagna nougat novice hygiene laundry hypothetical lavender nuisance hysterical lawyer numb immaculate league numerous immediate leprechaun obituary impatient lichen oblique inconsistent lido oblivious linoleum inconspicuous oboe inconvenienced local obscure inconvenient loyalty observatory indestructible lozenge obsidian indulgence **luminous** obtuse inertia lynx occasion infusion macaroni opaque ingenious malady opportunity ingenuity maneuver oppressive ingot maniac orangutan innuendo mature osmosis interfered mauve outrageous interpret mayonnaise pacifist interrupt medicine pageant mediocre intricacy palate irresistible melee panache irrigate memoirs panniers or paniers meringue isobutylene parallel isosceles militarism parenthesis miniature parfait issuing isthmus miser patient jargon mistaken pavilion jealous pedigree moccasin jeer penicillin moguls jerkin peninsula monkeys jettison monotonous permissible ioist mosaic perigee judgment or judgement mosquito perseverance judicious mosquitoes persistent juvenile personnel

muscle

mysterious

mystique

nausea

nautical

phenomenal

phenomenon piccolo

pier

kennel

ketch

khaki

kiln

rhetoric pinnacles synonyms pistachio rhinoceros system rhubarb plaque symphony plateau riboflavin tachycardia ridiculous taciturn pleurisy plume rouge tambourine poise rhythm taxonomy sallow polyester technical practically sapphire technician satchel precarious thoroughfare prejudice satiated toboggan predecessor satin tongue premier or premiere toupee savvy trafficking prey scenic privilege scepter tranquilizer proficient scientific transient proceed scissors transistor propeller scrumptious treacle scythe protégé or protégée treacherous pseudonym secede treasure psyche secrecy tribunal ptarmigan selvage truant pungent senior typhoons purchase sentry unanimous purser shenanigans underline shepherd questionnaire undeterred quiescent shoals unfortunately shriek quintessence unique

quip siege unpronounceable

quizzes sieve usage similarity vaque quotient simile raccoon velocity simplicity rancor vengeance siphon ventilation rattan raucous sluice versatile soldering vicious receipt recommend soothe vignette recreation sophomore virus species redemption vitamins regalia spume voque reliance stagnant volunteer remittance stationary voracious rendezvous statute waist steeds repertoire weird replete strudel wheelchair squeamish reprieve whetstone reputation suave whizzes requisite wisteria suing rescind superficial wrangled respiration surmise wry merely susceptible xylophone

suture

syllabicate

zirconium

zoologist

restaurant

retrieve

## **PRACTICE LISTS**

# **DIVISION II, GRADES 6 – 8**

abbreviation barbarous coarse barbeque abstinence coincidence barnacles acetous collate acclimated baroque competition accolades barricade complaisant or accompaniment bathysphere complacent accusative beau complement bellicose compliment achievement beneficial compulsory acoustic acquitted bonsai concede bookkeeper adjectival conceivable boorish adverbially concessionaire bosky aerate concordant aerosol bouillon concurrence aesthetic or esthetic boulevard condescending conglomerate affably brilliancy affluent brontosaurus conquistador aggravate brusque or brusk conspicuous aghast buovant convalescent buoyancy ague cornucopia airborne bureau corridor cache counterfeit albatross crochet alienated cadence calligraphy curdle alloy camouflage amaryllis currency canvass cynical amateur ambidextrous capabilities dactylographer anecdote capitol debonairly angst capricious debris animosity carburetor decadent carnivorous anticipate decathlon aperture catacombs deceitful archaic catalyst decipher archetype catapulted declarative archives catastrophe deferred arthritis caterwaul deficient asperity cauliflower defunct asylum cede delinquent atrocious cellophane desiccate audacity chancery desperate authenticity chaos deterrent avalanche chassis dexterously awed chauffeur discernment awkward chauvinist discipline chenille axiom disseminate baccalaureate chiffchaff dissimilar bachelor cholesterol distraught bagatelle dolphin choreography bailiff clientele dungeon ballyhoo eccentric clinicians

edifice government intaglio effervescent grandeur intercede grotesque interpretative effluvia elaborate quarantee intriguing quillemots elicit intrinsic embarrassed gumption irrational embarrassment gyration irresistible haggard eminent iostle eminence halogen jubilee empirical harangue judicial enamored hebetudinous judicious herbaceous envious juxtaposed envisage hesitancy kaleidoscope ephemeral hideous kapok epitaph hydroid kerosene epitome hindrance kilowatts eradicate hirsute knowledge eristic hosiery knuckle etiquette humorous laboratory euphonium hybridize labyrinth exaggerate hydraulic language exhilarate hydrochloride lassitude exhilaration hyphenate lea exorbitant hypothesis leisure extravagance hysterical leukemia idyllic liable exultant illimitable falsetto librarian immediate feign lieutenant ferocious imminent ligament fertilizer immunology lineage

linguini or linguine fervor

innuendo

insipid

impractical feudal impresario fief impromptu finesse inaugural fluidity inauspicious fluorescent incinerate incipient fogevish follicles inconceivable inconsolable foresight forfeit incorruptible fuselage indebtedness fractional indictment franchise indispensable frantically indoctrination fraudulent indomitable gargantuan inevitable gamboges inexplicable infallible gaze genuinely inflexible gerund influential gibberish ingenuity gigot ingratiate glissando innocent

glycerin

gorgeous

lintel loquacious lounge louvered lymphatic machete mademoiselle maintenance makeweight malicious malign manacle mandible maneuver Manzanita marquee masquerade massacre material mediocre memoirs meringue mesmerize microcosm

migraine parachute questionnaire migratory paraffin quorum parallelepiped minuscule quotient miscellaneous paraphernalia rambunctious parenthesis mischievous rapprochement miscreants pastiche rapscallion miserable participial raucous paschal miter or mitre recede morale pasteurization receipt mundane paucity recidivism peccadillo reconnaissance municipal perambulator muumuus recurrence perceive naive referendum nasturtium pernicious regurgitate perpendicular reign natatorium personnel nauseating remembrance persuade nauseous rendezvous necessitate phlegm renovate negligent phyllopod repartee neigh phylum replica nemesis physicist reservoir physique resilient nephritis piccolo resplendent nettlesome neurology pistachio rhapsody nicotiana pique rhetoric noxious piranha rhetorical pituitary nuisance rheumatism plagiarism nutritious rhinoceros plankton nymphs riparian obedience platypus rotisserie playwrights oblige rouge plebiscite oblique roulette oblivious pneumatic rya obnoxious poisonous sabotage obsequious poliomyelitis saccharimeter or observatory saccharometer polyp porcelain occasionally sachet occlusion porpoise sacrifice ocelot prairie sacrilegious omnipotent precincts sarcastic opossum precipice satirical orchestra predecessor sauerkraut oriented preliminary scenario privilege ornery scepter orthography promissory schooner oscilloscope pronunciation scintilla osseous prophecy scintillate ostracized proprietor **SCUZZY** outrageous seine prosaic overwhelmed psoriasis semantics palate pterodactyl separate

quagmire

quay

quell

quartette or quartet

sergeant

serrated

severely

sheaf

palette

pandemonium

panegyrist

pall

sheik or sheikh shimmed shipwright silhouette silhouetted simultaneous sinewy skein skua solenoid soliloguy solitaire sophisticated sovereign spelunker staccato stalactite stationary stationery statistics strychnine studious subordinate subterranean successor succinct sufficient superficial supersede

susceptible

suspicious sycamore sycophant synchronize syndrome tangible tarantula technicality tectonic tedious tenacious temperature terrestrial tertiary threshold thiamine thyme tourniquet tracheotomy traipsed transcontinental trapezoid treacherous trivet troika trophoplasm troubadour trousseau tumultuous turmoil twelfth tyrannical umbrage unanimous

undeniable unequivocal unilateral vacancies vacuum valedictorian variegated venomous ventriloquist verbiage veridical verdure vicinity vicious villainous volatile volcanologist voluminous wainscot warrant weighs weird whelk whetted whirligig wizened wondrous wry xylophone

yeoman

zucchini

zeppelins

# **DIVISION III, Grades 9 – 12**

aardvark bathysphere chiropodist abdomen bauxite chlorophyll beguine aberrant choir bellicose abeyance chrysanthemum abjure belligerence circumstances abnegated benevolence citation aborigine benign clique berserk accolade cooptation acetous bifurcated соссух acidulous bight cochineal adherent bilingual collateral adjacent bilious colloquial advertisement blasphemous comedienne aerialist blasphemy commensalisms aerobic blithe complacent blitzkrieg affidavit comprehension boisterous conciliatory alacrity bombycid alembic condescending alienate bonhomie condominium amateur bouillabaisse congratulations ambiguity bouquet coniferous amphetamine boutonniere connoisseur anagnorisis brigadier consanguineous anaphylaxis bureaucracy conscience byssus anemone conscientious anesthesiologist calamitous conscious animadversions caldera consensus annulment calligraphy conspicuous anonymous camouflage convalescence antecedent candescence coterie candescent antimacassars crescendo captious antiquity criterion aphelion carburetor croquet aphorism caricature crustacean aplomb carotid cuneiform appearance cataclysm curriculum apropos catafalque cynical approximately catalyst daguerreotype catharsis debatable appurtenances aqueduct cauterize debacle archipelago celestial decaffeinated asphyxiate censers decathlon assessment centrifugal decrescendo assiduously cerulean deictic chagrin deliquescent assonance demagogue assuaged chandelier asthmatic chaparral desultory dialysis asymptote characteristics atoll dichotomous charisma dichromatic autonomous charismatic baccalaureate chiaroscuro differentiate bathymetry Chihuahua diminutive

incandescence diphtheria facade discombobulated facetious inconceivable Fahrenheit discrimination indemnify discussion fallible inextricable familiarity disenfranchised infeasibility dishabille fasces infinitesimal disreputable fascicles initiate dissatisfied fervor inoculate dolomite fictitious inoculation fiendish doubloon insouciance dryopithecine flabellum instantaneous fluoride duopoly intelligible dysfunctional fogeyish interrogate dyslexia foible intravenous forte dysthymia inveigh ebullience fraudulence invincible eccentricity fritillary iridescent ecstasy fuchsia irrefutable effervescent gallant irreparable efficacious garrulous irritated effluvia gazetteer isinglass genres itinerant egregious electrotherapeutics gherkins iabot eligibility glandular jaundice emboss glazier jingoistic eminence globule jostle glorious iudicious emissary emphysema anomonic judiciously emulsify gregarious kayak encephalitis gudgeon kiwi guillotine ennui krypton entourage gypsophila labyrinth entrepreneur hallucinated lackadaisically entrepreneurial hallucinations laissez faire enunciated harangue lapidate epidemiologist hemorrhaged laloplegia hereditary legislature epitaph equitation hermetically lepidopterology heterochromatic errant leprechaun erroneous hierarchically liaison hieroglyphic lieutenant escarpment escutcheon hoeing linear espalier homologous liquefy eucalyptus humanitarianism liquorices euglena hydraulic literature eulogy hygiene liturgy euphemism hygienist loess euphonious hypocrisy lollygag euphoric hypotenuse **luminescence** euthanasia hypothesis macaques evasion hypothetical mademoiselle exasperating ichthyosaur magnanimity exceptionally ileitis malaise exchequer imperceptible malfeasance

impresario

maneuver

exhilarate

maraschino oriole qualmish ornamental margarine questionnaire matutinal ornery queue medieval orthodontist quiescence mediocre oscitancy quiescent mellifluous ostracism quintessential memorandum otolaryngologists quintuplet merchandise oxygenate quixotic meridian pachyderm quorum meringue pantomime quotidian metamorphosis paprika radiosonde paramecium metaphor ragout paraphernalia mettle rambunctious mezzanine pariah rapacious milieu parsimony rapprochement pedagogy minuscule ratiocination miraculous peroration raucous miscellaneous perpendicular ratiocination mischievous perpetrated recalcitrant monologue perspicacity reciprocal moraine peruke rejuvenescent morphine petulant relevance mortise pharaoh reliquary mulishness pharmaceutical remonstrate munificent phenomenal repertoire repudiate myasthenia phenomenon myriad pheromones requiem mystagogue phoenix resilience nauseous phyllite resonance picayune necessitate restive picturesque nephrology resuscitate neurolysis piteous reveille nictitating pituitary rhetorical plagiarism rhizogenesis nineteenth notoriety platitudes rivulet plebeian rotisserie nuisance pneumonia nuptial ruinous obbligato poltergeist saboteur polyethylene obfuscate sachet obsequies polyonymous sacrilegious obsolescence pomegranate saliferous obsolescent possession sangfroid obstreperous precocious sarsaparilla primordial scabiosa occasionally occlusion prodigious scathing octahedron proficient scenography odious propinquity schematic odoriferous proselyte scherzo oiticica pseudonym schismatic okapi psychedelic schnauzer oligarchy ptomaine schnitzel opalescent schottische or ptyalin ophthalmologist schottish puerile ophthalmology punctilious sciatica orchid purveyor sclerosis

sequacious sheriff silhouette silhouetted simpatico skerries skirmish snivel sobriety

sobriquet soiree soldering solenoid solicitous solipsism somnambulism somnolent sovereign sovereignty

specious sphagnum sphincter sphinx statistically statuesque stature striations suave subtlety succinct

suede sufficiency summarize superintendent

surreptitious surveillance susceptibility symmetrical syringe tachometer taiga tarragon tauromachy temerity tensile therapeutic throes tocsin tautology

terpsichorean tocsin toucan tracheotomy transcendental treacherous trepidation triage truant tympani

tyrannical

unanimity unceremonious

uncial uncouth unequivocal unfortunately untrammeled unguinous valetudinarian vagaries vengeance venue verbatim verbiage vigilante volatile voracious

voyageur or voyager

waive whicker whither whortleberry wieldy xenophobic xylophone zucchini zygodactyl