

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**corps**

n  
/ 'kɔ(ə)r /  
L

[has homonyms: cor, core, kor] the ensemble or chorus of a ballet company as distinguished from soloists and principals.

*Even the most famous ballerinas have spent some time as members of the corps.*

**corpuscles**

**corrade**

**correct**

**correlate**

**correlation**

**correspondence**

**corrigendum**

**corroboration**

n  
/ kə'rəbə'rāshən /  
L

evidence that confirms the truth of something.

*Two witnesses provided corroboration of the suspect's alibi.*

**corrode**

v  
/ kə'rɔd /  
L

undergo a gradual wearing away or alteration by a chemical or electrochemical essentially oxidizing process.

*The picture of a harbor in Sandy's book was accompanied by an explanation of how ship hulls corrode.*

**corrodible**

adj  
/ kə'rɔdəbəl /  
L + Ecf

capable of being worn away or converted into an easily disintegrated substance.

*Lemon juice should not be stored in a corrodible container.*

**corrosive**

**corte**

**cortege**

n  
/ kɔr'teʒ /  
L > It > F

a procession of mourners at a funeral.

*Representatives of various charities the princess had supported made up her official cortege.*

**corticoid**

**coruscated**

v  
/ 'kɔr.əskātəd /  
L

gleamed with intermittent flashes : glittered, sparkled.

*The leaves shimmered and the grass coruscated in the early morning sunlight.*

**corydora**

**cosmetic**

**cosmetologist**

n  
/ kəzmə'täləjəst /  
Gk

one who gives beauty treatments (as to skin and hair).

*Mrs. Shelton worked for 22 years as a cosmetologist at Belk's Department Store.*

**cosmic**

adj  
/ 'kəzmik /  
Gk

of, from, or relating to the extraterrestrial vastness in contrast to Earth alone.

*In his spare time Steven likes to read science fiction tales of cosmic exploration.*

**cosmozoic**

**cossette**

n  
/ kə'set /  
F

[has homonyms: cassette, cosset] a strip or slice (as of sugar beet or potato) : chip.

*Each cossette was dropped in very hot fat for browning and then moved to a lower temperature for final cooking.*

**costliness**

**costume**

n  
/ 'kə.st(y)üm /  
L > It > F

the distinctive dress of a particular period, locality, or occupation worn in the drama or for festivals.

*During the intermission the tenor had to change into another costume.*

**costumery**

**cotehardie**

**cottage**

**cottonseed**

**couac**

**couchette**

**coulomb**

n  
/ 'kü.läm /  
F name

the practical meter-kilogram-second unit of electric charge equal to the quantity of electricity transferred by a current of 1 ampere in 1 second.

*Jenna found that 1 coulomb of electricity changed the potential between two plates of a capacitor by 1 volt.*

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**coulombs**

n pl  
/ 'kü.lämz /

F name

units of electric charge equal to the quantity of electricity transferred by a current of one ampere in one second.

*An ordinary flashlight battery delivers a current that provides a total charge flow of approximately 5,000 coulombs.*

**council**

**counselee**

**counterfeiter**

n  
/ 'kaüntə(r).fidə(r) /  
L > F > E

one that forges or makes fraudulent imitations of current money.  
*Special paper, ink, and watermarks are used for making currency to foil the counterfeiter.*

**counterinsurgency**

**counterpoise**

**counterspy**

**country**

**countryfolk**

**coupe**

**coupling**

**courage**

n  
/ 'kəriʃ /  
L > F > E

mental or moral strength enabling one to venture, persevere, and withstand danger, fear, or difficulty firmly and resolutely.  
*The boys argued about whether the crocodile hunter showed true courage or just foolhardiness.*

**courageous**

**courser**

n  
/ 'kōrsər /  
F > E

[has homonym: coarser] a swift or spirited horse : war-horse.  
*The foaming courser threw his rider headlong to the ground.*

**courtesy**

**courtier**

n  
/ 'kōrdēər /  
F > E

a gentleman attendant of a sovereign's residence or establishment.  
*Travis will perform the part of the king's courtier in the play.*

**courtliness**

**courtly**

adj  
/ 'kōrtlē /  
L > F > E  
marked by highbred polish, stateliness, and ceremony.  
*Lord Darnley removed his feathered hat and addressed the queen with a courtly bow.*

**coutil**

**couturier**

**couturiere**

n  
/ kü'türē.e(ə)r /  
F

[Note: Could be confused with unisex couturier.] a female proprietor of or designer for an establishment engaged in designing, making, and selling fashionable expensive custom-made women's clothing.  
*The couturiere Coco Chanel is considered by many to be the 20th century's single most important arbiter of fashion.*

**couvade**

**coverlet**

n  
/ 'kəvə(r)lēt /  
L > F > E

a bedspread sometimes quilted or of heavy material.  
*Kasey drew the coverlet up to her neck to seek relief in the drafty room.*

**covert**

**covet**

**covetous**

**covinous**

**cowardly**

**cowed**

v  
/ 'kaüd /  
E  
intimidated with threats, show of strength, or impressiveness : spirited into inactivity or submission.  
*The cowed convicts did not dare to antagonize the vengeful guards.*

**cowhide**

**cowl**

n  
/ 'kaül /  
Celt? > L > E  
a hood especially of a monk.  
*At the monastery Sheila was greeted by a man wearing the long brown robe and cowl of a friar.*

**cowling**

**cozen**

**cozening**

**crabby**

adj  
/ 'krabē /  
E  
cross, churlish, ill-natured.  
*The crabby driver did not allow any talking on the school bus.*

**crackleware**

**cracknel**

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**cradled**

**craftiness**

**craftsman**

**crag**

n  
/ 'krag /  
Celt > E

a rough broken cliff or projecting point of rock.

*A favorite children's movie begins and ends with the king of beasts standing on a crag, overlooking his kingdom.*

**crambo**

**cranberry**

**cranially**

**cranoscopy**

n  
/ .krānē'āskəpē /  
Gk > L + Gk > L  
observations on or examination of the human skull.

*The team's physician advised a cranoscopy for the batter who had been beamed by a wild pitch.*

**cranium**

n  
/ 'krānēəm /  
Gk > L

the part of the skull that encloses the brain.

*The carelessly tossed book encountered Zelda's cranium with a thud.*

**crassitude**

**crater**

n  
/ 'krādə(r) /  
Gk

any of thousands of formations on the lunar surface ranging in size from small pocks less than a mile in diameter to walled plains nearly 150 miles across.

*Buzz set down the lunar lander just beyond the rim of a huge crater.*

**cratered**

**cravat**

n  
/ krə'vat /  
G or Serbo-Croatian > F  
a band or scarf of fine cloth worn around the neck : necktie.  
*The flamboyant poet showed up for the interview wearing a cravat over a tie-dyed T-shirt.*

**crayon**

**creaking**

**creamery**

**credence**

**creditable**

**creditor**

**credo**

n  
/ 'krē(,)dō /  
L  
a confession of faith said or sung in Christian liturgies.  
*Bach's B Minor Mass contains a famous credo.*

**creedmore**

**creepage**

n  
/ 'krēpij /  
E  
the slow spreading or movement of a substance.

*The creepage of rust across the bumper betrayed the car's age.*

**crenature**

**crepitate**

**crept**

v  
/ 'krept /  
E  
entered stealthily and secretly.  
*Mary crept softly across the room to look.*

**crestfallen**

adj  
/ 'krest.fələn /  
L > F > E + E  
marked by a sense of personal defeat : dispirited, dejected.  
*Margaret was crestfallen when she got only a C on her essay.*

**cretify**

**cretin**

**crevice**

n  
/ 'krevəs /  
L > F > E  
a narrow opening of some depth caused especially by a split.  
*The hiker's compass fell into a crevice in the rock and will probably never be seen again.*

**crew**

**cricket**

n  
/ 'krikət /  
F imit  
any of certain leaping insects that are also noted for the chirping notes produced by the males.  
*The male cricket produces sound by rubbing together parts of the fore wings.*

**crickety**

**criminal**

**criminologist**

n  
/ .krimə'näləjəst /  
L  
one that specializes in the scientific study of crime as a social phenomenon, of criminal investigation, of criminals, and of penal treatment.  
*Nicole asked her guidance counselor if she needed an advanced degree to be a criminologist.*

**crinal**

**crinet**

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**cringing**

adj  
/ 'krinjɪŋ /  
E

that shrinks in fear or servility.  
*Cringing at the sight of the bear in the distance, the children gathered their courage and backed slowly toward their car.*

**crinkle**

**crinkly**

**criollo**

n  
/ krē'ol(y)ō /  
Sp

[Note: Could be confused with feminine form criolla.] a person of pure Spanish descent born in Spanish America.  
*The anthropologist noted in her report that only one criollo answered her genealogical survey.*

**crispation**

n  
/ kri'spāshən /  
L + Ecf

the act or process of curling : the state of being curled.  
*Al pointed out the crispation of the leaves on the infested plant.*

**crisscross**

**criterion**

**crith**

n  
/ 'krith /  
Gk  
the weight of a liter of hydrogen at 0 degrees Celsius and 760 millimeters pressure (0.08987 gram).  
*As a unit of mass, the crith was a precursor to the mole.*

**crocheted**

**crocheter**

**crocodile**

**crocodilian**

adj  
/ ,kräkə'dilēən /  
Gk > L  
false, insincere.  
*Claire's crocodilian grief over the death of her brother's pet snake did not fool anyone.*

**crocuses**

n pl  
/ 'krōkəsəz /  
Semitic > Gk > L  
bulbs, plants, or flowers of the genus *Crocus*.  
*Crocuses were peeking through the snow in the Goulds' yard.*

**crooked**

**croquembouche**

n  
/ krökə'būsh /  
F  
a cone-shaped stack of cream puffs coated with caramelized sugar.  
*A croquembouche is a traditional type of French wedding cake.*

**crossbow**

n  
/ 'krōs.bō /  
E  
a weapon having a short bow mounted crosswise that fires an arrow lying in a groove in the stock.  
*The crossbow was a particular favorite of the weaponsmaster.*

**crosswind**

n  
/ 'krōs.wind /  
ON or Old Ir > E + E  
a wind blowing in any direction not parallel to a course.  
*A strong crosswind made it difficult for Carla to land her Cessna 150.*

**crotalic**

**crotalid**

adj  
/ 'krōd'ləd /  
Gk > L  
typical of a pit viper.  
*Crotalid venom, while not usually fatal, can cause severe discomfort.*

**croupon**

**crowd**

n  
/ 'kraüd /  
E  
a large number of persons especially when collected into a somewhat compact body without order : throng.  
*The crowd on the football field chanted, "We're number one!"*

**crucially**

**cruciform**

adj  
/ 'krüsəfōrm /  
L + Ecf  
forming or arranged in a cross.  
*The cruciform blossom of the dogwood has inspired a well-known legend.*

**cruciverbalist**

n  
/ krüsəvərbəlist /  
L  
a person skillful in creating or solving crossword puzzles.  
*Angela was named Cruciverbalist of the Month by her crossword club.*

**cruel**

adj  
/ 'krüəl /  
L > F > E  
[has homonym: crewel] stern, rigorous, and grim.  
*The cruel reality is that Justin will be expelled for his wrongdoing regardless of how remorseful he is.*

**cruelly**

**cruise**

**crumpet**

n  
/ 'krämpət /  
E?  
a small round cake made of rich unsweetened batter cooked on a griddle and usually served split and toasted.  
*Pierre thinks no English crumpet can hold a candle to a delicious French croissant.*

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**crushable**

**crutch**

**cryogenics**

**cryonics**

n pl  
/ krī'āniks /  
Gk

the practice of freezing a dead diseased human being in hopes of restoring life at some future time when a cure for the disease has been developed.

*The premise of Rudolph's movie script involved an experiment in cryonics gone awry.*

**crypt**

**cryptanalysis**

n  
/ .kriptə'naləsəs /  
Gk

the theory of solving writing that is in cipher or code : the art of devising methods for such solving.  
*Through cryptanalysis the Allies were able to decode the enemy's secret messages.*

**cryptogenic**

**cryptophyte**

**crystallize**

**ctetology**

**cub**

n  
/ 'kəb /  
unknown

a young person; especially : an awkward or ill-mannered boy.  
*Mr. Downes called every student that passed through his classroom a "young cub."*

**cubature**

**cubit**

n  
/ 'kyübət /  
L

any of various ancient units of length based on the length of the forearm from the elbow to the tip of the middle finger and usually equal to about 18 inches.  
*Helen couldn't understand why more things weren't measured by the cubit, since it was a readily available measure.*

**cubomancy**

**cucumber**

**cuerda**

n  
/ 'kwɜrdə /  
Gk > L > Sp  
a Puerto Rican unit of land measure equal to 0.97 acre.  
*Raul farmed a small patch of land—less than a cuerda—during the off season.*

**cuisine**

n  
/ kwə'zēn /  
L > F  
manner of preparing food : style of cooking.  
*Jackie traveled to Lyons to take a two-week course in French cuisine.*

**culicide**

n  
/ 'kyüləsīd /  
L

a substance that destroys mosquitoes.  
*The town's inhabitants were advised to stay indoors for two hours after the culicide was sprayed.*

**culicidologist**

**culottes**

n pl  
/ 'k(y)ü.läts /  
F  
a garment having a divided skirt.  
*When bell-bottom jeans came back into style, Janine was afraid that culottes would, too.*

**culpability**

**culver**

**culvert**

n  
/ 'kəlvə(r)t /  
unknown  
a transverse waterway (as under a road, railroad, or canal).  
*Gina's cat ran from the dog and hid in the culvert for several hours.*

**culvertage**

**cumulocirrus**

n  
/ .kyümyə(,)lō'sirəs /  
L  
a small billowy cloud form found at high altitudes and characterized by a white delicacy.  
*Denny's plane flew through a cumulocirrus that looked just like cotton candy.*

**cuneate**

adj  
/ 'kyünē.āt /  
L  
shaped like a wedge : narrowly triangular with the acute angle toward the base.  
*The forest floor was a strange mix of pine needles and cuneate leaves.*

**cunette**

**cunning**

**cupcake**

**cupola**

**curarize**

**curassow**

**curette**

**curia**

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**curie**

n  
/ 'kyūrē /  
F name  
a unit of radioactivity equal to 37 billion disintegrations per second.  
*While studying nuclear engineering, Melissa learned to use the curie to quantify radioactive decay.*

**curiosity**

n  
/ .kyūrē'āsədē /  
L  
a desire to know.  
*The locked box aroused immense curiosity in Maxine.*

**curmudgeonly**

**curricule**

**cursorial**

adj  
/ .kər'sōrēəl /  
L  
having limbs adapted to running.  
*Horses, zebras, and other members of the genus Equus are cursorial mammals.*

**curtail**

v  
/ .kər'tāl /  
L > F > E  
shorten in duration or scope :  
abridge, reduce.  
*The students were warned their grades would be affected if they didn't curtail their extracurricular activities.*

**cushioned**

v  
/ 'kūshənd /  
L > F > E  
provided or equipped with a pad or pads.  
*Gil and Terry cushioned the hard wooden train seats with their coats.*

**cuticolor**

**cutigeral**

adj  
/ kyū'tijərəl /  
L + L  
bearing skin.  
*Starbuck was limping because of the infection in the cutigeral cavity of his left front hoof.*

**cutlery**

**cyanide**

n  
/ 'sīənīd /  
Gk + ISVcf  
a compound of cyanogen usually with a more electropositive element or radical.  
*Ions of cyanide are extremely toxic because they bind almost irreversibly with cytochrome oxidase, a key enzyme in metabolic processes.*

**cyanophilous**

**cyclamate**

**cyclometer**

n  
/ sī'klāmədə(r) /  
Gk + Gk  
a contrivance for recording the revolutions of a wheel and often used for registering distance traversed by a wheeled vehicle.  
*Just for fun, Chris attached a cyclometer to his daughter's tricycle.*

**cyclorama**

n  
/ .sīklə'rāmə /  
Gk + Gk  
a curved curtain or wall used as a background of a stage set to suggest unlimited space.  
*The cyclorama provided the illusion of being in a huge ballroom.*

**cyclothymia**

**cymbal**

n  
/ 'sɪmbəl /  
Gk > L > F > E  
[has homonym: symbol] a large concave brass plate producing a brilliant clashing tone of indefinite pitch.  
*The percussionist grimaced after he struck the cymbal at the wrong time.*

**cymbalist**

**cymbiform**

adj  
/ 'sɪmbəfɔrm /  
Gk > L + Lcf  
boat-shaped.  
*While discussing the skeletal system, Mr. Gray called the students' attention to a small cymbiform bone in the wrist.*

**cynical**

**cynicism**

n  
/ 'sɪnəsɪzəm /  
Gk  
the quality or state of being prone to faultfinding.  
*Tom's cynicism has become tiresome to all his friends.*

**cynodont**

**cyrillic**

adj  
/ sə'rɪlɪk /  
Slavic name  
constituting or written in the alphabet used for Russian and many other Slavic languages.  
*Sven puzzled over the cyrillic writing on the Moscow subway station sign.*

**cytologist**

**cytolysis**

n  
/ sɪ'tələsəs /  
Gk  
the dissolution or disintegration of cells.  
*The researchers experimented with various chemicals to bring about the cytolysis of tumor cells.*

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**cytoplasm**

**dabbing**

**dabblingly**

**dactyl**

**dactylic**

adj  
/ dak'tilik /  
Gk

of or consisting of a metrical foot of three syllables, the first being stressed and the last two being unstressed.

*Homer's two epics are written in dactylic meter.*

**dactylion**

n  
/ dak'tilēän /  
Gk

the tip of the middle finger.

*As Ruth was restitching a seam, she ran the sewing machine needle through the dactylion of her left hand.*

**daft**

**dagger**

**daguerreotypes**

n pl  
/ də'gerətīps /  
F name + Gk > F

photographs produced on a silver plate or silver-covered copper plate.

*Ike treasured the daguerreotypes of his great grandparents.*

**dailiness**

**dainty**

**dairy**

**Dallas**

adj  
/ 'daləs /

Am geog name  
of or from the city of Dallas, Texas.  
*Sue could not find a winter parka in any of the Dallas stores.*

**Daltonism**

n  
/ 'dɒlt'nɪzəm /  
E name

red-green color blindness, named after John Dalton, who first detailed a description of color blindness from which he and his brother suffered.

*Danny's parents didn't realize that he suffered from Daltonism until he attended pre-school.*

**damascened**

adj  
/ 'daməsēnd /

Syrian geog name > Gk > L  
decorated with inlaid work of precious metals.

*Francine admired the delicate scrollwork on the damascened chest in the Museum of Decorative Arts.*

**dampproof**

**damson**

**danceable**

adj  
/ 'dan(t)səbəl /  
L? > F > E + Ecf  
suitable for dancing.

*When a danceable song began playing, Lars asked Anita if she knew how to waltz.*

**dandruff**

**dandruffy**

**dank**

**dansant**

n  
/ də'sänt /  
L? > F

an informal or small dance.

*Sally's friends held a dansant in her honor before her departure for China.*

**Daphnean**

adj  
/ 'dɒfnēən /  
Gk

shy, bashful.

*Sally's Daphnean personality causes her to look away from the camera whenever her picture is being taken.*

**dapperling**

**darcy**

n  
/ 'därsē /  
F name

a unit of porous permeability in physics.

*Geologists use the darcy as a measure of how easily water will permeate a given type of rock.*

**daresay**

**Darjeeling**

n  
/ dār'jēliŋ /  
Beng geog name

high quality tea grown especially in northern India.

*Anthony's mother always purchased her Darjeeling from an importer in Chicago.*

**darken**

**darkle**

v  
/ 'därkəl /  
E

grow dark : fade into darkness.

*Agnes watched the last bright-colored daylight darkle slowly against the hills.*

**darkness**

n  
/ 'därknəs /  
E

the absence in whole or in part of light.

*Mia fumbled in the darkness of the cave to replace the failing flashlight batteries with new ones.*

**darnel**

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**dasyure**

n  
/ 'dasē.yū(ə)r /  
Gk > L

an arboreal carnivorous marsupial of Australia and Tasmania that somewhat resembles a weasel.  
*The spotted-tailed dasyure is commonly known in Australia as the tiger cat.*

**dative**

adj  
/ 'dādiv /  
L

of chemical bonds : formed by contribution of a pair of electrons by one atom.  
*Although the properties of a dative bond do not differ from those of a normal covalent bond, in which each atom contributes an electron, the distinction is useful for keeping track of valence electrons.*

**daubster**

**daughter**

**daven**

v  
/ 'dävən /  
Yiddish

recite the prescribed prayers in the daily and festival Jewish liturgies.  
*Shmuel watched his father daven and tried to copy him exactly.*

**davenport**

**davit**

**dawn**

v  
/ 'dɔn /  
E

begin to grow light in the morning.  
*Every night Delia thanked God for her good fortune and prayed that she be able to watch the next day dawn.*

**dawned**

**daze**

**dazzlement**

n  
/ 'dazəlmənt /  
ON > E

the action of impressing or exciting admiration by being brilliant and splendid.  
*The dazzlement of the Paris fashion show left Suzette speechless and wide-eyed.*

**deadline**

**deaceration**

n  
/ .dēa(ə)'rāshən /  
L + Gk > L

the act or process of removing air or gas (as oxygen) from something.  
*The packaging company reduces the volume of powders by deaceration before they are put into bags.*

**dealkalize**

**deathin**

**deathwatch**

**debauch**

**debellation**

n  
/ .dābə'lādē.ō /  
L

complete subjugation of a belligerent nation usually involving loss of sovereignty.  
*The Punic Wars ended with the Roman debellatio of Carthage.*

**debellation**

**debilitate**

**debilitated**

v  
/ dā'bīlə.tādād /  
L

impaired the strength of : weakened, enfeebled.  
*Disease had so debilitated Kate's sister that she required constant care in a nursing home.*

**debouchure**

**debt**

**debtor**

**deburr**

**decadal**

**decadence**

n  
/ 'dekədən(t)s /  
L

[has homonym: decadents] the quality or state of being marked by decay or decline (as from an earlier condition of excellence or vitality).  
*The family mansion's decadence is an embarrassment to Clarissa.*

**decahydrate**

**decalage**

**decalcomania**

n  
/ (.)dē.kalkə'mānēə /  
L > F + Gk > L > F

the art or process of transferring pictures and designs typically from specially prepared paper to china, glass, or marble and permanently fixing them thereto.

*Most tourist centers use decalcomania to turn cheap china and glass into expensive souvenirs.*

**decamorous**

adj  
/ dā'kamərəs /  
Gk + Gk

having ten parts or divisions—usually used of a flower.

*Nelson chose only decamorous flowers for his girlfriend's bouquet.*

**decapitation**

**decathlon**

n  
/ dā'kath.län /  
Gk

a ten-event athletic contest.

*The motivational speaker Bruce Jenner is famous for having won a gold medal in the 1976 Olympic Games decathlon.*

**deceased**

**decency**

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**decennary**

n  
/ də'senərē /

L  
period of ten years.  
*Peace was finally restored after a decennary of unrest.*

**decent**

**deciare**

**deciliter**

n  
/ 'desə.lēdər /  
L > F + Gk > L > F  
a metric unit of capacity equal to 1/10 liter.  
*At fashionable Paris boutiques, some brands of perfume are sold by the deciliter.*

**deciphering**

**decision**

**declarative**

**declare**

**declination**

n  
/ .deklə'nāshən /  
L  
angular distance from the celestial equator measured along a great circle passing through the celestial poles.  
*Declination and right ascension together define the position of an object in the sky.*

**declivity**

**decolletage**

**decorate**

**decorative**

**decorum**

**decrease**

**decrement**

n  
/ 'dekrəmənt /  
L  
the act or process of gradually becoming less : decrease.  
*The game warden explained that a deer herd suffers no decrement if the legal hunting take is not permitted to exceed 20 percent of the total herd.*

**decrepit**

**decrepitude**  
n  
/ də'krepat(y)üd /  
L > F  
a state of decay, ruin, or dilapidation.  
*Far from falling into decrepitude, the town was on a spree of building construction.*

**decryptograph**

**decubital**

**decubitus**

**decumary**

**decumbent**

**dedicate**

**dedimus**  
n  
/ 'dedēməs /  
L  
a writ giving a private person permission to act as a judge.  
*In the course of her legal studies, Anna found only five instances of the issuance of a dedimus.*

**deduce**

v  
/ də'd(y)üs /  
L  
derive by logical process.  
*From the tracks and the spoor, Tule was able to deduce that the elephants left the watering hole when the lions arrived.*

**deducible**

**deem**

v  
/ 'dēm /  
E  
[has homonym: deme] come to view, judge, or classify after some consideration.  
*Robert was frustrated that his trainer did not deem him ready for the fight.*

**deerstalker**

n  
/ 'di(ə)r, stökə(r) /  
E + E  
a close-fitting cap with a visor at the front and the back and with earflaps that may be tied up or down.  
*Sherlock Holmes without his deerstalker and pipe? Seems sacrilegious, doesn't it?*

**deet**

**defalcation**

n  
/ (i)dē.fal'kāshən /  
L  
misappropriation of money in one's keeping.  
*The treasurer was charged with defalcation when it was learned that he was diverting funds for his personal use.*

**defamation**

n  
/ .defə'māshən /  
L > F  
the act of harming another's reputation by any slanderous communication.  
*The corporation sued the journalist for defamation, claiming lost business as a result of his article.*

**defective**

**defensible**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**deference**

n  
/ 'def(ə)rən(t)s /  
L  
a yielding of judgment or preference out of respect for the position, wish, or known opinion of another.  
*Special hunting and fishing rights are given to Alaskan natives in deference to their tribal traditions.*

**defiantly**

adv  
/ də'fiəntlē /  
L > F  
in a bold, insolent, or unafraid manner.  
*Though she had been grounded, Vera defiantly rode to the bowling alley on her bicycle.*

**deflagrate**

**deflationary**

**deflead**

**deflocculate**

**defoliant**

**defunct**

adj  
/ də'fʌŋ(k)t /  
L  
having finished the course of life or existence : dead, deceased, extinct.  
*The advent of the pocket calculator made the mechanical adding machine defunct.*

**degerminate**

**deglaciation**

n  
/ .dē.ɡlās(h)ē'āshən /  
L  
the process whereby a glacier or ice sheet shrinks to disappearance.  
*The deglaciation period at the end of the Ice Age lasted for several years.*

**degrade**

**degustator**

**dehumidify**

**dehydration**

**deixis**

n  
/ 'dīksəs /  
Gk  
the specifying action of some words (as definite articles and demonstrative pronouns).  
*An example of deixis is the word there in the sentence "I left the car over there."*

**dejectedly**

adv  
/ də'jektədlē /  
L  
in a depressed manner : sadly.  
*"It seems to me that almost everything is a waste of time," he remarked one day as he walked dejectedly home from school.*

**delaine**

n  
/ də'lān /  
L > F  
a lightweight dress fabric of wool or wool and cotton.  
*Sarah chose to make her sundress out of a floral print delaine.*

**delator**

**deliberate**

v  
/ də'libərət /  
L  
ponder or think about with measured careful consideration.  
*Speed chess rewards the player who needs little time to deliberate.*

**delicate**

**delineation**

n  
/ də'linē'āshən /  
L  
accurate and precise graphic representation as distinguished from that which is careless or sketchy as to details.  
*The architect presented Ruth and Bob with a delineation of the house plan.*

**deliquesces**

**delirium**

**deltahedron**

**deluginous**

**delusory**

**delved**

v  
/ 'delvd /  
E  
dug into : explored by or as if by digging.  
*As an amateur archaeologist, Vernon delved into many creek beds for artifacts.*

**demagogy**

**demantoid**

**demarche**

n  
/ də'mārsh /  
F  
course of action : maneuver.  
*With his approval ratings plummeting, the leader wondered what demarche would be the most effective.*

**demerit**

**demesmerize**

**demiurge**

n  
/ 'demē.ərj /  
Gk > L  
something (as an institution, idea, or individual) conceived as an autonomous creative force or decisive power.  
*It is surprising how many people tend to regard a computer as a demiurge.*

**demonstration**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**demotic**

adj  
/ də'mädik /  
Gk

of, belonging to, or connected with the form of Modern Greek that is based on colloquial use.  
*Everyone in Callista's ancestral village spoke demotic Greek except the priest, who usually spoke a more classical form of the language.*

**demure**

adj  
/ də'myü(ə)r /  
F? > E

marked by quiet modesty, sedate reserve, restraint, or sobriety : retiring, shy.  
*Sondra's classmates mistook her demure conduct for standoffishness.*

**dendrochronology**

n  
/ den(,)drökrə'näləjē /  
Gk

the science of dating events, intervals of time, and variations in environment in former periods by study of the sequence of and differences between rings of growth in trees and aged wood.  
*Jennifer's biology class attempted to use dendrochronology to chart climactic changes.*

**dendrologist**

n  
/ den'dräləjəst /  
Gk

a specialist in the study of trees.  
*The dendrologist decried the continuing deforestation of the rain forests.*

**denier**

n  
/ də'ni(ə)r /  
L > F > E

a unit of fineness for silk, rayon, or nylon yarn equal to the fineness of a yarn weighing 0.05 gram for each 450 meters of length.  
*Silk is usually quite strong, resisting breakage even when subjected to weights of about 4 grams per denier.*

**denigration**

n  
/ denə'grāshən /  
L

a sully of reputation or character.  
*The candidate's denigration of her opponent backfired in the election.*

**denigratory**

**denim**

**denticulate**

adj  
/ den'tikyə.lāt /  
L

having small teeth : covered with small pointed projections.  
*The archaeologist unearthed a denticulate tool that early humans used for shredding food.*

**dentist**

n  
/ 'dentəst /  
L > F

one whose profession it is to treat diseases of the teeth and associated tissues.  
*Mrs. Caleb asked the dentist to remove her sweet tooth.*

**denunciate**

**deodorant**

adj  
/ də'ödərənt /  
L + L + Ecf

destroying or masking offensive smells.  
*Penny used a deodorant carpet cleaner to get rid of the dog smell in the apartment.*

**depauperate**

**depiction**

**depilant**

**deplensh**

**deplorable**

**deposit**

**depot**

**depravity**

n  
/ də'pravədē /  
L > F > E

the quality or state of being marked by debasement, corruption, perversion, or deterioration.  
*The young man spent his college years making a concentrated study of depravity.*

**depreciate**

**depredation**

**depressant**

**depression**

n  
/ də'presshən /  
L  
a region of low barometric pressure surrounded by higher pressures.  
*The size of a depression can vary from a few hundred feet in a tornado to several hundred miles in a tropical cyclone.*

**deprivation**

n  
/ .deprə'vāshən /  
L

the act of taking away.  
*Earl suffered some brain damage as a result of oxygen deprivation.*

**depth**

**deputize**

**derby**

n  
/ 'dərbē /

E name  
a stiff felt hat with a dome-shaped crown and a rather narrow somewhat rolled brim—called also “bowler.”  
*Alfred wore his new suit and high-crowned derby to the horse race.*

**derisible**

adj  
/ də'rizəbəl /  
L

worthy of ridicule, mockery, or scorn.  
*Fans were appalled at the boxer's derisible behavior in the ring.*

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**derisively**

**derivation**

**dermabrasion**

**dermal**

adj

/ 'dɜrməl /

Gk

of or relating to skin, especially to the dermis : cutaneous.

*Various reptiles have small bones or concretions within their skin called "dermal ossicles."*

**dermatoglyphics**

**dermatology**

n

/ .dɜrmə'täləjē /

Gk + Gk

a branch of science that is concerned with the skin, its structure, functions, and diseases.  
*The cosmetics company employed only individuals knowledgeable in dermatology to assist in its laboratory.*

**dermatophyte**

n

/ (.)dɜr'madə'fīt /

Gk + Gk

a fungus parasitic upon the skin or skin derivatives (as hair or nails) of humans or lower animals.

*The skin disease ringworm is caused by a dermatophyte.*

**derogation**

n

/ .dɜrə'gāshən /

L

disparagement : detriment.

*While the word childlike is usually used in a favorable sense, the word childish is usually used in derogation.*

**derogative**

**dervish**

n

/ 'dɜrvɪʃ /

Per > Turk

a Muslim monk who performs certain devotional exercises such as concerted movements leading to a trance or ecstasy.

*The dancing dervish moved from side to side as he chanted his prayers.*

**desacralize**

v

/ dɛ'sākɹə.līz /

L

divest ceremonially of supernatural qualities or a taboo and render nonsacred.

*The reformers wanted to desacralize much of the church's traditional liturgy.*

**descending**

adj

/ .dɛ'sendɪŋ /

L + L + Ecf

moving or directed downward.

*The principal listed the amounts contributed by the classes in descending order.*

**descriptive**

**descrip**

**deseccration**

n

/ .dɛsə'krāshən /

L

the act or an instance of violating the sanctity of something by diverting from sacred purpose, by contaminating, or by defiling.

*Congress debated a bill to ban the deseccration of the American flag.*

**desert**

**desertification**

n

/ dɛ.zɜrdə'fə'kāshən /

L

the process of becoming arid land or desert.

*Environmentalists warn that significant portions of the United States could undergo desertification if there is a marked climate change.*

**desiccant**

n

/ 'dɛsəkənt /

L

a drying agent (as sulfuric acid, silica gel).

*The desiccant packed with Vern's camera lens bears the warning "Do Not Eat."*

**desideratum**

n

/ dɛ.sɪdə'rādəm /

L

something that is sought for or aimed at.

*A traditional Roman desideratum was "a sound mind in a sound body."*

**designate**

**desinence**

**desipient**

**desirous**

**desperately**

adv

/ 'dɛsp(ə)rətlē /

L

with an intensified or all-out last-ditch effort in refusing to give up a struggle or purpose.

*Firefighters tried desperately to rescue every person in the burning house.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**despondent**

adj  
/ də'spɒndənt /  
L  
discouraged, dejected, or depressed.  
*Elizabeth tried earnestly to keep her ailing brother from becoming despondent.*

**despondently**

adv  
/ də'spɒndəntli /  
L  
in an extremely discouraged, dejected, or depressed manner.  
*After he was laid off, Larry despondently searched the "Help Wanted" section of the classified ads.*

**despot**

**despotic**

**dessert**

**dessertspoonful**

n  
/ də'zɜ:t.spʊnfʊl /  
L > F + E  
a unit of measure equal to about 2½ fluidrams.  
*Paige's secret recipe calls for a dessertspoonful of almond extract.*

**destination**

n  
/ destə'nɛʃən /  
L  
a place which is set for the end of a journey or to which something is sent.  
*The newest game show gives amateur travelers an itinerary every day but no sense of their final destination.*

**destitute**

adj  
/ 'destə.ti:t /  
L  
lacking possessions and resources; especially : lacking the necessities of life.  
*The tornado left many families absolutely destitute.*

**destitution**

**desultor**

**detach**

**détente**

**deteriorable**

**determinant**

**determine**

v  
/ də'tɜ:mən /  
L > F > E  
come to a decision about by investigation or reasoning.  
*Ross's attempts to determine who his parents are were stymied by a fire that burned all the records.*

**deters**

v  
/ də'tɜ:z /  
L  
turns aside, discourages, or prevents from acting by fear or consideration of dangerous circumstances.  
*Nothing deters a good man from doing what is honorable.*

**detestable**

adj  
/ də'testəbəl /  
L  
very odious : deserving abhorrence.  
*Manners that are passable in youth are detestable in later age.*

**detract**

**detrimental**

adj  
/ .detrə'mentl /  
L + Ecf  
harmful, damaging.  
*There is little doubt that smoking is detrimental to one's health.*

**deuterogamy**

n  
/ .d(y)üdə'rægəmē /  
Gk  
a legal second marriage after the termination of a first marriage.  
*After Gordon's wife passed away, he expressed his opinion that a deuterogamy was out of the question.*

**devastavit**

**developer**

**devious**

**devise**

v  
/ də'vi:z /  
L > F > E  
formulate by thought : contrive, invent.  
*It is possible to devise motors much smaller than the head of a pin with microtechnology.*

**devoid**

**devoir**

**devour**

**devouring**

v  
/ də'vaü(ə)riŋ /  
L > F > E  
eating up with greediness : consuming ravenously.  
*The squirrels are devouring the seeds meant for the birds.*

**dewdrop**

n  
/ 'd(y)ü.dräp /  
E + E  
a drop of moisture condensed upon a cool surface, especially at night.  
*The bird put his tiny head on one side and looked up at him with his soft bright eye which was like a black dewdrop.*

**dewfall**

n  
/ 'd(y)ü.fəl /  
E + E  
the amount of moisture deposited as dew during one period.  
*The dewfall quickly evaporated as the Sun rose.*

**dextral**

adj  
/ 'dekstrəl /  
L  
right-handed.  
*Little Lucas kept trying to use dextral scissors with his left hand but was always frustrated.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**diabolical**

**diacritic**

**diacritical**

**diadromous**

**diagnosis**

n  
/ ˌdīəgˈnōsəs /  
Gk

investigation or analysis of the cause or nature of a condition, situation, or problem.

*After the doctor's grim diagnosis, Harvey's family went looking for a second opinion.*

**diagrammatic**

adj  
/ ˌdīəgrəˈmɑːk /  
Gk

being or relating to a drawing that shows arrangement and relations (as of parts to a whole, origins and development, chronological fluctuations).

*A family tree is a diagrammatic representation of the various relationships in a family.*

**dialectic**

**dialectician**

**diamond**

**dianoia**

**diapasons**

**diaper**

**diaphoresis**

n  
/ ˌdīəfəˈrēsəs /  
Gk

perspiration.

*Dr. Grady explained that Simon's diaphoresis was one of the symptoms of his high blood pressure.*

**diastole**

**diastrophe**

n  
/ dīˈastrəfē /  
Gk

a deformation of Earth's crust.

*Part of Anita's master's thesis in geology deals with the different causes of diastrophe.*

**diatessaron**

n  
/ dīəˈtesərən /  
Gk

the interval of a fourth in ancient Greek music.

*While practicing with her high school choir for the Classics Festival, Louise had problems singing the diatessaron in her solo correctly.*

**diathermy**

**diatom**

n  
/ dīəˈtām /  
Gk

any of the unicellular or colonial algae having a silicified cell wall that persists as a skeleton after death and forming a large part of the plankton of both fresh and salt water.

*Griff examined the diatom through the microscope and drew a quick sketch of it in his lab notebook.*

**diatomaceous**

**diatonic**

**diazepam**

n  
/ dīˈazəpəm /  
ISV + unknown

a synthetic tranquilizer used especially to relieve anxiety and tension and as a muscle relaxant.

*The patient's seizure subsided after treatment with diazepam.*

**dicey**

**dichondra**

n  
/ dīˈkändrə /  
Gk

a chiefly tropical perennial herb with tiny leaves and flowers that is commonly used as a ground cover in the southern United States.

*Mr. Dupree doesn't like to mow, so he planted his yard with dichondra instead of grass.*

**dichotomous**

**Dickensian**

adj  
/ dīˈkɛn(t)sēən /  
E name

characteristic of or having the qualities of the writings of Charles Dickens with respect to humor and pathos in the portrayal of character types.

*The Dickensian slums of London were perfectly portrayed in the television movie.*

**dictator**

**diction**

**dictum**

**dieffenbachia**

**diener**

**dieseling**

**dieter**

**difference**

**differentiable**

**differentials**

**differentiate**

v  
/ dīfəˈrɛnchēˌāt /  
L

express the specific difference of.  
*The order of red and yellow stripes helps differentiate deadly coral snakes from benign species.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**diffraction**

n  
/ dā'frakshən /  
L

a modification which light undergoes in passing by the edges of opaque bodies or through narrow slits in which the rays appear to be deflected and produce fringes of parallel light and dark or colored bands.

*One consequence of diffraction is that sharp shadows are not produced.*

**diffractometer**

n  
/ di.frak'tämədə(r) /  
L + Ecf + Gk

an instrument for measuring the diameters of small particles in a microscope field by means of the diffraction rings which appear to surround them.

*Lance used a diffractometer to measure particles collected in the air filter.*

**diffuser**

n  
/ dā'fyüzə(r) /  
L

a device to distribute the light from a concentrated source uniformly.

*To replace the burnt-out bulb, Adam had to remove the diffuser from the light.*

**diffusion**

n  
/ dā'fyūzhən /  
L

spreading, dispersion.

*Dr. Packman is investigating the effect of temperature on the diffusion of light in various crystals.*

**digest**

v  
/ di'jest /  
L

[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.]  
appropriate or assimilate mentally.  
*The teacher told James that she found it difficult to digest the main idea of his recent essay.*

**digit**

**diglossia**

**dignified**

**digoneutic**

**digression**

n  
/ di'greshən /  
L

the act of turning aside from the main subject of attention in a discourse or literary work.

*Lou felt that they were wandering from the point, and that in digression Alexandra might unnerve him.*

**dihedral**

adj  
/ di'hēdrəl /  
Gk + Gk

having or formed by two plane faces.

*The dihedral angles in a cube measure 90 degrees.*

**dijudicate**

v  
/ di'jüdäkāt /  
L

make a judicial decision.

*Judge Flanders will dijudicate in the civil case between Victoria and her insurance company.*

**dilatancy**

**dilate**

**dilated**

v  
/ di.lādəd /  
L

expanded or became wide.

*Slowly the pupils of Joan's eyes dilated until they were back to normal.*

**dilatorily**

**diluvial**

**dimmer**

n  
/ 'dimə(r) /  
E

a device for causing an electric light to burn less brightly.

*Sara turned the dimmer down and lit the candles in the dining room.*

**dimorphism**

n  
/ di'mór.fizəm /  
Gk

difference (as of form, color, size) between two individuals or kinds of individuals that might be expected to be similar or identical.

*Screech owls exhibit color dimorphism, being either gray or reddish.*

**dined**

**dingbat**

**dingo**

n  
/ 'diŋ(,)gō /

Australian name

a wild dog of Australia.

*Many Australian farmers erect high fences to protect their sheep against the dingo.*

**dingy**

adj  
/ 'diŋjē /  
unknown

dirty, soiled, discolored.

*The bird flapped its dingy wings and flew off in a cascade of dust and dirt and fuzz.*

**diocesan**

**dioscuric**

adj  
/ diə'skyürik /  
Gk

twin.

*The dioscuric children greatly enjoyed switching identities to annoy their teachers.*

**diphthongize**

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**diphyllous**

adj  
/ dī'filəs /  
Gk  
having two leaves.  
*In her description of the flower, the botanist noted that its calyx was diphyllous.*

**diploe**

**diploid**

**diplomacy**

**dipper**

**dipsas**

**dipsomaniac**

**dipteral**

**diptote**

**dire**

**director**

n  
/ dā'rektə(r) /  
L  
one that supervises the production of a show (as for stage or screen) with responsibility for action, lighting, music, and rehearsals.  
*While the producer is responsible for the finances and publicity of a show, the director is responsible for the show itself.*

**dirge**

**dirk**

**disadvantage**

**disagreeable**

adj  
/ .disə'grēəbəl /  
L > E + F > E + Lcf > Ecf  
causing discomfort, displeasure, or repugnance.  
*Mary was so disagreeable that after the first day or two nobody would play with her.*

**disappear**

**disappearance**

n  
/ .disə'pirən(t)s /  
L  
removal from sight : vanishing.  
*With the disappearance of the snow, the sleds and skates were replaced with bicycles.*

**disappoint**

**disapprobation**

**disarray**

**disaster**

n  
/ dā'zastə(r) /  
Gk > L  
a sudden and unfortunate event that causes much damage : calamity.  
*The violent hail storm was the disaster that ruined the wheat crop.*

**disavowed**

v  
/ .disə'vaüd /  
L > F > E  
denied responsibility for, approval of, or validity of : disowned.  
*Although the manager disavowed the illegal actions of his subordinates, he was held responsible and was fired.*

**disbursement**

n  
/ dās'bərsmənt /  
L > F + Gk > L > F + Ecf  
the act of expending, especially from a public fund : paying out.  
*The officer in charge of disbursement gave the builders the final payment.*

**discept**

**discernible**

**dischargeable**

**discigerous**

**disciple**

**discombobulate**

v  
/ .diskəm'bäb(y)əlāt /  
L + unknown  
upset, confuse, or disconcert.  
*Changing the rules just before the game was bound to discombobulate the team.*

**disconsolate**

adj  
/ dā'skän(t)s(ə)lāt /  
L  
hopelessly sad : being beyond comfort.  
*After she received her report card, Gretchen was disconsolate for the rest of the day.*

**discordancies**

n pl  
/ dā'skörd'n(t)sēz /  
L  
disagreements.  
*Emma insisted to Mr. Knightley that their discordancies always arose from her being in the wrong.*

**discountenance**

**discourage**

**discrete**

adj  
/ dā'skrēt /  
L  
[has homonym: discreet] possessed of definite identity or individuality : separate.  
*As a member of a large family, Emily sometimes finds it difficult to establish a discrete identity at school.*

**discriminant**

**discrimination**

n  
/ dā.skrimə'nāshən /  
L  
the act, practice, or an instance of differentiating categorically rather than individually.  
*Several women waged lifelong campaigns to end discrimination against females.*

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**discursively**

adv  
/ də'skɜːrsəvli /

L  
in a manner passing from one topic to another.

*In her book on modern art Rosalind discusses the various movements discursively.*

**discuss**

**discussion**

n  
/ dɪ'skʌʃən /

L  
a consideration of a question in open usually informal debate.  
*A lively discussion followed Ms. Poole's speech.*

**disease**

**disematism**

**disembark**

v  
/ dɪzəm'bɑːk /

F  
go ashore out of a ship or boat : leave a ship.  
*"Please hold the railing as you disembark," Simi cautioned the passengers.*

**disgruntle**

**disgusting**

**disheartening**

adj  
/ dɪs'hɑːtənɪŋ /  
Lcf > Ecf + E + Ecff  
inducing discouragement or dejection.  
*Wally's attempts to learn ice-skating were disheartening.*

**dishevel**

**dishonest**

**disillusion**

v  
/ dɪsə'ljuːʒən /

L  
deprive of hopes previously held : disenchant.

*If you believe that you'll win the lottery, why should I disillusion you?*

**disinherit**

**disinterred**

v  
/ dɪsɪn'tɜː(r)d /

L  
dug out of the ground : taken out of a place of burial.

*The body of the victim was disinterred after a long legal battle with the next of kin.*

**dismayed**

v  
/ dɪz'maɪd /  
(L + Gmc) > F > E

upset, perturbed, alarmed.  
*Many veteran teachers were dismayed to learn that they had to pass a test in order to continue to teach in public schools.*

**dispel**

v  
/ dɪ'spel /

L  
clear away : cause to disperse or disappear.

*Dr. McKellar's explanation of the surgical procedure did not dispel his patient's fear.*

**dispensary**

**disperse**

**dispersed**

v  
/ dɪ'spɜːst /

L  
caused to break up and go in different ways.

*The high wind dispersed the seeds in the milkweed pods throughout the neighborhood.*

**disposed**

**disquietude**

n  
/ dəs'kwɪətʊd /

L > Ecf + L + L > Ecf  
lack of peace or tranquillity : anxiety.

*Groans and disquietude followed Mr. Collins's announcement of a pop quiz.*

**disrupt**

**dissect**

**dissecting**

v  
/ dɪ'sektɪŋ /

L  
cutting into parts or sections.  
*The science kit was equipped with a knife for dissecting.*

**dissension**

**dissentious**

**disservice**

**disseverance**

**dissevered**

v  
/ dɪ'sevə(r)d /

L  
disunited.  
*If the group dissevered, it could not hope to win the campaign.*

**dissidence**

n  
/ 'dɪsədən(t)s /

L  
[has homonym: dissidents]  
difference of opinion : disagreement.  
*The tyrannical dictator did not tolerate any political dissidence.*

**dissimulate**

v  
/ dɪ'sɪmɪəleɪt /

L  
hide under a false appearance with intent to deceive.  
*In the preface to his autobiography, the author said that he refused to dissimulate the facts of his life.*

**dissipate**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**dissipative**

**dissociate**

**dissolute**

adj  
/ 'disə'lüt /  
L  
unrestrained or lawless in conduct.  
*The board deplored the dissolute behavior of one of its members.*

**dissolution**

n  
/ .disə'lüshən /  
L  
[has near homonym: disillusion]  
termination or destruction by breaking down, disrupting, or dispersing.  
*King Henry VIII ordered the dissolution of the monasteries in England primarily to obtain their wealth.*

**dissonance**

**dissonantly**

adv  
/ 'disənəntlē /  
L  
in a manner marked by a mingling of discordant sounds.  
*When the table was overturned, the plates and silverware crashed dissonantly to the floor.*

**dissuasion**

**distal**

adj  
/ 'distəl /  
L  
located away from the center of the body.  
*The professor asked the students to identify the distal and proximal ends of several bones.*

**distemper**

n  
/ dəs'tempə(r) /  
L  
a highly contagious virus disease of some animals.  
*The sick animals had distemper and were given medicine by the veterinarian.*

**distichous**

adj  
/ 'distəkəs /  
Gk  
divided into two distinct segments.  
*The entomology student was puzzled over insects with distichous antennae.*

**distilland**

**distillery**

**distinct**

adj  
/ də'stɪŋ(k)t /  
L > F > E  
capable of being easily perceived.  
*As the dense fog lifted, the mountains again became distinct.*

**distinctive**

adj  
/ də'stɪŋ(k)tɪv /  
L  
characteristic, peculiar : special.  
*The distinctive odor of natural gas comes from an additive designed to make leaks easier to detect.*

**distinctly**

**distingue**

**distinguishable**

adj  
/ də'stɪŋwɪʃəbəl /  
L  
recognizable as separate : discernible.  
*King snakes and coral snakes are distinguishable by the order of their red, yellow, and black stripes.*

**distractible**

adj  
/ də'straktəbəl /  
L  
having one's attention readily diverted.  
*The highly distractible student was diagnosed as having attention deficit disorder.*

**distraught**

adj  
/ də'strɔt /  
L > E  
beset with doubt or mental conflict : deeply troubled.  
*For four days distraught friends and relatives waited for news of the lost skiers.*

**distressing**

v  
/ də'stresɪŋ /  
L > F > E  
subjecting to great strain or difficulties.  
*Ulrich had a distressing day at the office.*

**distributary**

**disturbance**

**disturbed**

adj  
/ də'stɜrbd /  
L > F > E  
deprived of mental or emotional peace : upset, agitated.  
*The movie's villain was a brilliant but emotionally disturbed scientist.*

**disunify**

**ditch**

**dithering**

**dittography**

**diurnation**

**diuturnal**

adj  
/ .dɪyü'tɜrnəl /  
L  
of long continuance : lasting.  
*In geologic time, the Paleozoic Era was relatively diuturnal.*

**divan**

**divergence**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**divers**

pron pl  
/ 'dīvə(r)z /  
L

[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word. In addition, word has near homonym: diverse.] an indefinite number more than one (as of persons or objects).  
*Divers of the enemy were captured.*

**diversion**

**diverticulum**

n  
/ .dīvə(r)'tikyələm /  
L

an abnormal pouch or sac opening from a hollow organ (as the intestines or bladder).  
*The examination began rather casually, but at the first sight of a diverticulum the doctor became much more serious.*

**divertimento**

n  
/ dā.vərdə'men(,)tō /  
L > F > It

an instrumental musical composition having from four to ten movements that is written as a chamber work.  
*The conductor chose a divertimento by Mozart for the evening's performance.*

**diverting**

v  
/ dā'vərdɪŋ /  
L + Ecf

turning or drawing (as the mind or attention) from one concern to another : distracting.  
*The program on television was diverting Vera's attention from her homework.*

**divide**

**dividend**

**divination**

**divvy**

**dizzily**

**doab**

**doable**

**docible**

**docile**

**docket**

**dockization**

**doctorate**

**doctrine**

**dodderer**

**doddery**

**dodecarchy**

n  
/ 'dōdə.kärkē /  
Gk  
a ruling body of 12.  
*The rebels overthrew the dodecarchy and established an independent kingdom.*

**dodecuplet**

**dodgery**

**doeskin**

**doffed**  
v  
/ 'däft /  
E

lifted the hat.  
*When he reached the car, the figure doffed his cap.*

**dogged**

**doily**

**doldrum**

**doldrums**  
n pl  
/ 'dōldrəmz /  
E?

a spell of listlessness or despondency : blues.  
*Siobhan, who lives in Alaska, explained that she often experiences the doldrums in the winter.*

**dolefully**

**dollarwise**

**dollhouse**

**dolmen**

n  
/ 'dōlmən /  
L > Bret > F  
[has homonym: dolman] a prehistoric monument consisting of two or more upright stones supporting a horizontal stone slab found especially in Britain and France and thought to be a tomb.  
*Connor made a model of a dolmen enclosed by a stone circle as part of his English history project.*

**dolomite**

n  
/ 'dōlə.mīt /  
F name  
a limestone or marble rich in magnesium carbonate.  
*Geologists suspected a deposit of dolomite lay just beneath the next rock layer.*

**doloroso**

**dolt**

**domesticate**

**dominate**

**dominigene**

**dominion**

**donation**

**donee**

**donkey**

**donnybook**

**doohickey**

**doombook**

**doorjamb**

**doornail**

**dopester**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**dormer**

**dormice**

**dormitory**

**dormouse**

**dorsal**

adj

/ 'dɔrsəl /

L

belonging to or situated near or on the back of an animal.

*From the scar near the salmon's dorsal fin, Ako knew it had been attacked by a lamprey.*

**dorsiferous**

**dote**

**dottiness**

**doublet**

n

/ 'dəblət /

L > F > E

a quilted undergarment reinforced by rings of mail and worn under armor.

*The knight's life was saved by the doublet he had reluctantly worn.*

**doubletone**

**doubloon**

**doubloons**

n pl

/ .də'blünz /

L > Sp

old gold coins of Spain and Spanish America worth 16 pieces of eight.

*"Hang it, Pew, we've got the doubloons!" grumbled one pirate to the other.*

**dough**

**doughtily**

adv

/ daüdəlē /

E

in a manner marked by fearless resolution and by stoutness in contest or struggle.

*The district attorney doughtily persevered in his efforts to bring the crime bosses to justice.*

**dour**

adj

/ 'daü(ə)r /

L

[has homonyms: doer, dower] marked by gloomy silence or ill humor : sullen.

*The usually dour senator was advised to smile more if he wanted to get reelected.*

**dourness**

**dovetail**

n

/ 'dəv.tāl /

E + E

something (as a flaring tenon, tongue, or machine part) felt to resemble a dove's tail in shape; especially : dovetail joint.

*The cabinetmaker taught his apprentice to use a dovetail to join the pieces of wood.*

**dovetailed**

adj

/ 'dəv.tāld /

E + E

joined with or as if with a flaring tenon or tongue.

*Norm Abram showed the TV audience the carefully dovetailed joints on the sideboard.*

**dowdily**

**downcast**

adj

/ 'daün.kast /

E + ON > E

low in spirit : depressed, dejected.

*After striking out, the downcast batter returned to the bench.*

**downdraft**

n

/ 'daün.draft /

E + E

a downward current of air.

*A strong downdraft sent the airplane into a sudden steep descent.*

**downpour**

n

/ 'daün.pō(ə)r /

E + E

a pouring or streaming downward; especially : a heavy rain.

*The town's sewage system was unable to handle the tremendous downpour.*

**downright**

**downtrodden**

**doze**

**dragonfly**

**dragoon**

v

/ drə'gün /

F

compel or attempt to compel into submission by violent measures : harass, persecute.

*Gerald's so-called friends tried to dragoon him into quitting school, but he would have none of it.*

**drakelet**

**dramatize**

v

/ 'dramətīz /

Gk

exhibit graphically in such a manner as to show forth qualities, attributes, or aspects likely to be overlooked.

*To dramatize the plight of Third World children, the charity executives decided to film their commercial in a squalid back alley.*

**dramaturge**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**drams**

n pl  
/ 'dramz /  
Gk > L&F > E  
avoirdupois units, each equal to 27.343 grains.  
*The doctor prescribed 2 drams of the medicine to be taken three times a day.*

**drapery**

**drastically**

**drawer**

**drawl**

**drawloom**

**drearily**

**drippage**

**drizzle**

n  
/ 'drizəl /  
E  
a fine misty rain; specifically : a light rain of very small drops.  
*The rain increased suddenly, pounding hollowly against the umbrella, then just as suddenly faded back to a drizzle.*

**drogher**

**droll**

adj  
/ 'drɔl /  
D > F  
having a whimsical, humorous, or odd character.  
*Steve says things so droll his parents can't respond for laughing.*

**drolly**

**dromic**

adj  
/ 'drämik /  
Gk  
of, relating to, or in the form of a racecourse.  
*Many Eastern churches exhibit the dromic form.*

**dromond**

**Drosophila**

n  
/ drō'säfələ /  
Gk > L  
a genus of small two-winged flies that have been used extensively in experiments to study basic mechanisms of inheritance.  
*The fruit fly is of the genus Drosophila.*

**drown**

**drowsily**

adv  
/ 'draüzəle /  
E? + Ecf  
in a sleepy manner.  
*Ali drowsily took the message for his roommate but forgot to give it to him.*

**druid**

n  
/ 'drüəd /  
Gaulish > L  
a member of a priesthood in ancient Gaul, Britain, and Ireland whose members are said to have studied the natural sciences and later appeared in legends as magicians and wizards.  
*The tour guide speculated that Stonehenge had been built by a lone druid seeking immortality.*

**druidism**

**drumlin**

n  
/ 'drəmlən /  
IrGael + E  
an elongate or oval hill of glacial drift.  
*Last summer the cousins built a bonfire atop the drumlin on Granddad's farm.*

**drunkard**

**dryad**

n  
/ 'dri:əd /  
Gk > L  
one of the minor divinities of nature in Greek and Roman mythology that are represented as beautiful maidens dwelling in the forests.  
*Sally likes to sit in her tree house and pretend that she is a dryad.*

**dryness**

**dual**

adj  
/ 'd(y)üəl /  
L  
[has homonym: duel] consisting of two parts or elements : twofold.  
*Mark practiced whistling until he was able to consistently produce a dual tone.*

**dualistic**

**dubious**

**dubiously**

adv  
/ 'd(y)übēəsle /  
L + Ecf  
in a manner expressive of doubt, hesitation, or suspicion.  
*"Are you sure the shot won't hurt?" Sarah dubiously asked the doctor.*

**dubonnet**

**ducal**

adj  
/ 'd(y)ükəl /  
L > F  
of, belonging to, or befitting a duke or dukedom.  
*The ducal palace stood in the middle of a beautiful garden.*

**ductility**

n  
/ .dək'tilədē /  
L > F  
the quality or state of being capable of being drawn out into wire.  
*The ductility of platinum is such that it has been drawn into a wire less than two thousandths of an inch in diameter.*

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**duenna**

n  
/ d(y)ü'ənə /  
L > Sp  
an elderly woman serving as  
governess and companion to the  
younger ladies in a Spanish or a  
Portuguese family.  
*The governor's daughter was never  
allowed to leave the house without  
her duenna.*

**dugong**

n  
/ 'dü.gəŋ /  
Malay&Tagalog > L  
an aquatic herbivorous mammal  
that has a two-lobed tail and in the  
male upper incisors altered into  
short tusks, is related to the  
manatee, and inhabits warm coastal  
regions.  
*The dugong grazes on green algae  
and sea grasses and is able to  
remain submerged for up to 10  
minutes.*

**dulcimer**

**dulcinea**

n  
/ .dəlsə'nēə /  
L > Sp name  
sweetheart.  
*Wesley called his girlfriend his  
"dulcinea" because it sounded  
more romantic.*

**dulosis**

n  
/ d(y)ü'lōsəs /  
Gk > L  
enslavement by an insect that  
captures and rears the larvae or  
pupae of another species.  
*Some ants practice dulosis in order  
to enlarge their army of workers.*

**duly**

**duncical**

adj  
/ 'dən(t)səkəl /  
Scottish name + Ecff  
stupid.  
*Warren's patience ran out when he  
had to walk his neighbor's duncical  
dog.*

**dunderfunk**

**dundrearies**

n pl  
/ .dən'drɪrɪz /  
E name  
long flowing side whiskers.  
*Dundrearies were a popular  
adornment of men in the latter half  
of the 19th century.*

**duodenary**

adj  
/ d(y)üə'denərē /  
L  
containing 12.  
*The radical new government  
planned to hold its elections on a  
duodenary cycle of years.*

**duologue**

**duopsony**

**dupes**

n pl  
/ 'd(y)üps /  
F  
puppets or tools especially of a  
powerful person or idea.  
*In his "Four Freedoms" speech,  
Franklin D. Roosevelt warned  
about the presence of secret agents  
and their dupes.*

**duplicate**

adj  
/ 'd(y)üpləkət /  
L  
[Note: The definition provided is  
not the one most commonly  
associated with this word.] of,  
relating to, or being a card game in  
which all players play identical  
hands in order to allow a  
comparison of scores.  
*Joe and Lisa spent the weekend at  
a duplicate bridge tournament.*

**duplicator**

**dusky**

adj  
/ 'dəskē /  
E  
somewhat dark in color.  
*Dustin described the bird's  
plumage as a dusky brown tinged  
with yellow.*

**dutiful**

**duumvirate**

n  
/ d(y)ü'əmvrət /  
L  
two people associated in high  
office or position.  
*The rebellion's leader and the  
army colonel formed a powerful  
duumvirate that controlled all  
traffic to and from the capital.*

**dwindled**

v  
/ 'dwɪndld /  
E  
became steadily less : diminished  
in size, amount, or quality.  
*Above them the trees of the  
mountain dwindled, and then  
vegetation ceased entirely.*

**dyeing**

**dynamic**

adj  
/ dī'namɪk /  
Gk  
forceful, energetic.  
*The soccer team praised their  
dynamic coach for his untiring  
efforts.*

**dynamo**

n  
/ 'dɪnə.mō /  
Gk  
a direct-current generator.  
*The old car had a dynamo powered  
by the front tire.*

**dyne**

n  
/ 'dɪn /  
Gk > F  
[has homonym: dine] the unit of  
force in the centimeter-gram-  
second system equal to the force  
that would give a free mass of 1  
gram an acceleration of 1  
centimeter per second per second.  
*Mr. Hill tried to give examples  
illustrating the force of 1 dyne, but  
the students were still confused.*

**dysarthria**

**dyscrasia**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**dysesthesia**

**dysgraphia**

**dyslexiac**

**dysphagia**

n  
/ də'sfāj(ē)ə /  
Gk + Gk

difficulty in swallowing.  
*Doug experienced dry mouth and dysphagia as adverse reactions to the medication he was taking.*

**dysprosium**

**dystrophy**

n  
/ 'distrəfē /  
Gk

any of several neuromuscular disorders.  
*Shayna was diagnosed with muscular dystrophy the summer before she began elementary school.*

**eagerness**

**earnestly**

adv  
/ 'ərnəstlē /  
E

with intent and serious manner.  
*Gerald performed his job so earnestly that his co-workers teased him by asking if he thought he was saving the world.*

**earring**

**ease**

**easel**

**easelback**

**easily**

adv  
/ 'ēz(ə)lē /  
E

without difficulty, discomfort, or reluctance : readily.  
*Thomas easily solved the first set of math problems, but the second set required great effort.*

**easterly**

**eavesdropper**

**Ebenezer**

n  
/ .ebə'nēzə(r) /  
Heb

a commemoration of divine assistance.  
*The city swimming pool is a millionaire's Ebenezer, celebrating his recovery from a childhood bout of polio.*

**eburnean**

adj  
/ ə'bɜrnēən /  
L

resembling ivory in color.  
*Charlie pleaded with his dentist to improve the appearance of his eburnean teeth.*

**ecce**

interj  
/ 'e(.)chā /  
L

interjection used to call attention often to one persecuted unjustly.  
*At the end of his speech the defense attorney screamed "Ecce" and pointed at his client.*

**eccyclema**

**ecdysis**

**ecdysone**

n  
/ 'ekdəsōn /  
Gk

any of several arthropod hormones that in insects trigger molting and metamorphosis.  
*The insecticide Mary uses in her garden inhibits ecdysone, the hormone that enables some insects to metamorphose.*

**echard**

n  
/ 'e.kärd /  
Gk

the soil water that is unavailable to plant organisms.  
*The echard forms a part of the total moisture content of the soil.*

**echelette**

n  
/ .eshə'let /  
L > F

a reflection grating made by ruling parallel V-shaped grooves in a polished metal plate so that light is reflected from the corresponding faces of successive grooves.  
*If cut properly, an echelette can reflect almost as much light as a mirror.*

**echeveria**

**echidna**

n  
/ ə'kidnə /  
Gk

a spiny-coated toothless burrowing egg-laying mammal of Australia having a tapering snout and long tongue for eating ants.  
*To frustrate its enemies, an echidna may roll itself into a ball and dig straight down in loose soil.*

**echinacea**

n  
/ .ekə'nāshēə /  
Gk

the dried rhizome, roots, or other parts of any of three composite herbs used in folk medicine and some patent medicines especially for a supposed beneficial effect on the immune system.  
*Some people take echinacea to prevent colds and flu.*

**echinate**

adj  
/ ə'kinət /  
Gk > L

[Note: Could be confused with noun echinite.] densely covered with stiff bristles or spines : prickly like a hedgehog.  
*Not many animals interfere with the echinate porcupine.*

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**echinus**

n  
/ ɛ'kɪnəs /  
Gk  
the rounded molding forming the bell of the Greek Doric capital of a column.  
*The tour guide pointed out the echinus of the capital to Nancy's group.*

**echo**

**echolocation**

n  
/ ɛ(,)kəlɔ'kæʃən /  
Gk + L  
a process of animal orientation and navigation that involves emission of high-frequency sounds that are reflected back from environing surfaces and thus indicate the relative distance and direction of such surfaces.  
*Contrary to popular fiction, Erin learned that bats never get tangled in people's hair because their system of echolocation is so accurate.*

**echoppe**

n  
/ ɛ'shəp /  
L > F  
an engraver's needle beveled to an oval facet at the end and used to reopen previously incised lines.  
*Kermit carefully worked the echoppe through the broad strokes of the engraving.*

**ecize**

**eclair**

**ecliptical**

**ecocide**

**economic**

**economy**

**ecstasiate**

**ecstatically**

**ectocranial**

**ectoparasite**

n  
/ ɛktə'parəsɪt /  
Gk  
a parasite that lives on the exterior of its host.  
*The flea is a common ectoparasite on dogs and cats.*

**eczema**

**edaphic**

adj  
/ ɛ'dafɪk /  
Gk  
of or relating to the soil.  
*Kate's research project on the effects of local edaphic variations on agriculture won a silver medal in the state science fair.*

**eddy**

**eddying**

v  
/ ɛdɪŋ /  
ON? > E  
causing to move contrary to the main current.  
*Yolanda let her fly drift into the eddying water at the edge of the stream.*

**edger**

**edgily**

**edibility**

**edition**

**editor**

**educand**

**education**

**educer**

**cellike**

**eeriness**

n  
/ ɪ'rēnəs /  
E  
the quality or state of being unusual or unnatural to such a degree as to inspire fear.  
*The abandoned mansion's eeriness sent a shiver down Joachim's spine.*

**effective**

**effectuality**

**effervescence**

**effervescently**

**effervescent**

**efficient**

**effigial**

**effortless**

**eggnog**

**eglantine**

n  
/ ɛ'glæntɪn /  
L > F > E + Ecf  
an Old World rose with stout recurved prickles and white to deep rosy pink single flowers.  
*The eglantine, noted for its fragrant foliage, can grow to a height of six feet.*

**ego**

**egotistical**

adj  
/ ɛgə'tɪstɪkəl /  
L + Eeff  
boastful or arrogant : referring unduly to oneself.  
*Paul wrote an egotistical letter to the editor of the newspaper.*

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**Egyptian**

adj  
/ ə'jɪpshən /  
Gk > L

of or relating to Egypt, its inhabitants, or its language.  
*The pyramids at Giza are huge spectacular monuments of Egyptian Old Kingdom architecture.*

**eigenvalue**

n  
/ 'iɡən.vəlɪv /  
G + L > F > E

any of the permissible values of a parameter in the solution of a differential equation satisfying specified conditions.  
*Nina spent an hour finding the final eigenvalue that satisfied the assigned physics problem.*

**eighth**

**einkanter**

n  
/ 'ɪn.kæntə(r) /  
G

a stone with a single sharp edge worn by wind-driven sand.  
*Joseph cut his knee on a large einkanter at the beach.*

**eisegesis**

n  
/ ɪsə'jɛsəs /  
Gk

the interpretation of a text (as of the Bible) by reading into it one's own ideas.  
*The biblical scholar noted that eisegesis is often unavoidable because our lives have a strong impact on how we learn.*

**elaborative**

adj  
/ ə'labə.rədɪv /  
L

tending to expand something in detail.  
*Each topical heading was followed by elaborative paragraphs giving details.*

**eland**

n  
/ 'ɛlənd /  
Lithuanian > G > D > Afrikaans  
either of two large African antelopes of which both male and female have short spirally twisted horns.  
*In some areas of Africa the eland has been domesticated for use as a draft animal on farms.*

**elaphine**

**elapse**

**elastique**

**elated**

adj  
/ ə'lædəd /  
L  
elevated in spirit : excited especially with pride.  
*The scientist was elated on hearing that he would be awarded the Nobel Prize.*

**elaterid**

n  
/ ə'lædərəd /  
Gk > L  
click beetle.  
*Sandy was surprised to hear a clicking noise when the elaterid flipped itself to an upright position.*

**elbowroom**

**elder**

**elderly**

adj  
/ 'eldə(r)li /  
E + Ecf  
rather advanced in years.  
*An elderly lady lived in a huge old house on the edge of town and never came out except for food and church.*

**electioneer**

**electorate**

n  
/ ə'lekt(ə)rət /  
L  
a body of people entitled to vote.  
*The electorate favored allowing the independent candidate to participate in the presidential debates.*

**electrify**

**electroencephalograph**

n  
/ ə.lektrəʊ'nsefələgrəf /  
Gk > L  
an apparatus for detecting and recording brain waves.  
*The technicians installed the new electroencephalograph at the hospital.*

**electroluminescence**

n  
/ ə.lek.trəʊ'lümə'nes'ɪn(t)s /  
Gk + L + Lcf  
an emission of light resulting from a high-frequency discharge through a gas or from application of an alternating current to a layer of phosphor.  
*Stan was surprised to find that his friend knew what electroluminescence is.*

**electrolyte**

n  
/ ə'lektərəli:t /  
Gk  
a substance (as an acid, base, or salt) that when dissolved in a suitable solvent (as water) or when fused becomes an ionic conductor.  
*The veterinarian recommended that Mo use the product Pedialyte to get an electrolyte or two into Daisy, his sick chimp.*

**electron**

**electroretinograph**

n  
/ ə.lektrə'ret'nəgrəf /  
Gk + L + Gk  
an instrument for recording electrical activity in the retina.  
*The security device in the sci-fi film involved an electroretinograph, but the details were vague.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**elegance**

**elegiac**

adj  
/ .elə'jīæk /

Gk  
consisting of two dactylic hexameter lines the second of which is often felt to be pentameter.  
*Gonda could not figure out how to scan the elegiac couplet.*

**elegy**

n  
/ 'eləjē /  
Gk > L

a poem expressing sorrow or lamentation.  
*The English poet Thomas Gray wrote perhaps the most famous elegy.*

**element**

**elenchus**

**elevation**

n  
/ .elə'vāshən /

L  
the angular distance of a celestial object above the horizon.  
*Simon measured the Moon's elevation with a protractor, a straw, a string, and a washer.*

**elevator**

**elevon**

**elicit**

**elicitation**

**elicitor**

**eligibility**

**elocutionary**

**eloge**

n  
/ ā'lōzh /  
Gk > L > F

a panegyric funeral oration.  
*Mourners wept at the rabbi's moving eloge.*

**elongate**

**eloquent**

adj  
/ 'eləkwənt /

L  
adept at skilled easy pleasing communication of a thought, idea, or feeling.  
*A gifted toastmaster is not only eloquent but also entertaining.*

**eloquently**

**elucubrate**

**elude**

**elusive**

**eluvium**

n  
/ ē'lüvēəm /  
L

rock debris produced by weathering.  
*After many years the wind and water made eluvium of the limestone.*

**elysium**

n  
/ ə'liz(h)ēəm /  
Gk > L

the dwelling place of happy souls after death as conceived by the ancient Greeks and Romans.  
*Greek tales about the afterlife seem to focus more on Hades than on elysium.*

**elytra**

n pl  
/ 'elə.trə /  
Gk > L

the thickened sclerotized anterior wings in beetles and some other insects that protect and cover the posterior wings.  
*At least 250,000 species of insects have hardened wing covers called "elytra."*

**emaciation**

n  
/ ə.māshē'āshən /  
L

the state of being made lean by impairment (as from hunger).  
*Disease was the major cause of the emaciation of the children in the African village.*

**email**

n  
/ ā'mī /  
F

a moderate bluish green to greenish blue.  
*Email, also called "bleu Louise," is a common color of enamel used in cloisonné.*

**emanatory**

**emancipatory**

**embarrassing**

**embergoose**

n  
/ 'embə(r).gi:əs /  
Norw&E + E  
common loon.

*The embergoose is a large fish-eating aquatic bird that spends most of its time in open water.*

**embezzled**

v  
/ əm'bezəld /  
F > AF > E

appropriated fraudulently to one's own use (as property entrusted to one's care).  
*The bank employee embezzled hundreds of thousands of dollars before the authorities discovered the crime.*

**emblema**

**emboss**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**embosser**

n  
/ əm'bäsə(r) /  
F

a punch used for striking metal on the reverse side to raise the relief.  
*Mandy used an embosser to form a design on a thin piece of copper sheeting.*

**embracing**

v  
/ əm'brāsiŋ /  
F

encircling, enclosing, encompassing.  
*Calvin flung his arms out wide, as though he were embracing Meg and her mother—the whole house.*

**embroidered**

v  
/ əm'brōidə(r)d /  
F > E + Ecf

ornamented with needlework.  
*Grandma embroidered the tablecloth with a floral motif.*

**embryogenesis**

n  
/ ɛmbrɛō'jenəsəs /  
Gk + Gk

the formation and development of the animal organism in the early stages of growth and differentiation.  
*During early embryogenesis cells differentiate to form various types of tissue.*

**emersal**

**eminence**

**emit**

v  
/ ɛ'mit /  
L

throw or give off or out (as light, heat, gases, or charged particles).  
*“Neon” signs are actually made with neon, krypton, and argon, which emit different colors of light.*

**emmetropia**

n  
/ ɛmə'tröpēə /  
Gk > NL

the normal refractive condition of the eye in which with accommodation relaxed parallel rays of light are brought accurately to a focus upon the retina.  
*There are new kinds of laser surgery that bring the eyes of nearsighted people back to a state of emmetropia.*

**emotion**

**emperor**

**emphasize**

**empiricism**

**employed**

**emptiness**

**empyreal**

**emulator**

**emulsify**

v  
/ ə'məlsəfi /  
L

convert into a mixture of two incompletely miscible liquids.  
*Monika used a hand mixer to emulsify the eggs and oil for her special salad dressing.*

**enamelware**

**enatic**

adj  
/ ɛ'nadik /  
L + Ecf  
descended from the same mother : related on the mother's side.  
*George and Isabel are enatic cousins.*

**encaustic**

n  
/ ən'kòstik /  
Gk

a paint mixed with melted beeswax and after application fixed by heat.  
*Encaustic gave Gerard's painting an appealing texture.*

**enceinte**

n  
/ ä'sant /  
L > F

a line of fortification enclosing a castle or town.  
*The attacking army used artillery to breach the town's enceinte.*

**encephalon**

n  
/ ən'sefəlän /  
Gk

the vertebrate brain.  
*The encephalon is divided into the hindbrain, the midbrain, and the forebrain.*

**enchanted**

v  
/ ən'chantəd /  
L > F > E

influenced by or as if by charms and incantation : bewitched.  
*The dominant spirit that has haunted and enchanted this region is a figure on horseback.*

**encincture**

**encipherment**

**encoignure**

**encolure**

**encomiastic**

adj  
/ ən.kōmē'astik /  
Gk

of, belonging to, or bestowing praise.  
*The opera's composer wrote an encomiastic letter to the conductor commending his performance.*

**encompass**

**encourage**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**encouraged**

**encroaching**

v  
/ ʔn'krōchiŋ /  
Scand > F > E + Ecf  
entering by gradual steps or by stealth into the possessions or rights of another.  
*Mr. Bickett's garden was encroaching on his neighbor's lawn year by year.*

**enculturate**

v  
/ ʔn'kəlchərāt /  
L  
modify or condition by the process by which an individual learns the traditional content of a culture and assimilates its practices and values.  
*The Romans intended to enculturate the vanquished people as quickly as possible.*

**endear**

**endearment**

**endive**

**endocardial**

adj  
/ ˌendō'kɑrdēəl /  
Gk + Gk  
situated within the heart.  
*With a stethoscope the physician listened for endocardial murmurs.*

**endocrinopathy**

**endogenous**

adj  
/ en'däjənəs /  
Gk + Gk  
arising from internal structural or functional causes.  
*Rhythmic biological behavior governed by an endogenous clock is widespread in the animal kingdom.*

**endoradiosonde**

n  
/ ˌen.dō'rādēō.sänd /  
Gk + L + F  
a microelectronic device introduced into the body to record physiological data.  
*Dr. Lennon warned Tonya not to use a portable telephone while her endoradiosonde was in place.*

**endotracheal**

adj  
/ ˌendō'trākēəl /  
Gk  
placed within or passed inside of the windpipe.  
*The physician had to insert an endotracheal tube to help the patient breathe.*

**endurance**

n  
/ ʔn'd(y)ürən(t)s /  
L > F  
an instance of long-suffering (as hardship or tribulation).  
*On his sad face was an expression of suffering and endurance.*

**enemy**

**energumen**

**enforceable**

adj  
/ ʔn'fō(ə)rsəbəl /  
F > E  
capable of being enforced.  
*A law must be enforceable if it is to have any effect.*

**enfranchise**

**engagement**

**engagingly**

**engine**

**engorge**

**engross**

**enjoin**

**enjoyable**

**enkindle**

v  
/ ʔn'kindl /  
L + ON > E  
set on fire.  
*Light concentrated by a magnifying glass will enkindle dry grass or paper.*

**enlivened**

v  
/ ʔn'līvənd /  
L > F > E + E  
made sprightly, gay, or cheerful.  
*The dancers were immediately enlivened by the swing music.*

**ennoble**

v  
/ ʔnōbəl /  
L > F > E  
elevate in degree or excellence.  
*That is living proof that spending time with virtuous people can ennoble those of lesser character.*

**enoptromancy**

**enormous**

adj  
/ ʔnō(r)məs /  
L + Ecf  
[Note: Speller should not confuse with obsolete form enormous.]  
marked by extraordinarily great size, amount, number, degree, scope, intensity, or significance.  
*The documentary depicted the enormous task of building the Panama Canal.*

**enraptured**

v  
/ ʔn'rapchə(r)d /  
L  
filled with delight : gratified completely.  
*As Timmy entered the room, he was enraptured by the sight of the tree and the many presents.*

**enshroud**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**ensteel**

v  
/ ɛnz'tē(ə)l /  
E

make hard and strong.  
*Mr. Simpson explained that one step in making silver jewelry is to hammer the metal well to ensteel it.*

**ensuant**

**entelechy**

**enthalpy**

n  
/ ˈen.thəlpi /  
Gk

a thermodynamic quantity that is the sum of the internal energy of a body and the product of its volume multiplied by the pressure—called also “heat content.”  
*To help determine the change in enthalpy, Gruen carefully specified the physical states of all the reactants and products.*

**enthusiasm**

**enthusiast**

**enthusiastic**

adj  
/ ɛn.th(y)üzē'astik /  
Gk

having an ardent, receptive, responsive temperament.  
*Myron's enthusiastic nature infected the rest of the students.*

**enticement**

**entirely**

**entirety**

**entomb**

**entrammel**

**entrapment**

n  
/ ɛn'trapmənt /  
F

the luring by an officer of the law of a person into the commission of a crime in order that the person may be prosecuted for the offense.  
*The jury felt that the evidence indicated police entrapment, so they acquitted the defendant.*

**entrechat**

n  
/ ɛntrə'shɑ /  
L > It > F

a leap during which a ballet dancer repeatedly crosses the legs.  
*The audience watched in fascination as Nureyev performed a seemingly effortless entrechat.*

**entrée**

**entrepreneurial**

**entresol**

**entropy**

n  
/ ˈentrəpi /  
Gk

the ultimate state reached in the degradation of the matter and energy of the universe.  
*The laws of physics state that all things tend toward entropy.*

**enumerated**

v  
/ ɛn(y)ümə'rādəd /  
L

related one after another : listed.  
*When the waiter had enumerated the dessert choices, making a single selection was difficult.*

**enunciatively**

**envious**

**environ**

**environment**

**envision**

v  
/ ɛn'vizhən /  
L + L

have a mental picture of especially in advance of realization.  
*When she was a child, Calinda would often envision her life as a famous writer or painter.*

**envoy**

n  
/ ˈen.vɔi /  
F

any person delegated to represent one sovereign or government in its relations with another.  
*The Enterprise conveyed the envoy to the peace conference without incident.*

**eohippus**

n  
/ ˌeə'hipəs /  
Gk + Gk

an animal or fossil of a genus of small primitive 4-toed horses of the Lower Eocene of the western United States.  
*Modern horses are descended from the eohippus.*

**colith**

**epaxial**

adj  
/ e'paksēəl /  
Gk

located above or on the dorsal side of a straight line with respect to which a body, figure, or system of points is either radially or bilaterally symmetrical.  
*The epaxial muscles along the human spine are relatively large.*

**epenthesis**

n  
/ ɛ'pen(t)thəsəs /  
Gk

the insertion of a letter in a word to make the spelling conform to the pronunciation.  
*The word nymel became nimble by epenthesis.*

**epergne**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**epexegetis**

n  
/ ˌɛ.pɛksəˈjɛsəs /  
Gk + Gk

an explanation following a word or larger part of a text that limits its application or clarifies its meaning.  
*An epexegetis is often set off from the rest of a sentence by commas or parentheses.*

**ephelis**

**ephemerally**

**ephemerid**

n  
/ əˈfɛm(ə)rəd /  
Gk

a mayfly.  
*An ephemerid has membranous wings that fold flat over the back.*

**epibiont**

**epic**

adj  
/ ˈɛpɪk /  
Gk

[has near homonym: epoch]  
extending beyond the usual or ordinary especially in size or scope.  
*The movie's epic scale succeeded brilliantly according to most critics.*

**epicardia**

n  
/ ˌɛpəˈkɑrdiə /  
Gk

the short part of the esophagus extending from the diaphragm to the stomach.  
*The medical student was asked to identify the patient's epicardia during surgery.*

**epicenter**

n  
/ ˈɛpəsɛntə(r) /  
Gk > L

the part of Earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake.  
*An earthquake whose epicenter is on the ocean floor may cause a tsunami.*

**epidemiologist**

n  
/ ˌɛpəˈdɛmɪˈɒləjɪst /  
Gk

a specialist in the science that deals with the incidence, distribution, and control of disease in a population.  
*The epidemiologist strongly recommended that all children be inoculated with the chicken pox vaccine.*

**epiglottis**

n  
/ ˌɛpəˈglɑdɪs /  
Gk

the fold of tissue that covers the airway during the act of swallowing.  
*Breathing opens the epiglottis and allows free passage of air to the lungs.*

**epiglottitis**

**epigonism**

n  
/ əˈpɪɡəˈnɪzəm /  
Gk + Ecf

artistic, literary, or intellectual imitation especially by a later generation.  
*The Pre-Raphaelite movement in the mid-19th century arose from epigonism of the artistic principles of the 14th century.*

**epigrammatic**

**epigraph**

**epilithic**

adj  
/ ˌɛpəˈlɪθɪk /  
Gk + Gk  
growing on stone or stonelike material.  
*Some species of snails feed on epilithic lichen.*

**epinephrine**

**epipelagic**

adj  
/ ˌɛpəˈpələjɪk /  
Gk

of or relating to the part of the oceanic zone into which enough light for photosynthesis penetrates.  
*Creatures living below the epipelagic zone are often blind.*

**epiphanic**

adj  
/ ˌɛpəˈfʌnɪk /  
Gk

of or having the character of a sudden manifestation or perception of the essential nature or meaning of something.  
*Oliver had the epiphanic realization that his cat had gained weight because she was about to have kittens.*

**epiphora**

n  
/ əˈpɪfərə /  
Gk + Gk

a watering of the eyes due to excessive secretion of tears or to obstruction of the lacrimal passages.  
*Blocked tear ducts were determined to be the cause of the patient's epiphora.*

**epiphyte**

n  
/ ˈɛpəˈfɪt /  
Gk

a plant that derives its moisture and nutrients from the air and rain and grows usually on another plant.  
*Spanish moss is a ubiquitous epiphyte on trees in the South.*

**epistaxis**

n  
/ ˌɛpəˈstʌksəs /  
Gk

nosebleed.  
*During his illness, Henri had frequent bouts of epistaxis, so he learned to keep a box of tissues handy at all times.*

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**epistemic**

adj

/ ˌepəˈstēmik /

Gk

of, having the character of, or relating to knowledge or knowing as a type of experience.

*Sol thought the self-evidence of it all was epistemic justification enough for his belief that the world existed.*

**epistolography**

n

/ ˌɒpɪstəˈlɑːgrəfi /

Gk

the art or practice of writing epistles : letter writing.

*The widespread use of e-mail has revived a form of epistolography.*

**epithelium**

n

/ ˌepəˈθiːliəm /

Gk + Gk

a cellular animal tissue consisting of one or more layers of cells that serves to enclose and protect the other parts of the body.

*Humans have about 26 million sensory cells per square inch of olfactory epithelium.*

**epollicate**

**epopt**

n

/ ˈe.pɒpt /

Gk

one instructed in a secret system.

*Because Ivan was an inexperienced investor, he treated his stockbroker like an epopt.*

**epos**

n

/ ˈe.pəs /

Gk

a body of poetry expressing the tradition of a people.

*The ancient epos survived in later literature.*

**epsilon**

**equalize**

**equatable**

**equational**

**equerry**

n

/ ˈɛkwəri /

L&F

an officer of princes or nobles charged with the care of their horses.

*The royal equerry had his men prepare the horses for the fox hunt.*

**equestrian**

adj

/ ˌɛkwɛstriən /

L + Ecf

[has near homonym: equestrienne]

of, relating to, or featuring horseback riding.

*The artist was best known for his equestrian paintings.*

**equidistant**

adj

/ ˌɛkwəˈdɪstənt /

L

being of the same measure apart.

*The neighborhood grocery and video stores are equidistant from Josh's home.*

**equipollence**

n

/ ˌɛkwəˈpɒləns /

L + L

the quality or state of being equal in force, power, or validity.

*One form of paradox consists in the apparent equipollence of two propositions, one of which is the negation of the other.*

**equipollent**

**equitation**

**equivocal**

**equivocation**

n

/ ˌɛkwɪvəˈkæʃən /

L

the act or an instance of making a statement that deviates from or misconstrues the truth.

*Felicity knew that equivocation about the matter would keep her out of trouble, but she was forthright in her response.*

**eraser**

**erosion**

**eremic**

adj

/ ˌɛrēmik /

Gk

of or relating to deserts or sandy regions.

*Georgia O'Keeffe painted several famous eremic landscapes.*

**eremitic**

**erg**

n

/ ˈɜːrɡ /

Gk

an absolute centimeter-gram-second unit of work representing the work done by a force of 1 dyne acting through a displacement of 1 centimeter in the direction of the force.

*Dr. Young planned to introduce the erg in his next physics lesson.*

**ergonomist**

n

/ (ˌ)ɜːrˈɡänəmɪst /

Gk

a specialist in biotechnology.

*David ordered a desk chair specially designed by an ergonomist to prevent discomfort from prolonged sitting.*

**ergophobia**

**erimeter**

**eristic**

adj

/ ˌɛrɪstɪk /

Gk

characterized by disputatious often subtle and specious reasoning.

*The debater used eristic double-talk to impress the judges.*

**erode**

**erose**

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**erosion**

n  
/ əˈrɒʒhən /  
L

land destruction and simultaneous removal of particles (as of soil) by running water, waves and currents, moving ice, or wind.

*In some hilly areas terraces are built to protect soils from erosion.*

**errant**

**erroneously**

adv  
/ əˈrɒnəʊsl̩ /  
L > E

in a manner deviating from what is true, correct, right, or wise.

*The noun phenomena is sometimes used erroneously with a singular verb.*

**error**

**eruciform**

adj  
/ əˈrʊsəfɔrm /  
L

of an insect larva : having a soft cylindrical body with a distinct head and usually short thoracic legs : caterpillarlike.

*Fred knew that the eruciform larva would spin a cocoon from which a butterfly would emerge.*

**erythema**

n  
/ ɛrəˈθɛmə /  
Gk > L

abnormal redness of the skin due to capillary congestion (as in inflammation).

*A small area of erythema on the back of Hillary's hand demarcated the burn.*

**erythrocyte**

**erythrophobia**

n  
/ əˈrɪθrəˈfɒbiə /  
Gk

fear of blushing.

*Marvin's erythrophobia is so severe that speaking in public is torture for him.*

**erythrospia**

n  
/ ɛrəˈθrɒpsɪə /  
Gk

a visual disturbance in which all objects appear reddish.

*Cyrus erroneously thought that the expression "seeing the world through rose-colored glasses" had something to do with erythrospia.*

**escabeche**

n  
/ ɛskəˈbɑːtʃə /  
Ar > Sp

fish or chicken fried in oil then marinated in a spicy sauce and served cold.

*Elena's recipe for escabeche came from her mother's favorite Spanish cookbook.*

**escalate**

**escapade**

**escapement**

n  
/ əˈskæpmənt /  
L > F

the device in a timepiece which controls the motion of the train of wheelwork.

*The use of an escapement in clocks dates back to the 14th century.*

**escarole**

n  
/ ɛskəˈrɒl /  
L > It > F

an annual or biennial herb widely cultivated as a salad plant.

*Helga tossed a salad of escarole, mushrooms, and tomatoes.*

**escharotic**

**eschatological**

**eschatology**

n  
/ ɛskəˈtɒləʒi /  
Gk

a study or science dealing with the ultimate destiny or purpose of humanity and the world.

*Min's doctoral thesis in philosophy addresses the development of eschatology among Asian cultures.*

**escheator**

**esclavage**

**escolar**

**esculent**

**escutcheon**

**esne**

n  
/ ˈɛzn̩ /  
E

a laborer or man of the lower classes among the Anglo-Saxons.

*While working in the fields, the esne dreamed of marrying the master's daughter and living in the manor house.*

**espousal**

n  
/ əˈspəʊzəl /  
L > F > E

a taking up or adopting as a cause or belief.

*The senator's espousal of a national health program has not wavered during his three terms.*

**esquamulose**

**esquisse**

**essay**

**essayist**

n  
/ ˈɛsəɪst /  
L > F

a writer of analytic, interpretative, or critical literary compositions.

*As an essayist, Emerson can hardly be surpassed.*

**essential**

**estafette**

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**estate**

n  
/ ɛ'stāt /  
F > E  
the aggregate of property or liabilities of all kinds that a person leaves for disposal at his or her death.  
*The estate of the deceased billionaire has been tied up in lawsuits for over 12 years.*

**estimate**

v  
/ 'estə.māt /  
L  
judge the value of.  
*Arthur asked a real estate appraiser to estimate the house.*

**estrangle**

**etching**

**ethereal**

**ethics**

**ethnocentric**

**ethylene**

n  
/ 'ethə.lēn /  
Gk > ISV  
a colorless flammable gas found in coal gas or obtained from petroleum hydrocarbons and used to ripen fruits or as an anesthetic.  
*When ethylene is polymerized, the product is polyethylene, a plastic material used for making containers.*

**etymological**

adj  
/ .edə.mə'lājəkəl /  
Gk  
belonging to, based on, or in accord with the history often including the prehistory of a linguistic form (as a word or morpheme).  
*The etymological meaning of the word hippopotamus is "river horse."*

**etymologicon**

**Eucharist**

n  
/ 'yūk(ə)rəst /  
Gk  
a central rite in many Christian churches in which bread and wine are consecrated by the officiating member of the clergy and consumed as symbols for the realization of a spiritual union between Christ and communicant or as the body and blood of Christ.  
*The Eucharist is considered by most Christian churches to be the central act of the worship service.*

**eucharistic**

adj  
/ .yūkə'ristik /  
Gk > L  
manifesting or expressing praise and thanksgiving.  
*Bianca composed a eucharistic poem for the festival.*

**eucrasia**

n  
/ yū'krāzh(ē)ə /  
Gk + Gk  
a normal state of health : physical well-being.  
*To the ancient Greeks, eucrasia resulted from the appropriate balance of the four humors: blood, yellow bile, black bile, and phlegm.*

**audiometer**

n  
/ .yüdē'āmədə(r) /  
Gk  
an instrument for the volumetric measurement and analysis of gases that involves the explosion of one of the components of the mixture by the passage of an electric spark.  
*Rodney managed to set the chemistry lab on fire because he did not understand how to use the audiometer.*

**eugenics**

n pl  
/ yū'jeniks /  
Gk + Gk  
a science that deals with the improvement of hereditary qualities in a series of generations of a race or breed.  
*Using eugenics to create a super20race of human beings is a common theme in science fiction.*

**eulogistic**

**euonym**

**euphemize**

**euphenics**

n pl  
/ yū'feniks /  
Gk + Gk  
a science that deals with the biological improvement of human beings after birth.  
*Many people believe that euphenics will be as common as dentistry in the next century.*

**euphonious**

adj  
/ yū'fōnēəs /  
Gk  
[Note: Could be confused with euphonous.] pleasing in sound.  
*Allison is noted for her euphonious voice and clear enunciation.*

**euphonium**

n  
/ yū'fōnēəm /  
Gk + Ecf  
a tenor tuba similar in shape, pitch, and range to the baritone but with a larger bore, a mellower tone quality, and often a double bell.  
*Rocky's mom made him practice his euphonium in the barn.*

**euphony**

**euphoria**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**euphuism**

n  
/ 'yüfyəwizəm /  
Gk > E name  
[has near homonym: euphemism]  
artificial and excessive elegance of  
language : high-flown diction.  
*Eli's penchant for euphuism is kept  
in check by his English teacher, Dr.  
Holquist.*

**eupraxia**

**Euripidean**

adj  
/ yə'ripə'dēən /  
Gk name  
of, relating to, or characteristic of  
the Greek playwright Euripides or  
his tragedies.  
*In Euripidean tragedy, the chorus  
provides charming interludes of  
song and dance.*

**European**

adj  
/ ,yürə'pēən /  
Gk  
of, relating to, or belonging to  
Europe or its inhabitants.  
*Since John, an Englishman, has a  
European Union passport, he is  
allowed to work in France.*

**euryphagous**

**eustachian**

adj  
/ yü'stāshən /  
It name  
of or relating to the bony and  
cartilaginous tube connecting the  
cavity of the middle ear with the  
nasopharynx.  
*As he began his dive, John pinched  
his nose, closed his mouth, and  
attempted to blow out to allow his  
eustachian tubes to equalize the  
pressure in his ears.*

**eutely**

**evacuate**

**evadable**

**evanesce**

**evangel**

n  
/ ə'vanjəl /  
Gk  
a doctrine regarded as having  
special grace, sanction, or efficacy.  
*Elizabeth Cady Stanton called for a  
new evangel of womanhood to exalt  
purity, virtue, and morality.*

**evangelist**

**evaporation**

n  
/ ə,vapə'rāshən /  
L  
the change by which any substance  
is converted from a liquid state into  
and carried off in vapor.  
*The Mediterranean Sea loses much  
water through evaporation, leaving  
behind extra-salty water that sinks  
to the bottom.*

**evection**

n  
/ ə'vekshən /  
L  
perturbation of the Moon's motion  
in its orbit due to the attraction of  
the Sun.  
*Herman's tidal calculations didn't  
account for evection; as a result, he  
was left high and dry.*

**evenhanded**

**evermore**

**evidence**

n  
/ 'evədən(t)s /  
L  
something legally submitted to a  
competent tribunal as a means of  
ascertaining the truth of any alleged  
matter of fact under investigation  
before it.  
*The suspect's fingerprints on the  
murder weapon were sufficient  
evidence for his arrest.*

**evil**

**evolution**

**evolvable**

**evulsion**

**ewe**

**ewer**

**exacerbation**

n  
/ ig,zasə(r)'bāshən /  
L  
the act of making more violent,  
bitter, or severe.  
*Vigorous exercise can lead to acute  
exacerbation of asthmatic  
symptoms.*

**exaggeration**

n  
/ ig,zajə'rāshən /  
L  
the act of enlarging beyond bounds  
or the truth : overstatement.  
*Uncle Joe's description of the fish  
he caught was a gross  
exaggeration.*

**examen**

n  
/ ig'zāmən /  
L  
a critical study (as of a writer or a  
phenomenon).  
*Vera's research was a sound,  
brilliant examen of the most  
powerful English poet of this  
century.*

**examination**

**examine**

v  
/ ig'zamən /  
L > F > E  
inquire into the state of especially  
by introspective processes.  
*Shumin's father told her to examine  
her conscience first and then  
consider how her action might look  
to other people.*

**exanthematic**

adj  
/ eg,zan(t)thə'madik /  
Gk  
of or relating to an eruptive  
disease—used especially of those  
attended with fever (as in measles,  
smallpox, and scarlatina).  
*Mrs. Hu decided that Wilson's rash  
was not exanthematic, so she let  
him go out to play.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**exasperate**

**exasperated**

adj  
/ ɪg'zaspə.rədəd /

L  
irritated or annoyed especially to the point of injudicious action.  
*The movie star became so exasperated with the photographers that he hurled his shoe at them.*

**excavation**

**excavator**

n  
/ 'ɛkskə.vədə(r) /

L  
a worker who digs out material or digs cavities (as in quarrying or for building construction).  
*The excavator gasped when the side of the pit gave way to reveal a dark chamber.*

**exceed**

v  
/ ik'sēd /  
L > F > E

[Note: Alternate pron has near homonym: accede.] go beyond a limit set by (as an authority or privilege).  
*Drivers who exceed the speed limit in the construction zone will be fined a minimum of 200 dollars.*

**excel**

**exception**

n  
/ ik'sepshən /

L  
the act of excluding or omitting.  
*The librarian made an exception and permitted Sandy to take a reference book out of the library.*

**excerpt**

**excipient**

**exclusive**

adj  
/ ik'sklüsiv /  
L

barring from participation : snobbishly aloof.  
*The exclusive dog show allowed only registered dogs to participate.*

**excogitate**

v  
/ ek'skājətāt /

L  
examine mentally with thoroughness and care so as to obtain thorough grasp and comprehension of.  
*Lindsay tried to excogitate the topic thoroughly and outline his thoughts.*

**excrecency**

**excrescential**

**excruciating**

adj  
/ ik'skrūshē.ātɪŋ /

L  
very intense : extreme.  
*An excruciating toothache kept Marcel from enjoying the camping trip.*

**execrable**

adj  
/ 'ɛksəkrəbəl /

L  
deserving to be declared evil or detestable.  
*For his execrable cruelty to the victim, the assailant was given the maximum prison sentence.*

**executive**

**exegeis**

**exegetical**

adj  
/ ɛksə'jedəkəl /

Gk  
relating to critical interpretation of a text or portion of Scripture.  
*The theologian was praised for his exegetical commentaries on the Old Testament.*

**exemplify**

**exemplum**

**exempt**

**exequies**

n pl  
/ 'ɛksəkweɪz /  
L > F > E  
funeral rites or ceremonies.  
*The late king's exequies were solemnized with great pomp.*

**exergue**

**exfoliative**

adj  
/ ek'sfōlē.ādɪv /  
L  
causing or characterized by the peeling of the outer layer of the skin.  
*Phil's rash was diagnosed as exfoliative dermatitis.*

**exhalation**

n  
/ ɛks(h)ə'lāshən /  
L > F > E  
something that is given off or that rises in the form of gas, fumes, or steam.  
*The wind carried a foul exhalation from the nearby marsh to the Ackrill's house.*

**exhaust**

n  
/ ɪg'zɔst /  
L  
an arrangement (as of fans) for withdrawing undesirable fumes, dusts, or odors from an enclosure (as a factory room or a kitchen).  
*The safety inspector told Sharon that the greasy residue on the kitchen exhaust was a fire hazard.*

**exhausting**

adj  
/ ɪg'zɔstɪŋ /  
L  
depriving wholly of strength, patience, or resources.  
*Robert's exhausting exercise routine left him not only very tired but also very hungry.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**exhibited**

v  
/ ig'zibədəd /  
L

presented to view : showed, displayed.  
*Elizabeth Ellen brought her decorated cake into the room and exhibited it quite proudly.*

**exhilarated**

v  
/ ig'zilərədəd /  
L

made cheerful : enlivened.  
*The sailor felt exhilarated as his boat headed into the wind.*

**exhume**

v  
/ ig'züm /  
L

dig out of the ground : take out of a place of burial.  
*No matter where the bone is buried, the dog will be able to exhume it.*

**exigencies**

n pl  
/ 'eksəjənsēz /  
L

requirements in a particular situation.  
*The Supreme Court supported the theory of presidential power to meet national exigencies.*

**existence**

**exogenous**

adj  
/ ek'sājənəs /  
Gk + Gk  
originating from or due to external causes.  
*The politician argued that the labor strife in his city was exogenous in nature.*

**exonumia**

**exorcism**

**exostosis**

n  
/ ek.sə'stōsəs /  
Gk

a spur or bony outgrowth from a bone or the root of a tooth.  
*The exostosis on Bertha's big toe had to be surgically removed.*

**expectant**

adj  
/ ik'spektənt /  
L

characterized by anticipation : waiting.  
*The expectant crowd outside the palace gates had been in place since before dawn.*

**expedient**

**expediently**

adv  
/ ik'spēdēntlē /  
L

in a manner characterized by suitability, practicality, and efficiency.  
*It is the responsibility of the customer service representative to handle all complaints expediently.*

**expedite**

**expel**

**experiential**

adj  
/ ik.spirē'enchəl /  
L  
derived from, based on, or relating to experience : empirical.  
*Although based on experiential procedures and findings, many great scientific discoveries involve a degree of intuition and luck.*

**experiment**

**expertise**

n  
/ ek.spar'tēz /  
L

specialized skill or technical knowledge in a particular field.  
*Jonathan's expertise in database management netted him an excellent job.*

**expiration**

n  
/ ekspə'rāshən /  
L > E

the action or process of releasing air through the nose or the mouth.  
*Mrs. Burnet's expiration was strained after her operation.*

**expired**

**explanation**

**explement**

**expletive**

**explicit**

**explore**

v  
/ ik'splō(ə)r /  
L

search through or into.  
*"Dr. Craven had indeed begun to wonder if it might not be wise to send some one out to explore the garden paths."*

**explorable**

**exponentially**

adv  
/ ekspə'nenchəlē /  
L

in a manner indicating variation in which one variable factor depends upon another variable factor, characterized by an extremely rapid increase (as in size or extent).  
*For the past decade, sales of video games have been growing exponentially.*

**expound**

v  
/ ik'spaund /  
L > F > E

make a statement : present a view : comment.  
*The interviewer asked Shana to expound on the new park proposal.*

**expression**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**expropriate**

v  
/ ek'sprɒprē.āt /

L  
take out of the possession of another : transfer (the property of another) to one's own possession.  
*Roy was startled to find that the government had the right to expropriate his land if he didn't pay taxes.*

**expurgate**

v  
/ 'ekspə(r).gāt /

L  
cleanse of something morally harmful, offensive, or erroneous.  
*Before publishing the manuscript the editors will expurgate it of any slanderous material.*

**expurgatory**

**excise**

**extension**

n  
/ ik'stenchən /

L  
a dance movement in which the leg is extended at an angle to the body.  
*Lily's teacher told her she would have to work on her extension until it was perfect.*

**extent**

**extenuate**

v  
/ ik'stenyə.wāt /

L  
lessen or try to lessen the real or apparent seriousness of (as a crime, offense, or fault) or extent of by making partial excuses.  
*No excuse can extenuate Kevin's trying to pass off Adam's work as his own.*

**extenuations**

n pl  
/ ik.stenyə'wāshənz /

L  
acts of partial justification.  
*Jason's letter of apology conveyed many extenuations that were comforting to Julia.*

**exterminated**

v  
/ ik'stərmənādəd /

L  
gotten rid of.  
*The Grubbes have exterminated the rats in the cellar with rat poison.*

**extirpation**

n  
/ .ekstə(r)'pāshən /

L  
the act of destroying totally : extermination.  
*Expanding settlements have resulted in the extirpation of vast forests.*

**extortion**

n  
/ ik'stò(ə)rshən /

L  
[has homonym: extortion] the act or practice of obtaining something from an unwilling or reluctant person by physical force, intimidation, or the abuse of legal or official authority.  
*The gang leaders were arrested for their extortion of money from local merchants.*

**extra**

n  
/ 'ekstrə /

L  
an additional worker hired for a motion picture or stage production to augment the number of people in a crowd or group scene.  
*When he was in China, Mark was an extra in a film requiring a crowd of Western Europeans.*

**extradition**

n  
/ .ekstrə'dishən /

F + L  
the surrender of an alleged criminal usually under the provisions of a treaty or statute by one authority (as a state) to another having jurisdiction to try the charge.  
*Mrs. Thorpe was arrested in Arkansas but is fighting extradition to Missouri, where she allegedly assaulted a sales manager.*

**extrados**

**extraordinaire**

adj  
/ ik.strò(r)d'n'e(ə)r /

L > F  
markedly exceptional.  
*The Iowa Department of Education honored Mrs. Ledgerwood, a math teacher extraordinaire.*

**extrasensory**

adj  
/ .ekstrə'sen(t)s(ə)rē /

L  
residing beyond or outside the ordinary senses.  
*Reading someone else's thoughts is an example of extrasensory perception.*

**extremity**

n  
/ ik'stremədē /

L > F > E  
an outlying or terminal part, section, or point.  
*The state's westernmost extremity is nothing but flat open prairie.*

**extrinsic**

adj  
/ ek'strinzi:k /

L  
of or relating to the outside of.  
*The nondescript extrinsic appearance of the old building belied the architectural wonders within.*

**extrorse**

adj  
/ 'ek.stròrs /

L  
turned away from the axis of growth.  
*When the anther of a flower turns away from the pistils and toward the petals, it is said to be "extrorse."*

**exude**

v  
/ ig'züd /

L  
undergo diffusion : emanate.  
*Sweet odors exude from the shrubs around Myra's patio.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**exultant**

adj  
/ ig'zʌltənt /  
L

filled with extreme joy.  
*The racer was exultant when she crossed the finish line first.*

**exultantly**

adv  
/ ig'zʌltəntli /  
L

in a manner filled with extreme joy.  
*She laughed exultantly when her practical joke worked and her brother was covered in paint.*

**exuviate**

v  
/ ig'zʌviət /  
L

molt.  
*When a snake begins to exuviate, it rolls over several times to loosen the skin covering its head.*

**eyebrow**

**eyewitness**

n  
/ ɪ'wiʔnəs /  
E + E

one that sees or has seen an occurrence or an object with his or her own eyes and so is able to give a firsthand report on it.  
*An eyewitness gave the detective a helpful description of the robber.*

**fabaceous**

**fable**

**fabric**

**fabulist**

n  
/ 'fabyələst /  
L

[Note: Could be confused with fabulous.] a creator or writer of fables, especially those that carry a moral lesson.  
*Aesop is frequently called "history's greatest fabulist."*

**facetiously**

**factor**

**factual**

**faculty**

**facundity**  
n  
/ fa'kʌndədē /  
L

[Note: Could be confused with fecundity.] eloquence.  
*Lincoln's Gettysburg Address is a shining example of facundity.*

**fadeaway**

**faena**

n  
/ fä'änə /  
L > Catal > Sp  
the series of final passes by the matador with sword and muleta leading to the kill.  
*Many members of the audience left the bullfight hastily when the matador began the faena.*

**failure**

n  
/ 'fälyə(r) /  
F  
lack of satisfactory performance or effect.  
*The candidate's failure to address the people's complaints resulted in his losing the election.*

**fain**

adv  
/ 'fän /  
E  
[has homonym: feign] happily, joyfully : with glad preference.  
*The feisty cat would fain have chased the dog from his yard.*

**fainness**

**fainthearted**

**faintly**  
adv  
/ 'fäntlē /  
F > E

slightly, indistinctly.  
*There was a low fire glowing faintly on the hearth.*

**fairground**

**fairway**

**faja**

n  
/ 'fä(,)hä /  
L > Catal > Sp  
a wide bright sash worn around the waist.  
*Don Roberto wore his lucky faja every time he ran with the bulls.*

**falciform**

adj  
/ 'falsəförm /  
L  
having the shape of a scythe or sickle.  
*Roderick drew a somber night scene dominated by a falciform moon.*

**falconry**

n  
/ 'falkənri /  
Gmc? > L > F > E  
the art of training falcons to pursue and to attack wild fowl or game.  
*The king's oldest servant was a master of falconry.*

**falling**

**falsifier**

**falter**

v  
/ 'föltə(r) /  
Scand? > E  
[has homonym: faultier] speak brokenly or weakly : hesitate, stammer.  
*Stefan recited seven verses of the poem before he began to falter.*

**familiarity**

**familiarization**

**famine**

**fanciest**

**fanciness**

**fancywork**

**fanfare**

**fanged**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**fanglement**

**fantasque**

**fantasticity**

**fantastically**

adv

/ fan'tastək(ə)lē /

Gk > L > F > E + Ecff

unbelievably, extremely.

*Lillian wore her fantastically expensive diamond necklace to the governor's ball.*

**farce**

**farcicality**

**fare**

**farfetched**

**farina**

n

/ fə'rēnə /

L

the coarsely ground bolted endosperm of wheats other than durum, free from fine flour or bran.

*Before rice cereal for babies became widely available, cereal made from farina was often used.*

**farrier**

**farriery**

**fascicular**

**fascination**

**fascinator**

n

/ 'fas'nādə(r) /

L

a woman's light head scarf usually of crochet or lace.

*Doris appeared at the door wearing a long cloak and a candy-striped fascinator over her dark hair.*

**fascist**

adj

/ 'fashəst /

L > It

of or relating to any program for setting up a centralized autocratic national regime with severely nationalistic policies, exercising regimentation of industry, commerce, and finance, rigid censorship, and forcible suppression of opposition.

*Fascist ideology shares with liberalism an opposition to big business, trade unions, and the socialist state.*

**fascistization**

**fasten**

v

/ 'fas'n /

E

cause parts which are separate to hold together : make fast and secure.

*The kindergarten teacher spent two weeks teaching the children how to fasten their clothing.*

**fastener**

**fastidiously**

adv

/ fa'stidēəslē /

L + Ecff

in a manner that reflects a meticulous, sensitive, or demanding attitude.

*Vera's insistence on dressing fastidiously for every occasion precluded her going anywhere on short notice.*

**fastigate**

**fastuous**

**fatally**

**fate**

n

/ 'fāt /

L

[has homonym: fete] ultimate lot or disposition : final outcome.

*Hans Van Ripper now began to feel some uneasiness about the fate of poor Ichabod.*

**fatuously**

adv

/ 'fachəwəslē /

L

in a foolish, stupid, absurd, or silly manner.

*The clown performed fatuously to the children's delight.*

**faultless**

**faulty**

**faun**

**faustian**

**fauve**

**fear**

v

/ 'fi(ə)r /

E

be afraid of.

*Only after she saw its teeth and claws did Severine begin to fear the cute little raccoon.*

**fearsome**

adj

/ 'fi(ə)rsəm /

E

arousing or likely to arouse fear, fright, or terror.

*Kim spent a fearsome night in the woods.*

**feast**

n

/ 'fēst /

L > F > E

an elaborate meal.

*Susan had packed a basket which held a regular feast this morning.*

**feathery**

**febrile**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**February**

n  
/ 'febrə.werē /

L  
the second month of the Gregorian calendar.  
*Kevin's car quit for good in February.*

**feculent**

**federation**

**feeble**

**fei**

**felicitations**

**feline**

**felinity**

**feloniously**

adv  
/ fə'lɒnēəslē /

L > F > E  
in a manner having the nature of or involving a grave crime.  
*Garcia was feloniously relieved of his boombox by a couple of hoodlums.*

**felony**

n  
/ 'felənē /

F  
a serious crime usually punishable by a sentence heavier than that for a misdemeanor.  
*Filing a false income tax return is a felony punishable by imprisonment and a fine.*

**femerell**

**feminie**

**feminize**

**femur**

**fenster**

n  
/ 'fenztə(r) /

L > G  
an erosional opening down through overthrust rock exposing the underlying rock.  
*Gabe took a long hike in the national park to find the large fenster mentioned in his guidebook.*

**feodary**

**ferity**

n  
/ 'ferədē /

L  
[has homonym: ferrety] the state of being undomesticated : wildness.  
*Even after several years in a zoo, the lion occasionally displayed its ferity.*

**ferment**

**fermiere**

adj  
/ fermyeer /

F  
of a food : prepared in plain country style.  
*The signature dish at the quiet country inn was pot roast fermiere.*

**fernbrake**

**ferny**

**feroce**

**ferociously**

adv  
/ fə'rōshəslē /

L + Ecff  
in a manner characterized by wild or extreme rapacity, cruelty, acrimony, or destructiveness.  
*A large cat ferociously snarled at Beth's puppy.*

**ferocity**

**ferried**

**ferriferous**

adj  
/ fə'rɪf(ə)rəs /

L  
containing iron.  
*Hematite and magnetite are ferriferous minerals.*

**ferrotype**

n  
/ 'ferətɪp /

L + Gk  
a positive photograph made by a collodion process on a thin iron plate and having a darkened surface.  
*A 19th-century ferrotype depicting Supreme Court Justice Levi Woodbury sold at auction for \$24,000.*

**ferrumination**

**ferry**

**ferryboat**

**fertile**

**fervently**

**fervor**

**festinate**

adj  
/ 'festənāt /

L  
hasty.  
*Jeremy had a hard time keeping up with Noah's festinate gait as the two boys neared the movie theater.*

**festival**

**festoonery**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**festschrift**

n  
/ 'fest.shrift /

G  
a usually miscellaneous volume of writings from several hands for a celebration; especially : one of learned essays contributed by admirers to honor a scholar on a special anniversary.

*The retiring Dr. Mayer was presented with a festschrift that included a piece by a former student who had won a Pulitzer Prize.*

**feta**

**fete**

v  
/ 'fāt /

F  
[has homonyms: fait, fate] honor (a person) or commemorate (an event) with a festive celebration.  
*Mr. Armstrong's employees voted to fete him with a black-tie dinner.*

**fetid**

**fetidness**

n  
/ 'fedədnəs /

L + Ecf  
the state or condition of having an offensive smell.  
*For some people, Limburger cheese's fetidness is directly proportional to its tastiness.*

**fetter**

v  
/ 'fedər /

E  
bind (a thing or person) to another as if with a chain.  
*The young mother had to fetter her active three-year-old with a child harness to take him shopping.*

**fettuccelle**

**feudal**

**feuilleton**

**feverish**

**feverishly**

adv  
/ 'fēv(ə)rɪʃl̩ /

L > E + Ecff  
in an agitated manner.  
*Jay lay sleepless and feverishly went over the day's events.*

**fiador**

**fiat**

**fibrated**

**fibrillogenic**

**fibrinogen**

n  
/ fɪ'brɪnəjən /  
L + ISV + Gk  
a globulin that is produced in the liver and is converted into a protein during clotting of blood.  
*Proteins in the blood include albumin, hemoglobin, and fibrinogen.*

**fibula**

n  
/ 'fɪbyələ /

L  
the outer and usually the smaller of the two bones between the knee and ankle in most birds and many mammals including humans.  
*After breaking his fibula while sliding into second base, Roderick knew his season was over.*

**fictional**

**fiddle**

**fidget**

**fidgeted**

v  
/ 'fɪjətəd /  
E + Ecf  
moved uneasily one way and another.  
*The longer the speech went on, the more Kevin fidgeted.*

**fidgetiness**

**fidgeting**

v  
/ 'fɪjətɪŋ /

E?  
moving uneasily one way and the other.  
*The teacher told Caleb to either stop his fidgeting or go do his work at a desk outside the classroom door.*

**fidgety**

**field**

**fielder**

n  
/ 'fēldə(r) /  
E  
a player positioned in the outer portion of the playing area (as in baseball or cricket).  
*The fielder moved all the way back to the warning track to catch the fly ball.*

**fiends**

n pl  
/ 'fēn(d)z /  
E  
infernal beings : demons.  
*The fiends portrayed in the painting represented greed and ambition.*

**fiercely**

adv  
/ 'fi(ə)rsl̩ /  
L > F > E  
in a manner without mercy.  
*The hurricane fiercely hit the coastal town, leaving many beach cottages and business establishments in ruin.*

**fife**

**fifer**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**fight**

v  
/ 'fit /  
E  
contend physically for victory with vigor, fierceness, and determination.  
*Soldiers continued to fight on the ridge until nightfall.*

**figment**

**figurable**

**figure**

v  
/ 'figyə(r) /  
L > F > E  
compute, reckon.  
*Erwin tried to figure his grocery bill in his head, but he kept losing track of the numbers.*

**figurine**

**filamentary**

adj  
/ .filə'mentərē /  
L > F  
having the characteristics of a long thin flexible object.  
*The filamentary leg probably had belonged to a camel cricket or a daddy longlegs.*

**filar**

**filbert**

**filiality**

n  
/ .filē'alədē /  
L  
the relation or attitude of a child to a parent.  
*Although Tom and his father often disagreed, the bonds of filiality always held firm.*

**filiopietistic**

**filipendulous**

adj  
/ .filə'penjələs /  
L  
suspended by or strung upon a thread.  
*The glittering filipendulous stars were very effective when the ballroom lights were dimmed.*

**filly**

**filmography**

n  
/ .fil'mägrəfē /  
E + Gk  
a list of motion pictures featuring the work of a prominent motion picture figure (as an actor or director) or relating to a particular topic.  
*The biography of the director provided a complete filmography.*

**filmwright**

**filthily**

**fimbriate**

**fimbriation**

n  
/ .fimb're'āshən /  
L  
a narrow border to a heraldic design.  
*The family's coat of arms depicted a griffon within a blue fimbriation.*

**fimbrillate**

adj  
/ 'fimb'rəlāt /  
L  
[Note: Could be confused with fibrillate.] bordered with a minute fringe.  
*Deb examined the fimbrillate petals under the microscope.*

**finale**

**finally**

**financial**

**finespun**

**finial**

**Finlandization**

n  
/ .finləndə'zāshən /  
geog name  
a foreign policy of neutrality.  
*Finlandization has its roots in the neutrality policy of Finland.*

**fipple**

**firearm**

**firebreak**

**firefly**

n  
/ 'fi(ə)r.flī /  
E + E  
a winged nocturnal insect usually producing a bright soft intermittent light.  
*When the light of the captured firefly started to dim, Nell decided it was time to set the bug free.*

**fishery**

**fishmonger**

**fishplate**

**fissionable**

**fissiped**

adj  
/ 'fisəped /  
L  
having the toes separated to the base :  
cloven-footed.  
*Goats and pigs are some of the most common fissiped mammals.*

**fistful**

**fistiana**

n  
/ .fistē'anə /  
E + Ecf  
the world of boxing.  
*Muhammad Ali set fistiana on its ear when he defeated George Foreman in Zaire.*

**fistmele**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**fixedly**

adv  
/ 'fiksədɪlē /  
E + Ecff  
in a stationary or immovable manner.  
*Barry stared fixedly at the hail damage to his car.*

**fizgig**

**fizzwater**

**fjeld**

**flabbergast**

**flabellum**

**flagellate**

**flagellatory**

adj  
/ 'flæjələtɔːrē /  
L  
relating to the act of flogging or beating.  
*The sailors were warned that disruptive behavior would result in flagellatory punishment.*

**flagrant**

adj  
/ 'flægrənt /  
L  
extremely, flauntingly, or purposefully conspicuous usually because of uncommon evil, unworthiness, unpleasantness, or truculence.  
*Horace's flagrant disregard of the club rule about wearing cowboy hats got him kicked out peremptorily.*

**failing**

v  
/ 'flāɪŋ /  
E  
moving, swinging, or beating as though wielding a threshing implement.  
*The novice skier tumbled down the hill, his arms failing desperately in the air.*

**flamboyant**

**flamethrower**

**flaming**

adj  
/ 'flāmiŋ /  
L > F > E + Ecf  
blazing.  
*The flaming crackling fire could be seen throughout the valley.*

**flannelmouth**

**flapdoodle**

**flareless**

**flary**

adj  
/ 'fla(a)rē /  
unknown + Ecf  
showy and bright.  
*Pam's orange dress seemed too flary compared to the attire of the others at the funeral.*

**flashcube**

n  
/ 'flæʃ.kyüb /  
imit E + Gk > L > F  
a plastic cube containing four flashbulbs that fits into the top of a camera and revolves after each shot.  
*Franklin forgot to bring a flashcube, so he couldn't take any pictures at the party.*

**flask**

n  
/ 'flæʃ /  
Gmc > L > Sp > F  
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a unit of weight for mercury equal to 76 pounds.  
*Marcie explained that the amount of mercury in a thermometer was a tiny fraction of a flask.*

**flatcar**

**flattery**

**flaunt**

**flavescent**

**flavid**

**flavorless**

**fleabag**

**fleece**

**fletching**

n  
/ 'fleʃɪŋ /  
F > E  
the feathers on an arrow.  
*An arrow will not fly straight if the fletching is crooked.*

**fleuron**

**flexible**

**flicker**

**flight**

**flippancy**

**flipper**

n  
/ 'flɪpə(r) /  
imit  
a broad flat usually rubber shoe with the front expanded into a paddle used in skin diving and other aquatic sports.  
*Doug got his flipper snagged in the coral and had to leave it behind.*

**flivver**

**floccose**

**floeberg**

**floey**

**floraison**

**floral**

adj  
/ 'flɔːrəl /  
L  
of, relating to, or associated with a flower.  
*The floral emblem of the state of Tennessee is the iris.*

**floribunda**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**florigen**

n  
/ 'flōrəjən /  
L + Gk  
a hormone that induces flowering.  
*The horticulture expert explained how pinching back dead blossoms stimulated the production of florigen.*

**florin**

n  
/ 'flōrən /  
L > It > F > E  
an old gold coin first struck at Florence in 1252 weighing about 54 grains and noted for the purity of its gold.  
*The pride of Valentine's coin collection is a florin supposedly once the property of Christopher Columbus.*

**floristry**

**flounder**

**flourishes**

n pl  
/ 'flərɪshəz /  
L > F > E  
ostentations in the performance of something often intended to call forth or fix attention or admiration.  
*Todd stood up after his piano recital and, with many bows and flourishes, slowly left the stage.*

**flowage**

n  
/ 'flōij /  
E  
an overflowing (as of a stream or impoundment) onto adjacent land.  
*The flowage from a nearby creek into Mr. Goog's basement ruined his stamp collection.*

**fluffy**

**fluke**

**flump**

**fluorine**

**fluoroscope**

**flurries**

n pl  
/ 'flərēz /  
imit?  
sudden showers or snowfalls with a gust of wind.  
*The forecast was for intermittent flurries with no measurable accumulation.*

**flurry**

**fluster**

**fluttering**

v  
/ 'flʌdə(r)ɪŋ /  
E + Ecf  
moving with quick vibrations or undulations.  
*With his clothes bagging and fluttering about him on a windy day, he might be mistaken for some scarecrow escaped from a cornfield.*

**fluviate**

**fluviology**

n  
/ 'flüvɪ'äləjē /  
L  
a science dealing with watercourses.  
*Oliver needs one course in fluviology in order to get his professional civil engineering license.*

**flysch**

n  
/ 'flɪʃ /  
G  
a thick and extensive deposit largely of sandstone that is formed in a geosyncline adjacent to a rising mountain belt and is especially common in the Alpine region of Europe.  
*The geologist analyzed samples of the flysch to determine when the rock was formed.*

**foaming**

**focusable**

**fodient**

adj  
/ 'fōdēənt /  
L  
fitted for digging or burrowing.  
*The aardvark is a well-known fodient animal in South Africa.*

**foil**

n  
/ 'fōil /  
L > F > E  
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a fencing weapon that resembles an épée but has a flat guard and a lighter, more flexible blade that tapers to a blunt point.  
*The instructor showed Bella how to back her opponent into a corner with a few quick movements of her foil.*

**foldout**

**foliation**

**folio**

**folkloric**

adj  
/ 'fōk.lōrɪk /  
E + E  
of, resembling, or characteristic of traditional customs, beliefs, dances, songs, tales, or sayings preserved among a people or group.  
*The Slovakian dance troupe performed a folkloric dance wearing colorful costumes.*

**folklorist**

**folletto**

n  
/ fə'led(ɪ)ō /  
F > It  
imp, goblin, fairy; especially : a supernatural being who is a survival in popular form of an ancient Etruscan or Roman deity.  
*Nancy jokingly blamed her actions on an imaginary friend, a folletto who sat on her shoulder and gave her advice.*

**follicle**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**foment**

**fomites**

**Fomorian**

n  
/ fō'mòrēən /  
IrGael  
one of a race of sea robbers in Celtic legend who were probably originally gods representing the powers of evil and darkness.  
*Caitlin wrote a fable about a Fomorian who emerged periodically from the sea off the coast of Ireland.*

**fondant**

**fondue**

n  
/ fän'd(y)ü /  
F  
[has homonym: fondue] a lowering or sinking down of the body in ballet dancing by bending the knee of the supporting leg.  
*Fondue was a difficult movement for Orson before his knee surgery.*

**foolhardily**

**foolhardiness**

**foolhardy**

adj  
/ 'fül.härdē /  
F > E  
daring but lacking judgment : foolishly adventurous and bold.  
*The high dive from the cliffs looked foolhardy, but Ellen knew that the water beneath was deep and clear.*

**footage**

n  
/ 'fūd.ij /  
E  
the total number of running feet of motion-picture film used for a complete story or for one or more scenes or for any subject.  
*The director told the film editors that they would have to cut out enough footage to keep the movie under 2 hours.*

**footman**

n  
/ 'füt.mən /  
E  
a servant in attendance upon the passengers in a carriage.  
*Mary saw that it was a stylish carriage and that it was a stylish footman who helped her into the carriage.*

**foozled**

**foppery**

n  
/ 'föp(ə)rē /  
E  
folly, absurdity.  
*There was an air of foppery and nonsense in Mr. Churchill's action of which Emma could not approve.*

**forb**

**forbiddance**

**forbivorous**

**forcible**

**forcibly**

**forcipiform**

**forearm**

**foreground**

n  
/ 'fō(ə)r.graünd /  
Ecf + E  
the part of a scene that is nearest to and in front of the spectator.  
*Although there were many actors in the scene, the main action was taking place in the foreground.*

**foreign**

**foreigner**

n  
/ 'fōrənə(r) /  
E  
a person belonging to or owing allegiance to another land : alien.  
*Everyone in New Prague liked the foreigner who moved into the Simpsons' old house.*

**foreknowledge**

**foresee**

**foresightedly**

adv  
/ 'fōr.sīd.ädlē /  
E  
with a view toward the future.  
*The state foresightedly created state parks and reservations along the seashore so as to preserve its natural beauty.*

**forest**

**forestall**

v  
/ fōr'stöl /  
E  
[has near homonym: forestal] exclude, hinder, or prevent by prior occupation or by measures taken in advance.  
*By traveling to his vacation spot incognito, the film star hoped to forestall rumors of his arrival.*

**forester**

n  
/ 'fōrəstə(r) /  
F > E  
a person who supervises the development, care, and management of timberland.  
*The forester showed the class his list of sightings of endangered wildlife species.*

**foreyard**

**forciform**

adj  
/ fōr'fisə.förm /  
L  
shaped like a scissors.  
*The jeweler's forciform tweezers gave her a better grip on the tiny watch parts.*

**forgeability**

n  
/ .fō(ə)rjə'bilədē /  
L > E  
suitability for being formed by heating and hammering.  
*Some alloys exhibit greater forgeability than others.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

<b>forgetfulness</b>	<b>fouly</b>	<b>fragrance</b>
<b>forgettable</b>	<b>fountain</b>	n / 'frāgrən(t)s / L > F a pleasant odor. <i>The fragrance of mulled cider wafted down the hallway.</i>
<b>formalization</b>	<b>fourberie</b>	<b>frail</b>
<b>formally</b>	<b>fourfold</b>	n / 'frāl / F > E [Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] the quantity (as 32, 56, or 75 pounds) of raisins contained in a shipping basket. <i>While working in the agricultural records office, Wanda learned that a frail is used to measure raisins.</i>
<b>formatore</b>	<b>fourplex</b>	<b>framboise</b>
<b>formicarium</b>	<b>fowl</b>	<b>franchisal</b>
<b>formicine</b>	<b>frabjous</b>	<b>Franciscan</b>
<b>formula</b>	adj / 'frəbjəs / unknown wonderful. <i>Vonda thought happily that her graduation party was the final event of a simply frabjous day.</i>	adj / fran'siskən / It name of or relating to the various religious foundations established by St. Francis of Assisi. <i>The Franciscan church in Basel, Switzerland, was used for a long time as a warehouse for salt.</i>
<b>formulate</b>	<b>fractal</b>	<b>Francoist</b>
v / 'fɔrmjələt / L + Ecf plan out in an orderly fashion. <i>The board decided to call in a consultant to help formulate plans for the new factory.</i>	n / 'fraktl / L any of various extremely irregular curves or shapes that repeat themselves at any scale on which they are examined and that are assigned fractional dimensions. <i>Julia's science project demonstrated that the shape of a snowflake is a fractal.</i>	n / 'fræŋkɔəst / Sp name an advocate of or adherent to the political or social policies of the Spanish dictator Francisco Franco. <i>The Francoist claimed that if they had waited any longer to rise against the Republic, a Bolshevik revolution would have broken out.</i>
<b>formulator</b>	<b>fractionally</b>	<b>Franconian</b>
<b>fortississimo</b>	<b>fractious</b>	adj / fraŋ'kɔnɪən / G geog name of or relating to the West Germanic dialects of the Franks. <i>The earliest Franconian written documents belong to the late 8th or early 9th century.</i>
<b>fortitudinous</b>	<b>fractography</b>	
<b>fortress</b>	<b>fracturable</b>	
n / 'fɔtrɪs / L > F > E a fortified place : stronghold. <i>The refugees began to feel safe once they were deep within the fortress.</i>	<b>fracture</b>	
<b>fortuitously</b>	n / 'frakchə(r) / L the breaking of hard tissue (as bone). <i>Mike's fall off the ladder resulted in the fracture of his thighbone.</i>	
<b>forum</b>	<b>fragility</b>	
<b>forward</b>	<b>fragmentary</b>	
<b>foster</b>	<b>fragmentize</b>	
<b>fother</b>		
n / 'fəθə(r) / E [has homonym: father] a modern unit of weight for lead equal to 19½ hundredweight. <i>Scott celebrated when his new company recovered its first fother of refined lead from recycled scrap.</i>		

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**frangibility**

n  
/ˌfrɑnjəˈbɪlədē /  
L + Ecff  
the quality or state of being breakable.  
*Winnie appreciates the beauty of glass ornaments so much that their frangibility does not discourage her from buying them.*

**Franglais**

n  
/fræˈŋɡlɑ /  
F  
French marked by a considerable number of borrowings from English.  
*Even after three years of French lessons and a year as an exchange student in Cannes, Peter still speaks Franglais.*

**frappe**

**fraternity**

**frazil**

**frazzle**

**freesia**

n  
/ˈfrēzh(ē)ə /  
G name + Lcf  
any plant of a genus of sweet-scented herbs with narrow tubular red, white, or yellow flowers.  
*The most colorful flower in Davida's bouquet was the freesia.*

**freestyle**

**freezing**

adj  
/ˈfrēziŋ /  
E  
very cold.  
*After the first freezing night of the season, Greg unhappily discovered that his car battery had died.*

**freighter**

**freiyo**

**frenular**

adj  
/ˈfrenyələ(r) /  
L  
of or relating to a connecting fold of membrane serving to support or restrain.  
*After Gary took his classmate's dare and licked the frozen pump handle, the frenular tissue under his tongue hurt for a week.*

**frenzied**

**frequency**

**frequently**

**freshet**

**fretful**

**fretum**

**fribble**

v  
/ˈfrɪbəl /  
unknown  
act in a trifling or foolish manner.  
*Mr. Atkinson told the students not to fribble during study hall but to read and write quietly.*

**friction**

n  
/ˈfrɪkʃən /  
L  
resistance to the relative motion of one body sliding, rolling, or flowing over another with which it is in contact.  
*The friction of the large door against its frame kept Janice tugging on it for several long seconds.*

**friezing**

**frighten**

v  
/ˈfrɪtʰn /  
E + Ecf  
markedly disturb with fear.  
*Gary did not realize how much his Halloween mask would frighten his little brother.*

**frightened**

adj  
/ˈfrɪtʰnd /  
E  
made afraid : scared.  
*The frightened child was calmed by his mother's embrace.*

**frightening**

**frightful**

**frigid**

adj  
/ˈfrɪjəd /  
L  
markedly lacking heat or warmth : very cold.  
*The mountain climbers wore extra layers of clothing to combat the frigid conditions.*

**frigidarium**

**frijoles**

**friseur**

n  
/frēˈzər /  
F  
[Note: Could be confused with freezer.] hairdresser.  
*Fernando plans to name his beauty shop "Fernando the Fantastic Friseur."*

**fritter**

n  
/ˈfrɪdə(r) /  
L > F > E  
a small quantity of batter often containing fruit or meat and fried in deep fat or sautéed.  
*Eddie and George each ate a large apple fritter at the carnival.*

**frond**

**frons**

n  
/ˈfränz /  
L  
[has near homonym: fronds] the upper or the anterior part of the head capsule of an insect : the forehead of the insect head.  
*Simple eyes of an insect are usually located on the frons.*

**frontier**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**frontolysis**

**frostbitten**

adj  
/ 'frɒst.bi'tɪn /  
E + E

injured, nipped, or withered by the process of freezing.  
*The skier's mask saved him from getting a frostbitten nose.*

**frostbow**

**fructose**

n  
/ 'frʌk.tʊs /  
L

a sugar that occurs especially in fruit juices and honey.  
*Fructose is a common ingredient in many baked goods found in stores.*

**frugivorous**

adj  
/ frʉ'jɪvərəs /  
L + L

feeding on fruit.  
*Monkeys and apes are among the best-known frugivorous mammals.*

**frumentaceous**

adj  
/ 'frʉmən'tæʃəs /  
L

made of or resembling wheat or other grain.  
*The seeds of many frumentaceous plants such as corn and oats can be ground into meal.*

**fuchsias**

n pl  
/ 'fyʊʃhəz /  
G name

any of numerous decorative shrubs with pendulous tetramerous flowers often cultivated as potted plants.  
*Grandma lined her windowsill with fuchsias.*

**fuel**

**fugacity**

n  
/ fyü'gæsədē /  
L

lack of enduring qualities : transience.  
*The movie star soon experienced the fugacity of public adoration.*

**fugitives**

n pl  
/ 'fyüjədɪvz /  
L

individuals who run away from a master or employer or from uncongenial surroundings.  
*Sojourner Truth, one of the many fugitives from slavery, became as famous for advocating women's rights as she was for denouncing human bondage.*

**fulgent**

adj  
/ 'fʉljənt /  
L

dazzlingly bright : radiant.  
*Sophia's diamond earrings were fulgent in the sunlight.*

**fulgurous**

**fulmar**

**fulminating**  
adj  
/ 'fʉlmə.nātiŋ /  
L > E

coming on suddenly and with great severity : characterized by a rapid and severe course.  
*Dr. Lane dreaded telling his patient the diagnosis of pancreatic cancer, a fulminating disease.*

**fumblingly**

adv  
/ 'fəmbliŋlē /  
Scand? + Eeff

in a manner marked by groping or clumsiness.  
*Katie fumblingly related her excuse to her father.*

**fumigation**

n  
/ .fyümə'gāʃən /  
L > F > E

the act or process of treating with a gas in order to disinfect or destroy pests.  
*When Deedee saw a cockroach, she called the exterminator and arranged for the fumigation of her new apartment.*

**fumulus**

n  
/ 'fyümyələs /  
L

a thin cloud resembling a veil and forming at any level.  
*The sky was clear except for a fumulus over the distant mountains.*

**function**

**functional**

**fundamental**

**fundamentally**

**funerary**

**fungible**

adj  
/ 'fənjəbəl /  
L

of such a kind that one specimen or part may be used in place of another specimen or equal part to satisfy an obligation—used of things that can be counted, weighed, or measured and are consumed or alienated by use (as food, coal, oil, lumber).  
*When fungible goods of different countries of origin are mixed together, it is not practical to identify the origin of one sample of the product.*

**funipendulous**

adj  
/ .fyünə'penjələs /  
L

suspended by a rope or cord.  
*Daniel jokingly called his tire swing a "funipendulous recreational facility."*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**funnel**

n  
/ 'fʌnəl /  
L > OProv > E  
a utensil that has typically a hollow cone with a tube extending from the point and is designed to catch and direct the flow of a liquid or other substance.  
*Mary Ann used a funnel to direct the oil into the bottle.*

**furbelow**

n  
/ 'fərbə.ləʊ /  
F > E  
ruffle; specifically : a flounce on women's clothing.  
*Delia sewed a furbelow to the hem of her skirt.*

**furcate**

adj  
/ 'fər.kæt /  
L  
branching like a fork.  
*The toddler held the furcate twig up to his mom and whispered the letter y.*

**furioso**

**furiously**

adv  
/ 'fyūrē.əs.lē /  
L > F > E + Ecf  
in an impassioned manner : angrily.  
*The soldiers furiously pursued the raiders but could not catch them.*

**furl**

**furlong**

n  
/ 'fər.lɒŋ /  
E  
a unit of distance equal to 1/8 statute mile.  
*The horses named "Katie's Delight" and "Going for Gold" were neck and neck through the entire last furlong of the race.*

**furlongs**

n pl  
/ 'fər.lɒŋz /  
E  
units of distance, each being equal to 220 yards.  
*The second race, for fillies only, is six furlongs.*

**furnace**

**furrows**

v  
/ 'fər(,)ɔz /  
E  
shapes into alternate ridges and grooves; specifically : makes wrinkles in (the brow).  
*When Mr. Burns furrows his brow in puzzlement, he reminds his students of a shar-pei.*

**furuncle**

n  
/ 'fyūr.ɹəŋkəl /  
L  
a localized inflammatory swelling of the skin and underlying tissues that is caused by infection by a bacterium in a hair follicle or skin gland and that discharges pus and a central core of dead tissue.  
*A painful furuncle developed inside Amy's elbow.*

**fury**

n  
/ 'fyūr /  
L  
violent anger : rage.  
*George's sadness changed to fury, and he stalked about the room feeling as if he would explode.*

**fustigate**

v  
/ 'fəstə.gāt /  
L  
criticize severely.  
*Many restaurants withdrew their advertising when the newspaper's food critic began to fustigate them.*

**fusuma**

**futon**

n  
/ 'fju.tən /  
Jpn  
a mattress filled usually with cotton that is placed on the floor or in a raised frame for use as a bed.  
*Many people whose living and sleeping quarters are in the same room find that a futon meets their needs nicely.*

**futurama**

**fuzzy**

**gabarit**

**gabby**

**gabelle**

**gabfest**

**gable**

**gadarene**

adj  
/ 'gadə.rēn /  
Palestinian geog name  
rushing precipitously forward : engaged in headlong flight.  
*As the department store opened, a crazed gadarene horde of shoppers rushed headlong to the sales tables.*

**gadgetry**

n  
/ 'gəjdə.trē /  
unknown  
usually small and often novel mechanical or electronic devices or contrivances.  
*Anyone who loves gadgetry would have enjoyed the recent Inventor's Expo.*

**Gaelic**

adj  
/ 'gālik /  
ScGael & IrGael  
of, relating to, or characteristic of the language of the Gaels or especially of the Celtic Highlanders of Scotland.  
*Steve struggled through the Gaelic program for the Highland Games before he discovered the English translation.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**gaffer**

n  
/ 'gafə(r) /  
E?

an electrician in charge of the lighting of motion-picture or television sets.

*The gaffer tried various lighting techniques to see which would be most consistent with the mood of the scene.*

**gaillardia**

**gaiters**

n pl  
/ 'gɑːdə(r)z /  
Gmc > F

[has homonym: gators] cloth or leather leg coverings reaching from the instep to ankle, mid-calf, or knee, usually fastened by buttons or buckles, and held by a strap under the shank of the shoe.

*The bishop was hard at work fastening the lower buttons of his gaiters as the service was ready to begin.*

**galactose**

**galah**

**Galahad**

n  
/ 'galəhəd /  
E name

a man marked by unusual purity and self-sacrificing devotion to a noble cause.

*A true Galahad, Jim has spent his entire life trying to find solutions to the problem of poverty.*

**galanterie**

**galantine**

**galaxies**

n pl  
/ 'galəksēz /  
Gk

large systems of stars that make up the universe.

*The Milky Way is just one of the universe's countless galaxies.*

**galbulus**

n  
/ 'galbyələs /  
L

a spherical closed fleshy cone of thickened or fleshy peltate scales (as in the cypress).

*As we moved through the swamp, an occasional galbulus fell into our canoe.*

**gale**

n  
/ 'gāl /  
unknown

[has homonym: Gael] a strong current of air; specifically : a wind having a speed from 32 to 63 miles per hour.

*Despite the fierce gale and high seas, the Coast Guard set out to rescue the shipwreck survivors.*

**galena**

n  
/ gə'leɪnə /  
Gk

a mineral consisting of native lead sulfide occurring in cubic or octahedral crystals, bluish gray in color with metallic luster.

*Paul gave his brother a near-perfect cube of galena for his mineral collection.*

**galenical**

n  
/ gə'lenəkəl /  
Gk name

a standard medicinal preparation (as extract, tincture) containing usually one or more active constituents of a plant and made by a process that leaves the inert and other undesirable constituents of the plant undissolved.

*A galenical was a common type of medicine in the Middle Ages.*

**Galilean**

adj  
/ ,galə'lāən /

Ital name  
of or relating to Galileo Galilei, founder of experimental physics and astronomy.

*Opera glasses are a modified version of the Galilean telescope.*

**galimatias**

**gallant**

adj  
/ 'galənt /  
Gmc > F > E

marked by a blend of the high-spirited, brave, dashing, and chivalrous.

*The press conference featured speeches in praise of the gallant adventurers who had rescued the lost hikers.*

**galley**

**Gallinazo**

adj  
/ ,gä(y)ē'nä(ɪ)sō /  
L > Sp

of or relating to an ancient culture of northern Peru characterized especially by negative-painted pottery, irrigation, and textiles.

*Patty applied for a grant to study Gallinazo pottery at an excavation in Peru.*

**Gallionic**

adj  
/ ,galē'ānik /  
L

marked by indifference or easygoing carelessness or irresponsibility.

*Randall's Latin teacher told him that his Gallionic attitude toward homework would negatively affect his grade.*

**galvanic**

adj  
/ gal'vanik /  
It name

of, relating to, or producing direct electric current by chemical action.

*Myra constructed a galvanic cell using a bar of zinc, a bar of copper, two beakers, a U-shaped tube, and solutions of zinc and copper sulfate and potassium chloride.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**galvanometer**

n  
/ ˌgalvəˈnämədə(r) /  
It name > F + Ecf + Gk  
an instrument for detecting or measuring a small electric current by movements of a magnetic needle or of a coil in a magnetic field.  
*The lie detector's galvanometer indicated that the subject was lying.*

**gambrel**

**gamester**

**gamier**

adj  
/ ˈgāmēə(r) /  
E + Eeff  
more malodorous.  
*The smell in the hut was gamier than Maria could tolerate.*

**gamin**

**gammon**

**ganancial**

**ganglionitis**

**gangly**

**gangrenous**

**gangway**

**gannet**

**gape**

**gaping**

adj  
/ ˈgāpiŋ /  
ON > E  
wide open.  
*The giant raised his hand toward his gaping mouth, and the Humbug shut his eyes tightly and clasped both hands over his head.*

**garbage**

**garbologist**

**garbure**

**garganey**

**gargoyle**

**garibaldi**

n  
/ ˌgarəˈböldē /  
It name  
a woman's blouse copied from the red shirt worn by the Italian patriot Garibaldi.  
*Antonio followed his mother through the crowded market, keeping a sharp eye on her bright garibaldi.*

**garlicky**

**garment**

**garner**

**garnet**

n  
/ ˈgärnət /  
F > E  
a brittle mineral usually red in color and occurring mainly in crystals and used as a semiprecious stone and as an abrasive.  
*Alice asked the jeweler to suggest a setting for the garnet she inherited from her great aunt.*

**garnish**

v  
/ ˈgärnish /  
Gmc > F > E  
add decorative or savory touches to.  
*Rita used fresh dill to garnish the platter of smoked salmon.*

**garniture**

n  
/ ˈgärnəchə(r) /  
F  
the material in fireworks that produces stars, fiery rain, or other display after explosion.  
*Lin Yu calculated how much garniture would be needed to create the special fireworks for the Independence Day celebration.*

**gasket**

**gaslight**

**gasohol**

**gasp**

n  
/ ˈgasp /  
E  
catch the breath convulsively and audibly.  
*Mary caught her breath in a short gasp and felt herself turn pale.*

**gasped**

**gastrostomy**

n  
/ gaˈsträstəmē /  
Gk  
the surgical formation of an opening through the abdominal wall into the stomach to serve for the introduction of food.  
*The doctor recommends a gastrostomy as the best solution to keeping Alice alive during her coma.*

**gateado**

n  
/ ˌgädēˈä(,)dō /  
L > Sp  
a tropical American timber tree that yields a hard dense black-streaked wood used to make furniture.  
*The antique library table was made from gateado.*

**gatepost**

**gatherum**

n  
/ ˈgathərəm /  
E + Ecf  
a collection of miscellaneous items.  
*Alan referred to his assortment of beach glass and driftwood as a "gatherum," but his mother called it "Alan's junk."*

**gaud**

n  
/ ˈgòd /  
L > F > E  
[has homonym: god] ornament; especially : a showy or flashy bit of jewelry or finery.  
*The blackbird was attracted by the red glass gaud pinned to the shirt of the scarecrow.*

**gaudery**

**gaudify**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**gaudy**

**gaullist**

**gaunt**

adj

/ 'gɒnt /

Scand? > E

thin and angular.

*On a high podium in front stood the conductor—a tall, gaunt man with dark deep-set eyes.*

**gauzy**

**gavage**

n

/ gə'væʒ /

F

introduction of material (as nutrients) into the stomach by means of a stomach tube.

*Gavage is a common method of feeding babies who are unable to swallow enough for good nutrition.*

**gavel**

**gawkiness**

**gbo**

**gear**

**geisha**

**geishas**

**gelid**

adj

/ 'jelɪd /

L

extremely cold : icy.

*When Frank was in Finland, he took a memorable swim in gelid water.*

**gelignite**

n

/ 'jelɪg.nɪt /

L

a gelatin dynamite in which the adsorbent base is largely potassium nitrate or a similar nitrate usually with some wood pulp.

*Gelignite was used to blast a passage through the rocks for a roadway.*

**gemination**

**Gemini**

**gemmary**

n

/ 'jemərē /

L

the science of precious or sometimes semiprecious stones cut and polished for ornament.

*Perry has written many articles on gemmary for jewelers' trade magazines.*

**genealogical**

adj

/ ˌjɛnə'lɔːjəkəl /

Gk

of or relating to an enumeration of ancestors and their descendants in the natural order of succession.

*A family tree is a representation of genealogical relationships.*

**generalize**

**generator**

n

/ 'jenə.rəd.ə(r) /

L

a machine by which mechanical energy is changed into electrical energy.

*The generator at the cabin ran on gasoline.*

**genes**

**genetic**

**genialize**

v

/ 'jɛnyəlɪz /

L + Ecf

cause to be marked by sympathetic cheerfulness, warmth, and friendliness.

*Kim's goal as president is to genialize club members and thus minimize their cliquish behavior.*

**genius**

n

/ 'jɛnyəs /

L

[has near homonym: genus] a strongly marked capacity or aptitude : notable talent.

*Although he always means well, Cedric has a positive genius for getting into embarrassing situations.*

**genotype**

n

/ 'jənə.tɪp /

Gk + Gk

the totality of specific transmitters of hereditary characters possessed by an individual or group.

*Because Richard's blood type is O, he knows that his genotype is recessive.*

**gentlest**

**genuine**

**genus**

n

/ 'jɛnəs /

L

a class, kind, or group marked by one or more common characteristics.

*The housefly belongs to the genus *Musca*.*

**geocentric**

adj

/ ˌjɛɔ'sentrɪk /

Gk + Gk + Ecf

taking or based on Earth as the center of perspective and evaluation.

*The most highly developed geocentric system was that of Ptolemy of Alexandria.*

**geographical**

**geologist**

n

/ ˌjɛ'ælɔːjɪst /

L

a specialist in the history of Earth and its life especially as recorded in rocks.

*The geologist conducted a survey of the rock masses and mineral resources of the area.*

**geology**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**geometrically**

adv  
/ jĕə'metrək(ə)lē /  
Gk

in a manner relating to or according to the principles of geometry.

*The art gallery is displaying a collection of geometrically based abstractions.*

**geophagy**

n  
/ jĕə'äfəjĕ /  
Gk + Gk

the practice of eating earthy substances (as clay) in an attempt to supply elements lacking in an unbalanced diet.

*Research in geophagy reveals that some who practice it are protecting themselves against plant toxins and others are trying to meet an increased need for minerals.*

**geostrophic**

adj  
/ jĕə'strəfik /  
Gk

of or relating to deflective force due to the rotation of Earth.

*Geostrophic winds in the upper troposphere often reach high velocities.*

**gerenuk**

n  
/ 'gerə.nük /  
Somali

a long-necked antelope native to eastern Africa.

*The film showed a gerenuk gracefully rising on its hind legs to reach the leaves it feeds on.*

**geriatrician**

n  
/ ,jerĕə'trɪshən /  
Gk

a specialist in a branch of medicine that deals with the problems and diseases of old age and aging people.

*A geriatrician was consulted to find out how to treat Grandpa's grumpiness and loss of appetite.*

**germicide**

**germinate**

v  
/ 'jərmə.nāt /  
L

begin to grow : sprout—used especially of a spore or seed.

*The beans were allowed to germinate in the greenhouse before being transferred to outdoor soil.*

**germproof**

**gerontology**

n  
/ 'jerən'täləjĕ /  
Gk

a scientific study of the phenomena of aging and of the problems of the aged.

*Kathy's research in gerontology was complemented by weekly visits with retirement center residents.*

**gerrymandered**

**gestation**

n  
/ je'stāshən /  
L

the carrying of young usually in the uterus from conception to delivery : pregnancy.

*The Indian elephant's period of gestation can be as long as 22 months.*

**geta**

n pl  
/ 'ge( )tā /  
Jpn

Japanese wooden clogs for outdoor wear.

*Yukio wore his clunky geta to the public baths.*

**getaway**

**gethsemane**

**geusioleptic**

adj  
/ ,gyüzĕə'leptik /  
Gk

having or characterized by pleasant flavor.

*Drug companies have put much effort into producing geusioleptic medicines for children.*

**geyser**

**geyserite**

n  
/ 'gĕzərĭt /  
ON > Icelandic  
a hydrous silica that constitutes one variety of opal and is deposited around some hot springs and geysers in white or grayish concretions.

*While at Yellowstone National Park, Kyle took several pictures of the gray mounds of geyserite.*

**gherkin**

**ghost**

**ghostly**

adj  
/ 'gōstlē /  
E

of or relating to a mark or visible sign left by something dead, lost, or no longer present.

*The fog gave commonplace objects a ghostly appearance.*

**giantess**

**gibbet**

n  
/ 'jɪbət /  
F > E

a frame usually of two upright posts and a crossbeam from which is suspended the rope with which criminals are executed by hanging.  
*Only through the queen's mercy was the pirate able to escape the gibbet.*

**gibbon**

n  
/ 'gɪbən /  
F

any of a genus of tailless apes of southeastern Asia that are the smallest of the arboreal anthropoid apes.

*Its powerful upper limbs enable the gibbon to swing from tree to tree through the forest canopy.*

**gibbosity**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**Gibraltar**

n  
/ jə'brɒltə(r) /  
Iberian geog name  
an impregnable stronghold.  
*Louis viewed his private club as a Gibraltar of civility.*

**gibus**

n  
/ 'jɪbəs /  
F name  
a man's collapsible top hat—called also "opera hat."  
*In the 19th century, men often wore a gibus to formal occasions.*

**giddily**

**giddiness**

n  
/ 'gɪdɪnəs /  
E  
the quality or state of being exuberant, impulsive, or thoughtless.  
*The soccer team's giddiness resulted from winning the match.*

**gigabyte**

**gigahertz**

n  
/ 'gɪgəhɜrts /  
Gk > ISV + G name  
a unit of frequency equal to 1 billion cycles per second.  
*A radio signal with a frequency of 1 gigahertz lies in the microwave range.*

**gigantean**

**giggle**

v  
/ 'gɪgəl /  
imit  
laugh in an affected or silly manner.  
*Although she could not see the boys, Mrs. Rowe heard them giggle behind the sofa.*

**gigue**

n  
/ 'zhɛg /  
F  
[Note: Could be confused with jig.] a lively dance movement having compound triple rhythm and consisting of two sections, each of which is repeated.  
*The gigue is a major part of several European folk dances.*

**gilded**

adj  
/ 'gɪldəd /  
E  
covered or tinged with gold or a golden color.  
*The gilded icons in the church's transepts were ruined by vandals last weekend.*

**gimbal**

n  
/ 'gɪmbəl /  
L > F > E  
[has homonym: gimble] a contrivance that permits a body to incline freely in any direction or suspends something so that it will remain level when its support is tipped.  
*A rusty gimbal caused the compass to remain fixed while the boat listed.*

**ginger**

adj  
/ 'dʒɪŋjə(r) /  
Skt? > Gk > L > E  
having the reddish brown color of the spice ginger.  
*Mrs. Collins would die if anyone knew that her ginger hair is actually gray.*

**girder**

**gisarme**

**gist**

**gitano**

n  
/ hē'tä(ɪ)nō /  
Gk geog name > L > Sp  
a Spanish male gypsy.  
*A strolling gitano played folk songs on his violin for the restaurant patrons.*

**giusto**

**glaciarium**

**gladdened**

v  
/ 'glədʰnd /  
E  
made happy or cheerful.  
*The aging king was gladdened by the birth of an heir.*

**gland**

**glandular**

**glare**

v  
/ 'glə(a)(ə)r /  
E  
shine especially by reflection with a harsh uncomfortably brilliant light.  
*Late afternoon sun tends to glare off the windows across from Joan's apartment.*

**glary**

adj  
/ 'glə(a)rē /  
E  
shining with or reflecting a harsh uncomfortably bright light.  
*Jeremy had a difficult time driving east in the glary early morning hours.*

**gleam**

v  
/ 'glēm /  
E  
shine with subdued emitted or reflected light.  
*Captain Cook watched the moon gleam on the water in the harbor.*

**glean**

**gleanings**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**gleefully**

**glengarry**

n  
/ glen'garē /  
Scot geog name  
a woolen cap of Scottish origin typically having a crease in the crown from front to back and edges bound with ribbon that ends in the back in two small streamers.  
*Each bagpiper was wearing a glengarry, a kilt, a sporran, and spats.*

**glessite**

**glint**

v  
/ 'glint /  
E  
shine usually by reflection : sparkle.  
*Some rhinestones glint almost as brightly as diamonds.*

**glitch**

**glittering**

adj  
/ 'glidəriŋ /  
ON > E  
resplendent, brilliant.  
*Maxine's glittering Mardi Gras mask was the hit of the party.*

**gloaming**

n  
/ 'glōmiŋ /  
E  
twilight, dusk.  
*Bart heard the robins singing in the gloaming.*

**globalization**

n  
/ glōbələ'zāshən /  
L + Eeff  
the act of making something worldwide in scope or application.  
*One of the nation's goals is the globalization of democracy.*

**gloom**

n  
/ 'glüm /  
E  
an appearance or atmosphere of melancholy and despondency.  
*The overhanging trees cast a gloom over the dilapidated house.*

**glossolalia**

n  
/ ,gläsō'lälēə /  
Gk + Gk  
ecstatic speech that is usually unintelligible to hearers and is uttered in worship services of various contemporary religious groups laying great stress on religious excitation and emotional fervor.  
*Both glossolalia and healing by the laying on of hands were commonplace at the tent revival.*

**glossopathy**

**glottalize**

**Gloucester**

n  
/ 'glästə(r) /  
E geog name  
a hard cheese resembling derby.  
*Garrett topped his ham sandwich with a slice of Gloucester.*

**glummost**

adj  
/ 'gləməst /  
E  
most dismal, dreary, or gloomy.  
*At his glummost, Terry could still crack a joke.*

**glut**

**gluten**

**glutinous**

adj  
/ 'glüt(ə)nəs /  
L  
having the physical properties of glue.  
*When Matthew's mother told him to eat his stewed okra, he dropped his fork in the glutinous mass and burst into tears.*

**glutton**

**glyceride**

**glycerinated**

v  
/ 'glis(ə)rənādəd /  
Gk + F + Ecf  
treated with or preserved in glycerin.  
*The ointment contained gelatin that had been glycerinated.*

**glycogenolysis**

n  
/ ,glīkəjə'näləsəs /  
Gk  
the breakdown of animal starch especially to glucose in the animal body.  
*Low blood sugar triggers glycogenolysis in the liver, which produces the needed glucose.*

**glycolytic**

adj  
/ ,glīkə'lid-ik /  
Gk  
of, relating to, or inducing the enzymatic breakdown of glucose and other carbohydrates, with the release of energy.  
*Athletes often eat foods like pasta to counter glycolytic effects.*

**glyph**

**glyptic**

n  
/ 'gliptik /  
Gk  
the art or process of carving or engraving especially on gems.  
*The amber was enhanced by a beautiful example of glyptic.*

**gnarled**

**gnarly**

**gnash**

**gnat**

**gnatcatcher**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**gnathic**

adj  
/ 'nathik /  
Gk  
of or relating to the jaw.  
*The zoology students compared the gnathic features of various animals.*

**gnathonic**

**gnawed**

**gneiss**

n  
/ 'nīs /  
G  
[has homonym: nice] a laminated or foliated metamorphic rock corresponding in composition to granite.  
*The geologist easily identified the rock sample as a form of gneiss.*

**gnomonics**

n pl  
/ nō'māniks /  
Gk  
the art of using or making dials, especially sundials.  
*Gnomonics had its beginning when the ancient Egyptians started using shadows for measuring time.*

**gnostic**

adj  
/ 'nāstik /  
Gk  
of or relating to knowledge or cognition : intellectual.  
*Georgina's teacher said that her gnostic abilities were far greater than her grades indicated.*

**gnu**

n  
/ 'n(y)ü /  
Bushman  
[has homonym: new] any of several large African antelopes with a head like that of an ox, short mane, long tail, and horns that curve downward and outward and then up.  
*The brindled gnu, sometimes called a wildebeest, is one of the fastest animals in southern Africa.*

**goad**

**goateed**

adj  
/ (.)gō'tēd /  
E  
having a small trim pointed or tufted beard on the chin.  
*The portly, goateed restaurant owner stopped by each table to ask how everything was.*

**goatherd**

**goblet**

**goblins**

n pl  
/ 'gäblənz /  
Gk > L > F > E  
ugly or grotesque sprites.  
*Remembering all the stories of ghosts and goblins influenced his imagination to run wild.*

**gobo**

n  
/ 'gō(.)bō /  
unknown  
a portable black cloth-covered screen used to shield a camera from unwanted light.  
*Flora adjusted the gobo before the next take.*

**goddess**

n  
/ 'gädəs /  
E  
a female god.  
*The Hindu goddess Devi was the subject of a recent exhibit at the Smithsonian.*

**godsend**

**goggles**

**goldenfleece**

**goldfinch**

**Goldwynism**

n  
/ 'gōldwə'nizəm /  
US name  
a phrase or expression (as include me out) involving a grotesque use of a word.  
*One well-known Goldwynism is the saying "A verbal contract isn't worth the paper it's printed on."*

**golgotha**

n  
/ gäl'gäthə /  
Heb > Aram > Gk > L  
a place of burial : cemetery.  
*A chill ran down Henrietta's spine as she walked through the old golgotha.*

**gomphosis**

**goneness**

**goner**

**gonitis**

**goodies**

**gooney**

**googolplex**

**gopher**

n  
/ 'gōfə(r) /  
unknown  
any of several burrowing rodents.  
*"The old man was as spry as a gopher," said his grandson.*

**goracco**

**gorge**

**gorgio**

**gorgon**

**goshenite**

**gossoon**

**gouache**

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**Gouda**

n  
/ 'güdə /  
Netherlands geog name  
a whole-milk mild-flavored cheese shaped in flattened spheres and usually covered by a red protective coating.  
*The Gouda and grapes were a hit at Marcy's party.*

**gourmand**

**government**

**governor**

**grabble**

v  
/ 'grabəl /  
D  
move the hand (as in searching) in a groping fashion.  
*Every morning Tiffany has to grabble for her glasses.*

**gracefully**

adv  
/ 'grāsfulē /  
L + Ecff  
in a manner marked by fitness and proportion of line or movement.  
*Fred Astaire danced gracefully up the wall and across the ceiling.*

**gracilis**

n  
/ 'grasələs /  
L  
the most superficial muscle of the inside of the thigh.  
*At the bodybuilding contest the judges were so critical that they insisted on seeing if every muscle, including the gracilis, was developed.*

**gracioso**

**gradeability**

**graduate**

adj  
/ 'graj(ə)wət /  
L  
of, relating to, or engaged in studies that go beyond the first or bachelor's degree and are usually specialized or professional.  
*Although he is only a junior in college, Cecil is taking several courses on the graduate level.*

**gradus**

**Grail**

n  
/ 'grāl /  
L > F > E  
the cup or platter which according to medieval legend was used by Christ at the Last Supper, was brought to Britain, and thereafter became the object of knightly quests.

*The Holy Grail is sometimes referred to as "the silver chalice."*

**grainy**

**graminivorous**

**grammatical**

**grampus**

n  
/ 'grampəs /  
L > F > E  
a cetacean of temperate and tropical seas having a blunt snout and teeth in the lower jaw only.  
*Squid and octopus are the main foods of the grampus.*

**granary**

**grandee**

**grandeeship**

**grandiloquent**

adj  
/ gran'diləkəwənt /  
L  
marked by a lofty, extravagantly colorful, pompous, or bombastic style, manner, or quality especially in language.  
*The senator dedicated the monument with an entertainingly grandiloquent speech.*

**Grandisonian**

adj  
/ ,grandə'sōnēən /  
E name  
of, relating to, or befitting a model gentleman of the 18th century.  
*In a wig and knee britches, Jonathan played the part of the Grandisonian earl perfectly.*

**grandomania**

**granitic**

adj  
/ gra'nidɪk /  
L > It + Ecf  
resembling an igneous crystalline rock formation in austere inflexibility.  
*Rowan's boss has a terrifying granitic personality.*

**granivorous**

adj  
/ grə'niv(ə)rəs /  
L  
feeding on seeds or grain.  
*Ursula reinforced the silo to protect it from granivorous pests.*

**granular**

**granulation**

n  
/ ,granyə'lāshən /  
L  
the act or process of forming or crystallizing into grains or small masses.  
*The granulation of sugar is an important development in the history of food.*

**grapefruit**

**graphic**

adj  
/ 'grafɪk /  
Gk  
written, drawn, or engraved.  
*The graphic symbols of Linear A, a Cretan script, have not yet been deciphered.*

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**graphologist**

n  
/ gra'fäləjəst /  
Gk

a specialist in the study of handwriting especially for the purpose of character analysis.  
*When Claire signed the form, she was not told that a graphologist would be analyzing her signature.*

**graphorrhea**

**grasp**

v  
/ 'grasp /  
E

comprehend : understand.  
*Victor was able to grasp the new concept the first time it was presented.*

**grasshopper**

**grateful**

**graticulation**

**gratis**

adv  
/ 'gradəs /  
L  
without charge or recompense.  
*Some restaurants no longer provide water gratis.*

**gratitude**

n  
/ 'gradətüd /  
L  
thankfulness.  
*Tim's parents make many sacrifices so that he can train for the Olympics, but he shows them little gratitude.*

**grattoir**

**gratuitously**

adv  
/ grətüədəsle /  
L  
without involving a return benefit, compensation, or consideration.  
*The travel agency gratuitously provided the family with transportation to and from the airport.*

**graustark**

**Graustarkian**

adj  
/ grau'stärkēn /  
fictional name  
of or relating to an imaginary place of high romance.  
*Dr. Furter's castle was far from the Graustarkian ideal.*

**grave**

adj  
/ 'grāv /  
L > F  
having a serious, sedate, and dignified appearance or demeanor.  
*The judge appeared grave and impassive as she pronounced sentence on the convicted felon.*

**gravid**

adj  
/ 'gravəd /  
L  
pregnant.  
*The gravid mare seemed to give a sigh of relief as her rider dismounted.*

**gravimetry**

n  
/ grə'vimətrē /  
L + Gk + Ecf  
the measurement of weight or density.  
*Arleen's physics book has a chapter devoted to the study of gravimetry.*

**gravitational**

adj  
/ ,gravətāshənəl /  
L  
of or relating to a force manifested by acceleration towards each other of two free material particles or bodies.  
*If the gravitational force of Earth were turned off momentarily, we would all get a free ride into space.*

**gravity**

**gravure**

**gravy**

n  
/ 'grāvē /  
F > E  
any of several thickened sauces served especially with meat or potatoes.  
*The so-called "red-eye" gravy often served with ham and biscuits is usually made with strong coffee or cola.*

**graywacke**

**graze**

**great**

**greave**

n  
/ 'grēv /  
E  
[has homonym: grieve] armor for the leg below the knee.  
*Memnon removed the soldier's greave, exposing the wound underneath.*

**grebe**

**Grecian**

adj  
/ 'grēshən /  
Gk > L  
of, relating to, or characteristic of Greeks.  
*Grecian cuisine famously includes octopus and squid.*

**grecize**

v  
/ 'grēsīz /  
Gk > L > F  
make Greek or Hellenistic in quality, traits, or cultural characteristics.  
*The locals wouldn't allow invaders to grecize their culture.*

**greedy**

**greenbrier**

**greengage**

**greenhouse**

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**greenness**

n  
/ 'grēnnəs /  
E

the quality or state of being green.  
*The clear little stream ran quite merrily along on its narrow way through the luscious damp greenness.*

**gremlin**

**grenade**

**grenadierial**

**grenadine**

**griddle**

n  
/ 'gridl /  
L > F > E

a flat surface on which food is placed to be cooked by dry heat.  
*Dad makes buttermilk pancakes on the griddle every Sunday morning.*

**gridiron**

n  
/ 'gri.dī(ə)m /  
(L > F > E) + E  
[Note: Although the definition provided is the original sense, it is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a grated metal frame for grilling food over coals.  
*Sara's hot dog rolled off the gridiron and fell on the ground.*

**grievances**

n pl  
/ 'grēvən(t)səz /  
F > E

causes of uneasiness or distress felt to afford rightful reason for reproach, complaint, or resistance.  
*During his new-employee orientation, Stan was briefed on the procedure for filing grievances.*

**griffonage**

n  
/ grifə'nāzh /  
F

[Note: Could be confused with griffinage.] careless handwriting : a crude or illegible scrawl.  
*The pharmacist assured us that what looked like griffonage was simply a string of Latin abbreviations.*

**grimy**

**grip**

n  
/ 'grip /  
E

[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word. In addition, word has homonym: grippe.] a worker who moves the scenes in a theater.  
*Til worked as a grip at the Country Dinner Playhouse.*

**grippe**

**grisard**

**griseofulvin**

**grissino**

n  
/ grə'sē(.)nō /  
It  
a long slender crusty breadstick usually of Italian style or origin.  
*For a mid-afternoon snack, a grissino was all that Amelia needed.*

**grivoiserie**

**grobianism**

**grok**

v  
/ 'gräk /  
US literary name  
understand profoundly and intuitively : establish deep compassionate rapport with.  
*Robert Heinlein's most popular books are about a character who could grok his friends in a profound way.*

**grope**

v  
/ 'grōp /  
E

search about blindly or uncertainly.  
*The daydreaming student had to grope for an answer when the teacher asked him a question.*

**gross**

n  
/ 'grōs /  
L > F > E

[has near homonym: grows] an aggregate of 12 dozen things; specifically : a lot made up of 12 dozen usually relatively small and substantially identical commercial objects.  
*Mrs. Lin ordered a gross of gel pens to use for special rewards.*

**grotesqueness**

n  
/ grō'tesknəs /  
F&It  
the quality or state of being comically incongruous or ridiculously ugly.  
*Each horror movie seems to be trying to outdo the others in grotesqueness.*

**grotto**

**grottoed**

adj  
/ 'grädōd /  
L > It  
enclosed in or made into a natural covered opening in the earth.  
*The gangsters fled to their grottoed hideaway.*

**grouchiness**

**groundless**

**groundsel**

n  
/ 'graün(d)səl /  
E  
an herb of the genus Senecio sometimes used for medicinal purposes.  
*Groundsel is found in swamps and meadows from Newfoundland to Ontario.*

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**grouper**

**grouse**

**grout**

n  
/ 'graüt /  
E

thin mortar fluid enough to be poured and used for filling in spaces as in the joints of masonry or brickwork.  
*Randy carefully spread new grout and set the tiles into the counter top.*

**growthy**

**grubstake**

**grudgingness**

n  
/ 'grəjɪnəs /  
Gmc > F > E

the quality or state of being unwilling, reluctant, or ungenerous.  
*With some grudgingness, Ron came to accept Sam as his daughter's fiancé.*

**gruine**

**gryllus**

**gryposis**

n  
/ grə'pōsəs /  
Gk

abnormal curvature especially of the fingernail.  
*When one of Sarah's fingernails exhibited gryposis, her doctor removed it surgically.*

**guarantee**

**guaranteed**

v  
/ ,garən'tēd /  
Gmc > F

given or furnished security to.  
*Results are not guaranteed, but if not perfectly satisfied, your wasted time will be refunded.*

**gudgeon**

n  
/ 'gəjən /  
L > F > E

an iron pin for fastening together blocks of stone.  
*The stoneworker selected a heavy gauge of iron for the gudgeon that would hold together the parts of the granite park bench.*

**guenon**

n  
/ gə'nōn /  
F

any of various long-tailed chiefly arboreal African monkeys.  
*The guenon is a favorite zoo monkey because of its bright markings, good nature, and its habit of grimacing at observers.*

**guest**

**guichet**

**guidance**

**guilelessness**

n  
/ 'gī(ə)lləsnəs /  
Gmc > F > E + Ecff  
the quality or state of being innocent, naïve, and unsophisticated.

*Mrs. Waldron said that she loved teaching young children because of their natural guilelessness.*

**guiltsick**

**guilty**

**guinea**

**Guinean**

adj  
/ 'gīnēən /  
African geog name  
of, relating to, or characteristic of the region of Guinea, West Africa.  
*Guinea pigs are paradoxically not Guinean animals: They originate in South America.*

**guise**

**guitarist**

**gulag**

n  
/ 'gü.läg /  
Russ acronym  
the penal system of the former Soviet Union consisting of a network of labor camps.  
*Stalin chose a 15th-century monastery as the site for the first labor camp of the gulag.*

**gules**

n  
/ 'gyülz /  
F > E

the heraldic color red.  
*One is never allowed to change a coat of arms, since even the use of gules has a certain meaning.*

**gulp**

n  
/ 'gəlp /  
D or G > E  
the amount taken in a single large swallow.  
*Soot took the entire half of a buttered crumpet and decided to swallow it all joyfully in one gulp.*

**gumdrop**

**gunpowder**

**gunrunning**

**guppy**

**gurgitation**

**gurry**

n  
/ 'gərē /  
unknown  
[has homonym: ghurry] the refuse from cutting up a whale and extracting the oil.  
*The captain ordered the younger crewmen to clear the deck of gurry.*