

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

solemn

adj
/ 'säləm /
L

marked by full realization and acceptance of all that is involved.
Donald looked solemn as he apologized to the class.

solemnly

solenoglyph

solenoid

n
/ 'sölənóid /
Gk

a coil of wire commonly in the form of a long cylinder that carries a current.
It took a long time to trace the power failure to a faulty solenoid.

soleprint

solfeggio

solicit

solicitude

n
/ sə'lisə.tüd /
L

uneasiness of mind due to fear.
Having few wants, he had little cause for solicitude.

solipsist

n
/ 'söləpsəst /
L + L

an adherent or advocate of an extreme version of subjective idealism.
To Traci, the sculptor was nothing more than an affected solipsist, pawning off junk as art.

solitary

adj
/ 'sälə.terē /
L

single, individual, sole.
The road raced ahead in a series of gentle curves that began to look familiar, and off in the distance a solitary tollbooth appeared.

solmizate

v
/ 'sälmə.zāt /
L > F

sing using a set of syllables to denote the tones of a musical scale.
In the musical The Sound of Music, Maria composes a song called "Do Re Mi" to teach her young pupils to solmizate.

soloist

n
/ 'söləwəst /
L > It + Ecf

one who performs with no partner or associate.
Charles is an occasional soloist in his school's modern dance performances.

Solomonic

adj
/ 'sälə'mänik /

Heb name
marked by notable wisdom, reasonableness, or discretion especially under trying circumstances.
Naeem's Solomonic solution to a workplace disagreement earned him a reputation as a peacemaker.

solution

solve

v
/ 'sälv /
L > E

find an answer, solution, or explanation for.
The algebra teacher asked her class to solve five word problems, but only one student got a perfect score.

solvency

n
/ 'sälvənsē /
L

the quality or state of being able to pay all legal debts.
After Jack's financial setbacks, he determinedly struggled back to solvency.

somatotonic

adj
/ sə'madətəp /
Gk

exhibiting a pattern of aggressiveness, love of physical activity, vigor, and alertness.
With his somatotonic personality, Brian gets more done before nine in the morning than most people get done all day.

somatotype

n
/ 'sömədətəp /
Gk

body type : physique.
Considering Phil's thin, slight build, the physician classified his somatotype as ectomorphic.

sombra

n
/ 'sämbərə /
L > Sp

the shady side or section of a bullfight arena.
Richard was glad he had a seat in the sombra.

sommelier

n
/ .söməl'yā /
L > Prov > F

a waiter in a restaurant who has charge of wines and their service.
The sommelier at L'Escoffier is famous for his knowledge of rare and unusual European wines.

somniferous

adj
/ säm'nif(ə)rəs /
L

tending to induce sleep.
For most of July the city baked in somniferous heat.

somnipathy

n
/ säm'nipəthē /
L

abnormal or disordered sleep (as in a hypnotic state).
Sleeping with open eyes is normal for Aaron, not some sort of somnipathy.

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somnolent

adj
/ 'sɑ̃mnlənt /
L
tending to induce drowsiness or sleepiness.
Jeff could feel his eyelids getting heavier as he listened to the somnolent sermon.

sonable

sonata

sonnet

n
/ 'sɑ̃nət /
L > OP
a fixed verse form of Italian origin consisting of 14 lines.
Thomas remembered memorizing in high school a sonnet about Triton and a wreathed horn.

sonobuoy

n
/ 'sɑ̃nəbui /
L + Gmc > F > E
a float equipped with a hydrophone for detecting underwater sounds and an automatic radio transmitter for transmitting the sounds.
The airman dropped a sonobuoy over the submarine's last known location.

sontag

sophomoric

adj
/ .sɑ̃f(ə)'mɔ̃rik /
Gk
exhibiting a firm and often aggressive conviction of knowledge and wisdom and being unaware of limitations and lack of maturity.
Cora's sophomoric analysis irritated the other board members.

sorbefacient

sorbitol

sordid

sorehead

sorely

adv
/ 'sɔ̃(ə)rli /
E
severely, violently.
Mongo was sorely vexed when faced with criticism.

soricine

sororal

adj
/ sə'rɔ̃rəl /
L + Ecf
of, relating to, or being in the relationship of a sister.
Due to their strong sororal bond, Melanie and Lynette are aware of each other's emotions, even though they live in different parts of the country.

sororate

sorrow

sorrowful

adj
/ 'sɑ̃rɔ̃fəl /
E
full of or characterized by uneasiness or anguish due to loss (as of something loved or familiar).
The author described his mother as a sorrowful, pathetic soul, plagued by bad luck.

sortilege

soterial

adj
/ sɔ̃'tiriəl /
Gk
of or relating to salvation.
After the offertory the choir sang a soterial hymn.

soul

soundproof

soupcon

source

sourly

adv
/ 'sau(ə)rli /
E
in an unpleasant distasteful manner.
Lee sourly puckered up his mouth and walked away.

sovereign

sowback

soybean

sozzle

spaceport

spadiceous

adj
/ spɑ̃'dishəs /
Gk > L
of a bright clear brown or a chestnut color.
Madeline found a spadiceous feather, which she thought was from a hawk.

spanspek

spar

spareribs

n pl
/ 'spa(a)(r).ribz /
G > E
a cut of pork ribs and breastbone separated from the bacon strip.
Today's featured items in the cafeteria are spareribs and peach pie.

sparkler

sparring

sparrow

spasm

spasmolysis

spasmolytic

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spasms

n pl
/ 'spazəmz /
Gk > L > F > E
sudden violent and temporary activities : bursts.
The spasms of pain Terry is experiencing are caused by a spinal injury.

spasticity

spathe

spatiography

spearhead

n
/ 'spi(ə)r.hed /
E + E
the sharp, pointed tip of a long, thin hurling weapon.
Ada found an ancient spearhead near the riverbank.

specialize

specie

specific

adj
/ spə'sifik /
L
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] being any of various arbitrary physical constants and especially one relating a quantitative attribute to unit mass, volume, or area.
Specific gravity is defined as the ratio between the weight of a substance and the weight of an equal volume of water at 4 degrees Celsius.

specificity

n
/ ,spesə'fisədē /
L + Ecff
the quality or state of being free from ambiguity.
Mr. Spence values specificity in his students' essays.

speciosity

speckled

spectacles

n pl
/ 'spektəkəls /
L
glasses that are supported by the ears.
The pair of spectacles in the antique shop were very small with round lenses and gold frames.

spectacular

adj
/ spek'takyələr /
L
of, relating to, or constituting a remarkable or noteworthy sight.
The fireworks launched from the river barge displayed a spectacular scene for the thousands watching.

spectrometer

n
/ spek'trämədə(r) /
L + Gk
an instrument designed for the examination and measurement of chemical compounds.
The mass spectrometer is used to sort atoms and molecules according to their atomic masses.

spectroscope

speculate

v
/ 'spekyəlāt /
L
ponder a subject in its different aspects, relations, and implications.
Despite all his efforts to speculate as to the outcome of his venture, Art was not at all prepared for what happened.

speculative

specus

speiss

speleology

n
/ ,spēlē'äləjē /
Gk + gk
the scientific study or systematic exploration of caves.
Dale's research in speleology takes him to spectacular natural features around the world.

spellbinder

spencer

n
/ 'spen(t)sə(r) /
E name
a woman's fitted jacket of waist length or shorter.
Miss Bates got her bonnet and spencer on and was ready to come outside.

Spencerian

adj
/ 'spen'sirēən /
American name
of, relating to, or characteristic of a form of slanting handwriting developed by American calligrapher Platt Rogers Spencer.
The documents in the attic trunk were written in Spencerian script.

spendthrift

n
/ 'spen(d)θrift /
E + ON > E
one that spends or uses wastefully or improvidently.
The legislator resented being called a spendthrift at the public trough.

sphere

sphericity

n
/ sfə'risədē /
Gk
the quality or state of being spherical : roundness; especially : the degree of perfection of the surface of a sphere.
By circumnavigating Earth, Magellan confirmed Earth's sphericity.

spherometer

n
/ sfə'rämədə(r) /
Gk
an instrument for measuring the curvature of a spherical object.
The invention of the spherometer substituted the sense of sight for that of touch in the measurement of curved objects.

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sphingine

adj
/ 'sfɪn.jɪn /
Gk

resembling a sphinx.
The writer described the Mona Lisa's enigmatic look as "sphingine."

sphragistic

adj
/ sfrə'jɪstɪk /
Gk

relating to seals and signets.
The author discussed and illustrated the successive styles of English sphragistic art.

sphygmia

adj
/ 'sfɪgmɪk /
Gk

of or relating to the circulatory pulse.
An instrument measured the patient's sphygmia changes during the operation.

sphygmomanometer

n
/ ,sfɪɡ(ɪ)mɒmən'næməðə(r) /
Gk

an instrument for measuring blood pressure and especially arterial blood pressure.
The nurse-practitioner checked Siggie's blood pressure with a sphygmomanometer.

spiccato

adj
/ spə'kɑd(ɪ)ɔ /
It

performed with springing bow—used as a direction in music for stringed instruments.
The cellist excelled in playing the spiccato passages of the movement.

spiculiferous

adj
/ ,spɪkə'lɪf(ə)rəs /
L + L + L

bearing small fleshy points or appendages.
The shape of the sponge is maintained by its spiculiferous skeleton.

spidery

adj
/ 'spɪdəre /
E

resembling or suggesting a spider web; especially : composed of fine threads or lines in a weblike arrangement.
The spidery lines on Joan's leg are broken capillaries.

spikiness

spinose

adj
/ 'spɪ.nəʊs /
L

full of spines : armed with spines.
The spinose porcupine has little to fear from most predators.

spintherism

spirit

spiograph

n
/ 'spɪrə.ɡrɑf /
L + Gk

an instrument for recording respiratory movements commonly consisting of a spirometer together with a suitable recording device.
Dr. Martinez scanned the spiograph for any irregularities before making his diagnosis.

spirogyra

n
/ ,spɪrə'jɪrə /
L > Gk > L

any plant of a genus of freshwater green algae forming slimy masses in still water and slow streams.
The shallow pool was completely covered with spirogyra.

spirulate

spite

spiteful

spittoon

spitz

splanchnic

splanchnology

n
/ splʌŋk'næləʒe /
Gk

a branch of anatomy concerned with the internal organs of the body.
Professor Adams supplemented his lectures in splanchnology with graphic slides of the spleen, liver, and intestines.

splendiferous

splenomegaly

n
/ ,splɛnə'megəle /
Gk

enlargement of the spleen.
Patients affected with malaria generally exhibit splenomegaly.

splice

v
/ 'splɪs /
D

unite two ropes or two parts of one rope by sticking or tucking the strands of one rope or part between or around each other.
Barton knew how to splice the old rope to the new one so skillfully that the join could hardly be seen.

splintered

plotchy

spoiler

spondean

adj
/ spænd'eən /
Gk + Ecf

having, consisting of, or characterized by metrical feet of two long or stressed syllables.
Poets occasionally use spondean feet to break or slow down the predominant rhythm of a poem.

spondylitic

adj
/ ,spændə'lɪdɪk /
Gk

affected with inflammation of the vertebrae.
The spondylitic patient was treated with anti-inflammatory drugs.

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sponge

sponsor

spoof

spoofery

sporadic

adj

/ spə'radɪk /

Gk

occurring occasionally, singly, or in scattered instances.

Mr. Gifford warned Katie that completing her homework could not be a sporadic activity if she wanted to pass the class.

sporadicity

sprawling

v

/ 'sprɔːlɪŋ /

E

lying or sitting with arms and legs stretched out carelessly or awkwardly.

The bucking of the horse sent the cowboy sprawling on the ground.

sprightly

sprinkling

n

/ 'sprɪŋk(ə)lɪŋ /

E

a limited quantity or amount : a slight portion : modicum.

Portia complained that she had received only a sprinkling of outstanding instruction in her first year of college.

spritzer

spruce

n

/ 'sprʊs /

F > E

a variable color averaging a dark grayish green.

Mrs. Kim says that for her Christmas dinner tablecloth, the perfect shade of green to go with red napkins is spruce.

spunky

spurrier

spy

squabash

squabble

squally

adj

/ 'skwɒlə /

Scand?

marked by sudden violent winds often accompanied by rain or snow.

When the weather became squally, the fishing boats headed back to port.

squalor

squamaceous

squamulose

adj

/ 'skwamyələʊs /

L

covered with minute scales.

Squamulose lichens cover the seaside rocks.

squandermania

n

/ ,skwændə(r)'mānēə /

unknown + Gk > L

the practice of spending money extravagantly especially by a government.

The mayoral candidate promised to halt the city's squandermania if elected.

squawker

squawking

squdge

v

/ 'skwəʃ /

imit?

ooze.

Stacia drove slowly along the muddy road, worried that the mud would squdge into every crevice of the car.

squeaker

n

/ 'skwēkə(r) /

E

a contest won by a narrow margin.

The Raiders triumphed over the Rams in a 7-6 squeaker.

squealer

squeeze

squeg

squelcher

squibbery

n

/ 'skwɪbəri /

unknown

the utterance or composition of short, humorous, satiric, or lampooning writing or speech.

The opponents exchanged squibbery as if throwing darts at each other.

squidgy

squiggle

n

/ 'skwɪgəl /

(imit? + E) > E

a short wavy twist or line : curl.

David made a long squiggle on his paper while he daydreamed.

squire

n

/ 'skwɪ(ə)r /

L > F > E

a shield bearer or armor bearer of a knight.

During a lull in the battle, each knight's squire came forward with food, water, and replacement weapons.

squirm

stabilization

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stade

n
/ 'stād /
Gk > L > E
[has homonyms: staid, stayed] any of various ancient Greek units of length equal to 600 Greek feet.
The footrace in the ancient Olympic Games at Olympia was exactly a stade in length.

stadimeter

stadium

n
/ 'stādēəm /
Gk > L > F > E
a large usually unroofed structure with tiers of seats for spectators and enclosing a field usually for sports events.
The new sports stadium will be named after a large corporation thanks to a big contribution to cover construction costs.

stadthouse

stagecraft

n
/ 'stāj.kraft /
L > F > E + E
the art or practice of effective management of theatrical devices or techniques.
The critic praised the opera not only for the singing but also for its effective stagecraft.

stagehand

n
/ 'stāj.hand /
L > F > E + E
a stage worker who handles scenery and properties.
The stagehand tripped and fell with a loud thud during the performance.

stagestruck

staggered

stagnicolous

stagnum

staid

adj
/ 'stād /
L > F > E
[has homonyms: stade, stayed] sober, grave, sedate.
Scrooge was a stingy, staid curmudgeon.

staircase

stakemaster

stalemate

n
/ 'stāl.māt /
F > AF > E + F > E
a drawing position in chess in which only the king can move and although not in check can move only into check.
Sasha and Vanya played to a stalemate in the Moscow city chess championship.

staleness

n
/ 'stāl.nəs /
E
the quality or state of being altered in quality through the action of natural processes.
The bread's staleness did not stop hungry Herbie from eating it.

stallion

n
/ 'stalyən /
Gmc > F > E
a mature male of any equine mammal.
The zoo has one zebra stallion and three mares.

staminiferous

stammeringly

standardization

standpatter

stannary

staphylococcus

staphyloma

n
/ ,stafə'lōmə /
Gk
a protrusion of the cornea or sclera of the mammalian eye.
The ophthalmologist surgically removed the staphyloma in Stella's left eye.

starboard

n
/ 'stərbərd /
E
the right side of a ship or airplane looking forward.
The tour guide pointed to starboard when porpoises began leaping in the water.

stargazer

starry

adj
/ 'stärē /
E
abounding with stars.
Noel marveled at how much more starry the sky appeared when he was away from the city.

startle

v
/ 'stārd·l /
E
move or jump suddenly as in surprise, fear, or alarm.
Some babies startle easily.

starvation

static

stationarily

statuary

n
/ 'stachə.werē /
L
a branch of sculpture dealing with three-dimensional figures.
In her study of ancient Greek statuary, Hillary was surprised to learn that figures had often been brightly painted.

statue

statute

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statutorily

staurolatry

n
/ stō'rälətrē /
Gk

worship of the cross or crucifix.
After the missionaries left, many natives turned what they had learned into a primitive form of staurolatry.

staypak

stealthily

stealthy

steamroller

n
/ 'stēm.rōlə(r) /
E

a steam-driven road roller.
The cartoon character was flattened by a huge steamroller.

steed

n
/ 'stēd /
E

horse.
The slow-moving steed could not be coaxed or forced to move any faster.

steeplechase

n
/ 'stēpəl.chās /
E + L > F > E

a horse race across country and over barriers ridden by a number of participants.
Bonnie won the steeplechase handily.

steerage

steeved

stein

stench

n
/ 'stench /
E

a malodorous smell.
Georgette attributed her nausea to the stench emanating from the chemical factory.

stencilization

steneacious

stentorian

adj
/ sten'tōrēən /
Gk name + Ecf
extremely loud : capable of powerful utterance or sound.
Herman's stentorian boom box annoyed everyone on the bus.

stephanotis

n
/ ,stefə'nōdās /
Gk
any plant of a genus of Old World tropical woody vines with fragrant white flowers.
Madagascar jasmine is a stephanotis that is used as an ornamental in warm regions and in greenhouses.

stereophonic

adj
/ ,sterēə'fānik /
Gk + Gk
giving, relating to, or constituting a three-dimensional effect of perspective attained or experienced through hearing.
Most television sets now are equipped with stereophonic speakers.

stereotomist

n
/ ,sterē'äd-əmāst /
Gk
a practitioner of the art of stonecutting.
A stereotomist will carve a gargoyle for the new library.

stereotomy

sterilant

n
/ 'sterələnt /
L
a sterilizing agent; especially : an herbicide designed to completely eliminate a kind of plant and to have a rather persistent residual effect in the soil.
A sterilant was sprayed on the brick walk to prevent the growth of weeds.

sterlet

stern

adj
/ 'stərn /
E
having a serious and strict manner.
Darryl always looks more stern when he wears glasses.

sternocostal

sternutatory

stet

v
/ 'stet /
L
annotate with the word stet or otherwise mark to nullify a previous order to delete or omit.
Every time Harry tried to get rid of part of a dictionary entry, the chief editor would stet the deletion.

steward

stichic

adj
/ 'stikik /
Gk
of, relating to, or consisting of lines that are rhythmic units : arranged or divided by lines : serial in succession or recurrence.
Ancient Greek dramatists used stichic form for spoken dialogues.

stichometry

stickum

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stifling

adj
/ 'stɪf(ə)lɪŋ /
F > E
producing suffocation or repression.
The stifling smell of cigar smoke killed Ashley's appetite.

stigmatism

stigmatization

stile

n
/ 'stɪ(ə)l /
E
steps or rungs to assist a person over a fence while remaining a barrier for livestock.
Gigi had trouble getting over the stile into the field.

stillatitious

stimulogenous

stingy

stipiform

stipule

stirpiculture

stoat

n
/ 'stɔt /
E
ermine; broadly : any of various weasels that have a black-tipped tail—used especially of the animal when in the brown summer coat.
The stoat was closing in on the rabbit, which seemed unaware of the danger.

stochastically

adv
/ stə'kæstək(ə)lɪ /
Gk
in a random manner.
The company's quality control involved testing its products stochastically.

stockade

n
/ stəkād /
(Gmc + L) > Sp
an enclosure usually surrounded by barbed wire in which prisoners are kept.
The insubordinate soldier was sent to the stockade for the rest of his enlistment.

stockholders

stodgily

stoic

stolidity

stomach

stomacher

n
/ 'stəməkə(r) /
Gk
the center front section of a waist or underwaist or a usually heavily embroidered or jeweled separate piece for the center front of a bodice.
If Jane but sends her aunt the pattern of a stomacher or knits a pair of garters for her grandmother, one hears of nothing else for a month.

stomatology

stoneware

stooge

n
/ 'stuj /
unknown
a subordinate participant in a comic act or dialogue whose function is to carry on repartee in such manner as to enable a principal comedian to make humorous remarks or appear in a humorous light.
In the western, Smiley played the sheriff's naïve stooge.

storage

n
/ 'stɔrɪj /
L > F > E
space for collecting as a reserved supply.
When we designed the new garage, extra space was allotted for general storage.

storyless

stowaway

straight

straightedge

strategize

v
/ 'strədə,jɪz /
Gk
devise a plan.
The board met to strategize for expanding the company's foreign markets.

strategy

n
/ 'strədə,jē /
Gk
a careful plan or method.
At halftime the coach outlined a new defensive strategy.

stratificate

stratification

stratified

v
/ 'strədə,fɪd /
L
formed, deposited, or arranged in layers.
Mike pointed out the stratified sedimentary rock formations revealed by erosion.

stratocracy

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stratocumulus

n
/ˌstrədəˈkyümyələs/
L

stratified cumulus consisting of large balls or rolls of dark cloud which often cover the whole sky especially in winter.
The satellite picture revealed a large deck of stratocumulus off the coast of California.

stratose

adj
/ˈstrɑːtəʊs/
L

arranged in layers.
The stratose limestone was quite visible where the hillside had been cut during highway construction.

stratosphere

streamline

stremmatograph

strengthen

strenuosity

strenuous

adj
/ˈstrenyəwəs/
L

arduous, rigorous.
Paul relaxed after a strenuous day's work.

stretch

v
/ˈstretʃ/
E

extend in length.
Sam got up to stretch his legs and get a snack.

stretchy

strewn

v
/ˈstriːn/
E

spread by scattering.
Yellow seed-cucumbers were strewn about the dry garden patch.

striated

adj
/ˈstriːədɪd/
L

marked with threadlike lines or narrow bands.
Marcus found an interesting striated rock lying in the dry creekbed.

stridulated

v
/ˈstrijələˈdeɪd/
L

made a shrill often vibrating noise.
The locusts stridulated so loudly that the campers could hardly hear each other without raising their voices.

stridulatory

adj
/ˈstrijələˈtɔːrē/
L + Ecff

used in the act of producing a shrill often vibrating noise.
Most crickets tune up their stridulatory organs at about twilight and keep them going all night.

strisciando

strobe

stromuhr

strongylosis

n
/ˌstrɒnjəˈlɔːsɪs/
Gk

infestation with or disease caused by any of a family of parasitic roundworms.
An outbreak of strongylosis caused the deaths of thousands of game birds.

strontium

struck

structure

struggle

struggling

strychninism

stubble

n
/ˈstʌbəl/
L > F > E

a short growth of beard.
The unusual appearance of stubble on Bob's face must mean he's trying to grow a beard.

stubbornly

stuccoed

student

n
/ˈst(y)üdənt/
L

one devoted to learning, as one enrolled in a class or course in a school, college, or university.
No student at Andrew's school had 100 percent attendance last year.

stulm

stumble

stupa

n
/ˈst(y)üpə/
Skt

a hemispherical or cylindrical mound or tower artificially constructed of earth, brick, or stone, surmounted by a spire or umbrella, and containing a relic chamber.
The stupa was said to contain a relic of the Buddha.

stupulose

sturnine

style

stymie

v
/ˈstɪmē/
E

block, check, thwart.
Brock's negative attitude will stymie his ability to maximize his potential.

stymied

styplicity

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

styrene

suave

adj
/ 'swäv /

L
smoothly affable or polite though often without deep interest or sincerity.
José had a suave way of treating his guests.

subclavate

subclavian

adj
/ .səb'klāvēən /

L
located under the collarbone.
Leonard has a small subclavian scar from a long-ago skateboard accident.

subimago

n
/ .səbə'mā(,)gō /

L
a stage in the development of some insects between the nymph and the adult in which the insect is able to fly but becomes mature only after a further molt.
The mayfly subimago flies from the surface of the water to some sheltered resting place nearby, where it will shed its skin and emerge as an adult.

subito

adv
/ 'sübēd(,)ō /

L > It
immediately, suddenly—used as a direction in music.
It was the desire of the composer—not the director—to play the passage subito forte.

subjectable

sublimation

n
/ .səblə'māshən /

L
the action or process of passing from the solid to the vapor state by the action of heat.
Steamy dry ice is an excellent example of the process of sublimation.

sublime

v
/ sə'blīm /

L > F > E
pass directly from the solid to the vapor state.
Causing naphthalene to sublime rids it of impurities.

subliminal

sublittoral

submarine

submit

subordinate

adj
/ sə'börd(ə)nət /

L
holding a lower or inferior position.
The soldier was ordered to spend three hours digging a ditch to help him learn that he was subordinate to the leader.

subornation

n
/ (,)sə.bō(r)'nāshən /

L
the crime of procuring a person to commit perjury.
The mobster was arrested and charged with subornation of a key witness.

subrogate

v
/ 'səbrō.gāt /

L
put in the place of another : substitute.
In an act of financial selflessness, Louis decided to subrogate his assets for his brother's debt.

subsattellite

subsequent

adj
/ 'səbsəkʷənt /

L > E
following in time : coming or being later than something else.
The earthquake and subsequent aftershocks devastated the city.

subservience

n
/ (,)səb'sərvēən(t)s /

L
[Note: Could be confused with plural noun subservients.]
excessive willingness to submit to the control or demands of another.
The columnist chided the Congressmen for their subservience to wealthy and well-organized lobbies.

subsided

v
/ səb'sīdəd /

L
let oneself settle down : eased, sank.
After barking at the stranger for several minutes, the dog subsided next to Julio.

subsidiaries

subsidize

v
/ 'səbsə.dīz /

L > E + Ecf
aid or promote (as a private enterprise) with public money.
The fact that taxpayers subsidize some tobacco growers continues to irritate many nonsmokers.

subsidy

subsonic

substantiable

substantial

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

substantiate

v
/ səbz'tanchē.āt /
L
prove, confirm, verify.
The suspect was unable to substantiate his whereabouts at the time of the crime.

substitution

subterre

subtlety

suburb

subversion

succade

succedaneum

n
/ .səksə'dānēəm /
L
one that comes next after or replaces another in an office, position, or role.
If the president and the vice-president of the United States die while in office, the Speaker of the House of Representatives is their succedaneum.

succeed

succeeding

v
/ sək'sēdɪŋ /
L + Ecf
following after another especially in a natural, prescribed, or necessary order.
The senior class built a trail on the mountain behind the school to enable succeeding students to appreciate the flora.

success

succinctly

adv
/ sək'sɪŋ(k)tē /
L + Ecf
with concise and precise brevity.
The English teacher stressed the importance of expressing ideas clearly and succinctly.

succor

succory

succussatory

adj
/ sə'kəsə.tōrē /
L > E
characterized by up-and-down vibrations of short amplitude—used of an earthquake.
Fortunately, the earthquake's succussatory movements caused only minor damage to the buildings.

succussion

suction

n
/ 'səksʰən /
L
the act or process of exerting a force upon a body by means of reduced air pressure over part of its surface.
To demonstrate suction, Alan used a drinking straw to lift a piece of paper.

suffragette

n
/ .səfrə'jet /
L + F > Ecf
a woman who militantly advocates giving women the right to vote.
Sheldon's great-aunt was a famous English suffragette who was finally able to vote at the age of seventy-two.

suffusive

suicidology

suint

suitcase

suitor

sullen

adj
/ 'sələn /
L > F > E
ill-humoredly unsociable : gloomily or resentfully silent.
When her name was called, Judy looked up in sullen resentment.

sultana

Sumatran

adj
/ sə'mätṛən /
geog name
of, relating to, or characteristic of the island of Sumatra.
The Sumatran rhinoceros is becoming rare in Malaysia.

sumi

summa

sunbow

n
/ 'sən.bō /
E + E
an arch resembling a rainbow.
A sunbow was clearly visible through the mist at Niagara Falls.

sunglo

n
/ 'süŋ'lō /
Chin geog name
[has near homonym: sunglow] a green Chinese tea characterized by large loosely rolled leaves.
The monks offered their visitor a cup of sunglo.

sunshiny

adj
/ 'sən.shɪnē /
E + E
bright with or as if with the rays of the Sun.
Because Saturday was such a sunshiny day, Mom spent most of her time gardening.

superb

adj
/ sü'pərb /
L
stately, lordly.
The statue of the king conveyed his superb demeanor well.

supercentrifuge

supercilium

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supererogation

n
/ .süpə.rerə'gāshən /

L
the act or process or an instance of performing more than necessary to complete an undertaking.
The teacher asked for a three-page essay on insects, but in a burst of supererogation, Duane wrote six pages.

superfluity

superjacent

superlative

adj
/ sə'pərlədɪv /
L
most eminent of its kind : having no peers.
Austin's superlative skill as a violinist makes him the clear choice for concertmaster.

supernaculum

supernal

adj
/ sü'pərnəl /
L
of a heavenly or spiritual character.
Fran's essay defends her belief that humankind will never penetrate the supernal wisdom by which God governs the universe.

supernova

n
/ .süpə(r)'nōvə /
L
one of the rarely observed nova outbursts in which the maximum intrinsic luminosity may reach 100 million times that of the Sun.
The supernova of 1054 was bright enough to be seen during the day.

supersede

supersessive

adj
/ .süpə'sesiv /
L
tending to take the place of or cause to be supplanted.
Jimmy is afraid the new baby will prove supersessive in his parents' affections.

superstition

n
/ .süpə(r)'stishən /
L
a fixed irrational idea : a notion maintained in spite of evidence to the contrary.
Harvey believes in the superstition that breaking a mirror brings seven years of bad luck.

supervene

supervenient

adj
/ .süpə(r)'vēnyənt /
L
coming or occurring as something additional, extraneous, or unexpected.
A corporation's lawyers must keep abreast of all supervenient changes in corporate laws.

supervise

supineness

supplanter

supple

adj
/ 'səpəl /
L
characterized by ease in bending or other actions.
Ballet and other forms of dancing make their participants more supple.

supplement

suppliantly

adv
/ 'səplēəntlē /
L > F > E
in a humble imploring manner.
The servant suppliantly entreated his employer to forgive his negligence.

supposition

suppress

v
/ sə'pres /
L
put down or out of existence by or as if by authority, force, or pressure.
Despite much effort, Martha could not suppress her hiccups.

suppuration

supralapsarian

supremacy

n
/ sə'premāsē /
L
final authority or power.
Americans are wasting their breath if they question the supremacy of the Constitution.

surette

surface

surmise

v
/ sə(r)'mīz /
L > F > E
form a notion of on slight proof : guess, suppose.
It was not hard to surmise from Pedro's evasive answer that he had not completed the report.

surmounted

v
/ sə'r'maüntəd /
F > E
stood at the top of : remained on the top of.
A steeple surmounted the church.

surname

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surpass

v
/ sə'pɑs /
F
become better, greater, or stronger than.
Jay's semester grades will surpass even his parents' high expectations.

surplice

surprise

surrender

surrendered

v
/ sə'rendə(r)d /
F
gave or delivered up possession of upon compulsion or demand.
Clem surrendered his weapon without a fight.

surreptitiously

survey

surveyor

n
/ ,sə'r'vāər /
F > E
one whose occupation is finding and representing the contours, measurements, and position of a part of Earth's surface.
In preparation for the Olympic games, a surveyor measured all the tracks and marked out the individual areas for each event.

survival

susceptibility

suspense

suspiciously

adv
/ sə'spishəslē /
L
in a manner arousing or intending to arouse distrust : questionably.
Conrad's story sounded suspiciously like one his older brother had written two years ago.

sussultatory

adj
/ sə'səltə,tōrē /
L > It
characterized by up-and-down vibrations of large amplitude—used of an earthquake.
The sussultatory patterns on the seismograph warned everyone that Arizona was about to become beachfront property.

sustentacular

svabite

swaddle

swagger

v
/ 'swagə(r) /
Scand
conduct oneself in an arrogant manner.
Dave seemed to swagger slightly as he got up from his final exam.

Swahili

n
/ swā'hēlē /
Ar
a Bantu language of East Africa.
Swahili was originally spoken in Zaire and is now a trade language in much of East Africa and the Congo.

swartback

swarthy

washbuckler

swather

sweater

sweatshop

swelter

swerve

v
/ 'swərv /
E
move from a straight line or course.
The driver had to swerve to avoid hitting the dog.

swidden

swindler

n
/ 'swind(ə)lə(r) /
G
one that deprives a person of money or property by fraud or deceit.
The swindler was arrested after he sold an undercover policeman a fake Rolex watch for \$500.

syllabify

sylvestrian

sympathetic

sympathetically

adv
/ ,sɪmpə'thedək(ə)lē /
Gk + Ecff
in a manner marked by compassion, kind friendly feeling, and sensitivity to others' emotions.
Roald wrote sympathetically of the migrant workers' plight.

symphony

symphonette

n
/ ,sɪm(p)fə'net /
Gk > L > F + Ecf
a symphony orchestra reduced in personnel and typically playing ensemble and salon music in addition to the standard orchestral literature.
The symphonette was just the right size to play the baroque pieces.

symphonious

symphysis

symptoms

n pl
/ 'sɪm(p)təmz /
Gk
subjective evidence of disease.
Headaches and fevers are symptoms of many different diseases.

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synchronism

n
/ 'sɪŋkrənɪzəm /
Gk > L + Ecf
concurrence of acts, events, or developments in time : simultaneousness.
Motion-picture cameras are devised to ensure good synchronism between sound and picture.

synchroscope

n
/ 'sɪŋkrəskɒp /
Gk
a device for showing whether two moving parts are moving in time with each other or for giving an indication of their relative phase.
The rotary synchroscope is used to parallel two alternators.

synchrotron

n
/ 'sɪŋkrətrɒn /
Gk
an apparatus for imparting very high speeds to charged particles (as electrons, protons) by means of a combination of a high-frequency electric field and a low-frequency magnetic field.
The high-energy radiation from a synchrotron has been used in the attack on viruses.

syncopated

syncretic

adj
/ sɪn'kredɪk /
Gk
characterized or brought about by the reconciliation or union of conflicting (as religious) beliefs.
Voodoo is a syncretic religion that developed in Haiti with influences from many parts of Africa.

syncretism

n
/ 'sɪŋkrətɪzəm /
Gk
flagrant compromise in religion or philosophy : eclecticism that is illogical or leads to inconsistency : uncritical acceptance of conflicting or divergent beliefs or principles.
Alice mistook her church's ecumenical ideas for syncretism.

syncytium

syndicator

syndrome

synergize

v
/ 'sɪnərjɪz /
Gk
exhibit cooperative action such that the total effect of discrete agencies is greater than the sum of the two or more effects taken independently.
The pharmacist explained that a muscle relaxant and an anti-inflammatory could synergize to reduce Arnold's shoulder pain more effectively.

synergy

synonymy

n
/ sə'nænəmē /
Gk
the quality or fact of being alike or nearly alike in meaning.
The words destroy, annihilate, demolish, and wreck are related by synonymy.

synoptic

adj
/ sə'næptɪk /
Gk
relating to or displaying atmospheric and weather conditions as they exist simultaneously over a broad area.
Synoptic meteorologists study information on air pressure, temperature, humidity, and wind velocity in preparing weather forecasts.

synovial

adj
/ sə'nɒvɪəl /
Gk > L
secreting a transparent viscid lubricating fluid.
Healthy synovial tissue provides nutrients to surfaces of the body's joints and ensures that these surfaces are lubricated.

synovitis

synthesize

v
/ 'sɪnthəsaɪz /
Gk + Gk + Ecf
produce a chemical compound by the union of elements or simpler compounds or by the degradation of a complex compound especially by laboratory or industrial methods.
Fritz Haber developed a process to synthesize ammonia using atmospheric nitrogen.

synthesizer

synthetic

adj
/ sɪn'thedɪk /
Gk
produced by artificial processes : man-made.
To reduce calories, the sugar content of some foods is replaced by synthetic sweeteners.

synthetically

syntrophism

n
/ 'sɪnrəfɪzəm /
Gk
mutual dependence for the satisfaction of nutritional needs.
The two bacterial strains exhibit syntrophism, with each strain synthesizing the growth factor needed by the other.

syrinx

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syrphid

n
/ 'sɜrfəd /
Gk > L

a fly of the family Syrphidae :
syrphus fly.
*The syrphid is also known as the
“flowerfly” because it is so active
in pollinating flowers.*

syssarcosis

n
/ ,sɪsər'kɔsəs /
Gk

the junction of two or more bones
by means of attached muscles.
*The dentist explained that there
was an abnormality in the way the
syssarcosis of Thomas’s jaw
functioned.*

systematic

adj
/ ,sɪstə'mædɪk /
Gk

marked by or manifesting method
or orderly procedure.
*Maria’s systematic approach to
drawing stunts her creativity.*

systematician

systole

tabard

n
/ 'tæb(ə)rɪd /
F > E

a tunic with or without short
sleeves worn by a knight over his
armor and emblazoned with his
arms.
*At the Renaissance Fair, the knight
wearing the white tabard won the
jousting contest.*

tabletop

tacan

tachistoscope

n
/ təkɪstə'skɔp /
Gk + Gk

an apparatus for the brief exposure
of visual stimuli that is used in the
study of learning, attention, and
perception.
*The teacher used a tachistoscope to
encourage the students to read
faster.*

tachycardia

n
/ ,tækə'kɑrdɪə /
Gk

relatively rapid heart action
whether physiological or
pathological.
*Cardiologists have successfully
used electrical shocks to treat
severe ventricular tachycardia.*

tachymetry

tachyon

n
/ 'tækɪ.ən /
Gk

a hypothetical particle held to
travel faster than light.
*The tachyon plays a large role in
science fiction stories that involve
time travel.*

tachytely

tacit

Tacitean

adj
/ ,tæsə'teɪən /
L name
of or relating to the Roman
historian Tacitus or resembling his
style of writing.
*The biting Tacitean brevity of the
Senator’s speech had more impact
than the rambling casual style of
his opponent.*

tackle

tacky

taco

tactical

tactility

taction

taeniate

taffeta

tagliatelle

n
/ ,tæljə'tel(,)ə /
L > It

pasta in the shape of noodles.
*Last night’s dinner was a simple
tagliatelle with pesto.*

tahini

n
/ tə'hɪ(,)nɪ /
Ar

a smooth paste made from sesame
seeds.
*Joyce made a dip with tahini for
her guests to eat with crackers and
vegetables.*

taiaha

tailleur

tailory

taint

taipan

talapoin

n
/ 'tælə.pɔɪn /
Mon > Pg > F

a western African monkey that is
greenish above and whitish beneath
with a black face and yellowish
whiskers.
*The talapoin is one of the smallest
of all African monkeys, weighing
only about three pounds.*

talaria

n pl
/ tə'la(a)rɪə /
L

winged shoes fastened to the ankles
and chiefly used as an attribute of
the god Hermes or Mercury of
classical mythology.
*The talaria symbolize the speed
with which Hermes acts as the
messenger of the gods.*

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talc

talcky

adj
/ 'tɹalkē /
Ar > L > F + Ecf
of, relating to, or containing talc.
Benedict noticed that the rocks scattered on the path had a talcky appearance.

talent

n
/ 'tælənt /
Gk > L > E
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] any of several ancient units of weight, as a Babylonian unit equal to 3,600 shekels.
The talent, probably of Babylonian origin, was the basic unit of weight among the ancient Hebrews.

taligrade

talipot

n
/ 'tæləpät /
Skt > Beng
a showy fan palm bearing a crown of gigantic fan-shaped leaves that are used as umbrellas and fans and when cut into strips as a substitute for writing paper.
The illustrator's beautiful collages made of talipot earned the book the Caldecott Medal.

talkfest

tallage

n
/ 'təlɹij /
E
a toll or fee paid by a feudal tenant to his lord.
The farm family paid their annual tallage to their lord in fresh fruit and vegetables.

tallyho

talons

n pl
/ 'tælənz /
L > F > E
the claws of a bird of prey.
The eagle's beak and talons are indeed a formidable sight.

tamarin

n
/ 'təmərən /
Galibi > F
[has near homonym: tamarind] any of numerous small chiefly South American monkeys that are related to the marmosets and have silky fur, a long tail, and lower canine teeth that are longer than the incisors.
When put on the defense, the lion tamarin raises its golden mane.

tamarind

n
/ 'təmərənd /
Indian geog name > Ar > Pg&Sp
the fruit of a widely cultivated tropical tree that has seeds that are cooked and also ground into meal.
After dinner, Ravi offered his visitors some sweets made from tamarind.

tamarisk

n
/ 'təmərəsk /
L > E
a shrub or tree having tiny narrow leaves and masses of minute flowers.
Since its importation, tamarisk has become the dominant plant along streambeds in many western states.

tambouriens

tambourin

n
/ 'təmbərən /
Per > Ar > F
[has near homonym: tambourine] a lively old Provençal dance originally accompanied by a long narrow drum.
Madeleine, a student of dance history, taught herself the tambourin from an old book.

Tammanyism

n
/ 'təmənē.ɹɹəm /
Amer name
the principle or practice of seeking municipal political control through corruption and bossism.
Tammanyism was rife in New York City politics in the 1870s.

tamper

tanager

tanbark

tandoori

adj
/ tən'du(ə)rē /
Hindi
cooked in a cylindrical clay or earthenware oven over charcoal.
Meera made tandoori chicken and vegetables for Sanjay's birthday dinner.

tangemon

n
/ tan'jemən /
geog name + Ar > L > F > E
the fruit of a hybrid between the tangerine and the lemon.
At the farmers' market Pauline bought a pint of strawberries, a tangemon, and a papaya to make a fruit salad.

tangent

tangential

adj
/ tan'jenchəl /
L
acting on or lying on a line that touches something at only one point.
Sharif wrote the equation on a line tangential to the circle.

tangentially

tangibility

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tangle

v
/ 'tʌŋɡəl /
Scand > E
involve so as to hamper, obstruct,
or embarrass.

Corinna found herself more and more involved in a bureaucratic and administrative tangle.

tango

n
/ 'tʌŋ(,)ɡɔ̃ /
African > Sp
a ballroom dance of Spanish-American origin in three-quarter time characterized by posturing, frequent pointing positions, and a great variety of steps.

Ned and Naomi learned the Argentine tango while in college.

tangoreceptor

tankard

tannin

tanning

tapioca

n
/ .təpē'ɔ̃kə /
Tupi > Pg&Sp
a preparation of cassava starch processed into granular, flake, pellet, or flour form and used as a thickening agent in liquid foods, as pudding, soups, or juicy pies.
Sam's recipe for blueberry pie calls for two tablespoons of quick-cooking tapioca.

tappable

tappet

taraxein

tardily

tarogato

tarot

tarpon

tarriance

tarsier

n
/ 'tʌrsē.ā /
L > F
any of a family of small chiefly nocturnal and arboreal carnivorous primates of the Malay Archipelago that have large round eyes, long legs, and a long nearly hairless tail.
Its large eyes and acute hearing enable the tarsier to find its prey at night.

tarsus

n
/ 'tʌrsəs /
Gk > L
the part of the vertebrate's foot between the metatarsus and the leg : ankle.
When the orthopedist said Joanne had a medial fracture of the tarsus, he meant that she had a broken ankle.

Tasmanian

adj
/ taz'mānēən /
Pacific geog name
of or belonging to the southern Pacific island of Tasmania.
The Tasmanian wolf is a marsupial animal that used to live in Australia as well as Tasmania.

tattle

tautologous

tavern

tawny

adj
/ 'tɔ̃nē /
E
of a brownish orange to light brown color.
In the well-known children's story, the tawny scrawny lion loves carrot stew.

taxeme

taxiway

taxonomically

adv
/ .taksə'nāmək(ə)lē /
Gk > F + Ecff
with regard to the principles of scientific classification.
On the biology final the students were shown photographs of five common plants and animals and were asked to identify them taxonomically.

taxonomist

teachable

adj
/ 'tēchəbəl /
E
capable of being taught.
Socrates had no doubt that virtue was teachable if he could only figure out what it was.

teak

teal

n
/ 'tēl /
E
[has homonyms: teal, til] a variable color averaging a dark greenish blue.
In the mid '90s teal was a popular color for new motor vehicles.

teammate

tearstain

technicality

n
/ .teknə'kalədē /
Gk + Ecf
a detail that has meaning only for the specialist.
Because of a legal technicality, a mistrial was declared and the defendant had to be retried for the offense.

technician

tectonics

tectorial

tediously

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teemed

v
/ 'tēmd /
E
[has homonym: teamed] abounded.
The fort, which teemed with historic interest before the area flooded, will eventually be reconstructed.

teeter

teetotal

teetotum

tegmentary

teknonymy

n
/ tek'nänəmē /
Gk + Gk
the custom of naming the parent after the child.
Some cultures employ teknonymy, while in the United States children are often named for their parents.

teledu

n
/ 'telədü /
Malay
a small carnivorous mammal of the mountains of Java and Sumatra resembling the badger and like the skunk secreting an offensive fluid which it can expel a short distance.
A teledu infected the region of a whole village with its offensive odor.

telefacsimile

telegenic

telegram

telegrammic

telegraphic

telemark

n
/ 'telə.märk /
Norw geog name
a turn in which the ski that is to be on the outside of the turn is advanced considerably ahead of the other ski and then turned inward at a steadily widening angle until the actual turn.
Jason, still a novice skier, marveled at the beautiful form of Astrid's telemark.

teleology

n
/ telē'äləjē /
Gk + Gk
the use of design, purpose, or utility as an explanation of any natural phenomenon.
The theory of evolution relies heavily on teleology.

telepathic

adj
/ telə'pathik /
Gk + Gk
of or relating to apparent communication from one mind to another other than through the channels of sense.
The twins seemed to have some sort of telepathic mode of communication.

telepathist

telescope

n
/ 'telə.skōp /
Gk
an optical instrument for viewing distant objects by means of the refraction of light rays through a lens.
Through the telescope Jorge watched the lunar eclipse.

televangelist

n
/ 'telə'va(a)njələst /
Gk
a preacher who conducts regularly televised religious programs.
The prominent televangelist liked to recall his days as an itinerant revival preacher.

television

n
/ 'telə.vizhən /
Gk + L
a medium of communication whereby images and sounds are broadcast to receiving sets.
If it weren't for television, Jack wouldn't know what was going on in the world.

telos

n
/ 'tē.läs /
Gk
an ultimate end or object.
Finding the Holy Grail was the telos of Sir Galahad's quest.

telyn

tempeh

n
/ 'tem.pā /
Jav
an Asian food prepared by fermenting soybeans.
Lauren suggested that Celia crumble some tempeh in the enchilada casserole for some extra protein.

temperamental

adj
/ ,temp(ə)rə'mentl /
L
marked by excessive sensitivity and sudden impulsive and often explosive changes of mood.
When the temperamental player disputed the umpire's call, he was ejected from the game.

temperance

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

temperature

n
/ 'tempə(r).chū(ə)r /
L

degree of hotness or coldness measured on one of several arbitrary scales based on some observable phenomenon (as the expansion of mercury).
In Washington, D.C., the average temperature ranges from about 30 degrees in winter to about 86 degrees in summer.

temporal

adj
/ 'temp(ə)rəl /
L

of or relating to time as opposed to eternity.
Temporal matters concerned Mr. Poke much more than philosophical questions about his soul.

temporarily

temporary

tempt

temptation

tenancy

tendril

n
/ 'tendrəl /
L? > F

a portion or the whole of a leaf or stem that is modified into a slender spirally coiling sensitive organ serving to attach a plant.
The tendril of the grapevine wrapped itself so tightly around the gate's lock that it was difficult to open the gate.

tendu

adj
/ tã'dtē /
L > F

extended in a taut manner, as a leg in ballet.
Jordan did a series of leg exercises in a tendu position.

tenebrism

n
/ 'tenə.brizəm /
L + E

a style of painting typically associated with the painter Caravaggio that submerges most of the forms depicted in shadow but dramatically illuminates the remaining forms by a beam of light.
The photographer created a photographic sort of tenebrism.

tenebrous

tentacled

adj
/ 'tentəkəld /
L

having elongate flexible simple or branched processes that are borne by animals chiefly on the head or about the mouth.
All tentacled animals fascinate Kevin, but jellyfish are his favorite.

tentativeness

n
/ 'tentədɪvnəs /
L

the quality or state of being uncertain or hesitant.
The immense importance of the game accounted for much of the players' tentativeness and overdeliberateness.

tenuity

tephra

tepidity

terete

adj
/ tərēt /
L

approximately cylindrical but usually tapering at one or both ends.
Chi Ming looked up from the sea bottom and saw the terete form of a barracuda silhouetted against the Sun.

termagant

terminal

terminate

termite
n
/ 'tər.mīt /
L

any of numerous pale-colored, soft-bodied, small to medium-sized social insects with a highly developed caste system of the order Isoptera.
A termite has two pairs of membranous wings nearly equal in size.

ternary

adj
/ 'tərnərē /
L

[has homonyms: ternery, turnery] containing, consisting of, or relating to three different parts (as elements, atoms, radicals, or components).
Dave listed sulfuric acid, which consists of hydrogen, sulfur, and oxygen, as an example of a ternary acid.

terpsichorean

adj
/ .təp.sɪkə'rēən /
Gk

of or relating to dancing or choreography.
Geoffrey is interested in the terpsichorean arts and wants to major in dance when he goes to college.

terrene

adj
/ te'rēn /
L

[has homonym: terrine] of or relating to this world or life : mundane.
The missionary feels that all this attention is out of place for such a terrene creature as himself.

terrestrially

terrier

territory

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

terror

n
/ 'terə(r) /
L

a state of intense fright or apprehension : stark fear.

Franklin D. Roosevelt warned, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself—nameless, unreasoning, unjustified terror which paralyzes needed efforts to convert retreat into advance."

terrorism

terrorist

n
/ 'terərəst /
L > F

an advocate or practitioner of terror as a means of coercion.

When the former terrorist came to power, he immediately denounced the use of terror as a political tool.

terse

tertian

tessaraglot

tessellation

tesseract

n
/ 'tesərækt /
Gk + Gk
the four-dimensional analogue of a cube.

"Going beyond the fourth dimension to the fifth dimension would be a tesseract," explained Mrs. Whatsit.

testament

testator

n
/ 'te.stədə(r) /
L

a person who leaves a will or testament in force at his death.

When the wishes of the testator were made known, the local public library was a half million dollars richer.

testify

v
/ 'testə.fi /
L

make a solemn declaration under oath for the purpose of establishing a fact (as in a court).

A psychiatrist was called on to testify regarding the mental state of the defendant.

testy

adj
/ 'testē /
L > F > E

[has homonym: testee] easily annoyed : irritable.

The mayor became quite testy when asked about his private financial dealings.

tether

n
/ 'tethə(r) /
Scand? > E

something (as a rope or chain) by which an animal is fastened so that it can range or feed only within the radius allowed.

Joan used Rover's leash as a tether to tie him to the bike rack before she went into the supermarket.

tetherball

n
/ 'tethər(,)bəl /
Scand? + ON > E

a game which is played with a ball suspended by a string from an upright pole and in which the object of each contestant is to wrap the string around the pole by striking the ball in a direction opposite to the other.

Paula was injured playing tetherball when she was accidentally struck by the ball.

tetragrammaton

n
/ .tetrə'gramətən /
Gk

the Hebrew word of four letters constituting a name of God usually transliterated as YHWH or YHVH.

Out of reverence or for fear of desecration, some pious Jews do not pronounce or write the tetragrammaton.

tetraploid

tetrapodous

adj
/ te'trapədəs /
Gk + Gk
having four feet or walking appendages.
Tetrapodous animals are usually referred to as "quadrupeds."

textile

thalassocrat

n
/ thə'læsəkɹæt /
Gk
one who has maritime supremacy.
In Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea, Captain Nemo is the perfect thalassocrat.

thallophyte

n
/ 'thələfɪt /
Gk + Gk
any plant of a primary division of the plant kingdom including the algae and fungi.
A fungus is a non-chlorophyll-bearing thallophyte.

thalpotic

thanatology

n
/ .thənə'täləjē /
Gk
the description or study of the phenomena of somatic death.
Thanatology is concerned with the notion of death as popularly perceived.

thatch

thatching

theatrocracy

thelygenic

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

theologaster

n
/ thē'äləgastə(r) /
Gk + Lcf
a shallow theologian; especially :
one who pretends to possess great
knowledge relating to the
presentation of the traditional
doctrines of a religion or religious
group.

*The bishop warned his flock to
beware of the theologaster who
would subvert the word of God with
his vain imaginings.*

theology

n
/ thē'äləjē /
Gk
the study of God and his relation to
humans and the world.
*Though Max is not personally
religious, she is fascinated by
theology.*

theomachy

n
/ thē'aməkē /
Gk + Gk
a battle or strife among the gods.
*In the Iliad and the Odyssey,
Homer relates many instances of
theomachy in which humans are
the unfortunate victims.*

theorbo

n
/ thē'ör(,)bō /
Turkish > Slovenian > It
an obsolete 17th century musical
instrument like a lute but having
two necks.
*The young bard played a madrigal
on the theorbo.*

theorem

theoretician

n
/ thēərə'tishən /
Gk
one who formulates theories (as to
account for perceived phenomena).
*Dr. Freud's work as a theoretician
in psychoanalysis earned him an
international reputation.*

theorize

v
/ thēərīz /
Gk
speculate or generalize from facts.
*Dr. Ahmad tried to theorize an
explanation for his data.*

theory

theosophy

theremin

n
/ thērəmōn /
Russ name
a purely melodic instrument of the
electronic family typically played
by moving the right hand between
two projecting electrodes with the
left hand controlling dynamics and
articulation.
*Paula was asked to play her
theremin at the electronic music
festival.*

theriatics

n pl
/ thirē'atriks /
Gk
the science of veterinary medicine.
*Joanna bewildered all her friends
when she said that her father, a
veterinarian, is a specialist in
theriatics.*

theriomorphic

adj
/ thirē'mōrfik /
Gk
having an animal form.
*Lydia's boutique displayed
theriomorphic creamers in the
forms of a cow and a hippo.*

theriomorphism

therm

n
/ thərm /
Gk
100,000 British thermal units.
*Gas utilities frequently use the
therm as a measure of gas
consumption.*

thermal

n
/ thərməl /
Gk > L
a rising body of warm air.
*Steve watched a couple of red-
tailed hawks soaring upward in a
thermal.*

thermoammeter

thermolabile

thermolysis

n
/ (,)thər'mäləsəs /
Gk + Gk
the dissipation of heat from the
living body.
*Thermolysis is accomplished by
evaporation, excretion, and
radiation.*

thermophilous

adj
/ (,)thər'mäfələs /
Gk + Gk
of, relating to, or being an organism
growing at a high temperature.
*Thermophilous bacteria can
flourish at temperatures exceeding
140 degrees Fahrenheit.*

thermos

therophyte

n
/ thirə'fit /
Gk
an annual plant that overwinters as
a seed.
*Because a therophyte can endure
unfavorable conditions as a seed, it
can survive in deserts.*

thersitical

thew

thickener

thief

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

thievery

n
/ 'thēv(ə)rē /
E

the act, practice, or an instance of stealing.

Videocameras were installed throughout the warehouse to prevent thievery by the workers.

thieves

thievish

thighbone

thigmoreceptor

thimble

thimbleful

thionic

thirtieth

thixotropic

adj
/ 'thiksə'trəpik /
Gk + Gk

of, relating to, or exhibiting the property of a gel that becomes fluid when shaken or stirred and settles again to a gel when left undisturbed.

Mayonnaise is an example of a thixotropic fluid.

tholobate

Thomism

n
/ 'tō.mizəm /

It name
a theological theory deriving from the Italian theologian Thomas Aquinas.

Thomism teaches that philosophy and theology have separate spheres that reach conclusions that support each other.

thooid

thorough

adj
/ 'thər(,)ō /
E

marked by sound systematic attention to all aspects and details.

A thorough music practice session for Keith usually takes about an hour.

thoughtful

thrasonic

threadiness

thremmatology

n
/ 'θremə'täləjē /
Gk

the science of breeding animals and plants under domestication.

The dog breeder's bookshelf contained several textbooks on thremmatology.

threptic

adj
/ 'θreptik /
Gk

of or relating to the feeding or rearing of offspring especially among ants or other social insects.

Although ants share many physical and social traits, distinct varieties differ in their colonizing and threptic methods.

thrice

adv
/ 'θrīs /
E

three times.

Harold does his exercise regimen thrice weekly.

throbbled

v
/ 'θrəbd /
imit? > E

pulsated or vibrated in a rhythmic manner.

The school bus driver's temples throbbled after he had been driving noisy children for two hours.

throes

n pl
/ 'θrōz /
E

[has homonym: throws] a condition of struggle, anguish, disorder, or confusion characteristic of a transitional period (as the active phase of creation of some new thing).

In the throes of a search for a new superintendent, the school board ignored major problems that deserved its attention.

thrombolytic

thrombophlebitis

throttle

thrush

thuggery

thumbscrew

n
/ 'θəm.skru /
E + L > F > E

a screw whose head is flattened at the side so that the screw may be turned by the thumb and forefinger.

Lois tightened the last thumbscrew on her new computer desk.

thunderclap

n
/ 'θəndər.klap /
E + E

a sudden crash of thunder.

The thunderclap sent Mom scurrying about the house to close windows.

thurification

n
/ .θ(y)ūrəfə'kāshən /
Gk > L > F > E

the act, process, or an instance of censuring.

Prayers were offered and a thurification was performed around the body of the deceased.

thurm

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

thwarted

v
/ 'θwɔ(ə)rdəd /
ON > E
opposed successfully.
The dog was not easily thwarted when it attempted to go into the house with Brian.

Thyestean

adj
/ θiˈestēən /
Gk name
cannibal.
The 1992 film about a Thyestean doctor known as "Hannibal the Cannibal" won five Academy Awards.

thymus

thyroiditis

n
/ θiˈrɔɪˈdɪtɪs /
Gk + Lcf
inflammation of the endocrine gland which produces a hormone affecting growth, development, and metabolic rate.
Dr. Dowd explained that Gary's thyroiditis was caused by his having the mumps.

tiara

ticketer

ticklenburg

tidal

tiddledies

tiers

n pl
/ 'ti(ə)rz /
F
[has homonym: tears] rows, ranks, or layers of articles; especially : rows arranged one above another.
The top two tiers of Gina's wedding cake got smashed in transport to the reception.

tiffin

tige

tigerish

tight

tighten

v
/ 'tiːn /
Scand > E
[has homonym: titan] fix more securely in place.
Lisa tried to tighten the cap on the soda bottle so that it wouldn't leak inside the cooler.

tightwad

tignum

till

tillage

tilleul

n
/ tə'yəl /
L > F
a pale greenish yellow.
The tinge of tilleul on Carla's face convinced her mother that she really was sick.

timbale

n
/ 'timbəl /
F
[has homonyms: timbal, tymbal] a creamy mixture (as of chicken, lobster, cheese, or fish) cooked in a drum-shaped mold or in individual molds or cups.
After the salad dishes were cleared, Max served a curried chicken timbale.

timbrel

timeliness

timid

timocracy

timoneer

tinamou

tinctured

v
/ 'tɪŋ(k)chə(r)d /
L
tinted or stained with a color.
Kirsten picked a blossom tinctured with deep blue.

tinge

v
/ 'tɪŋj /
L > E
color with a slight shade or stain : tint.
Seeing the rainbow tinge the sandy beach is Lauren's most vivid memory of her vacation.

tiniest

adj
/ 'tɪnɪəst /
E
most small or diminutive.
Mrs. Yost said, "Whatever we learn has a purpose and whatever we do affects everything and everyone else, if even in the tiniest way."

tintinnabulary

adj
/ 'tɪntə'nabyələre /
L + Ecf
of, relating to, or characterized by bells or their sounds.
The bell ringers gave a tintinnabulary rendition of "Winter Wonderland."

tippee

tippet

n
/ 'tɪpət /
E
a shoulder cape of fur or cloth often with hanging ends.
Mrs. Weston begged Jane to put on her tippet so that she would not catch cold.

tiqueur

n
/ tē'kər /
F
one subject to a convulsive motion of some muscles, especially of the face.
Mary had become a tiqueur, with a constant twitch near her eye.

tiredness

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

tiresome

adj
/ 'tɪ(ə)rsəm /
E + Ecf
possessing a quality that bores or annoys : irritatingly tedious.
The lecturer went into so many details that listening to him was tiresome.

tissuey

titan

n
/ 'tɪtən /
Gk
[has homonym: tighten] one that stands out among others of a group especially for greatness of stature or achievement.
Frank Lloyd Wright was and is a titan in furniture design and architecture.

titanic

adj
/ tɪ'tanɪk /
Gk
colossal, gigantic.
World War II brought political change on a titanic scale to Europe.

titanism

tithable

adj
/ 'tɪθəbəl /
E
subject or liable to payment of tithes.
The church asked for a tenth of each parishioner's tithable property.

titillate

titubant

titular

tivoli

n
/ 'tɪvəlē /
It geog name
a game resembling bagatelle and played on a special oblong board or table.
June and Monty learned to play tivoli on their aunt's antique game table.

toadstool

toehold

tofu

n
/ 'tɒ(,)fʊ /
Jpn
bean curd.
Charmagne ordered Thai rice noodles with tofu.

toggle

n
/ 'tæɡəl /
unknown
a wood or metal pin inserted in a nautical knot to make it more secure or easier to slip.
Noah pulled the toggle to loosen the knot in the anchor rope.

toile

n
/ 'twäl /
L > F
an upholstery and drapery fabric.
When their new couch arrived, Martin and Linda were horrified to find that it was upholstered in a flowery toile instead of plain blue denim.

toilsome

adj
/ 'tɔɪlsəm /
F > AF > E + E
marked by or full of effort.
Tula set herself the toilsome job of cleaning the garage.

tolerable

tolerate

tollgate

toluene

n
/ 'tɔɪləwēn /
ISV
a liquid aromatic hydrocarbon that is used as a solvent, in organic synthesis, and as an antiknock agent in gasoline.
Toluene is used as a raw material for organic compounds such as TNT and some dyes and pharmaceuticals.

tomahawk

tomatillo

n
/ .tɒmə'tē(,)y)ɔ /
Nahuatl > Sp
any of several solanaceous plants with fruits resembling small tomatoes.
The television chef explained that the tomatillo is rich in vitamins A and C.

tomato

tomboyish

tombstones

n pl
/ 'tʊm.stɒnz /
Gk > L > AF > E + E
inscribed stones placed over graves.
Vandals had removed tombstones as a Halloween prank.

tonette

tongawalla

tongs

tonic

n
/ 'tɒnɪk /
Gk
something that invigorates, restores, refreshes, or stimulates.
A glorious sunrise can work as a tonic and uplift downcast spirits.

tonnage

tonneau

tonsils

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

topepo

topogaphize

toque

n
/ 'tɔk /
Sp > F
[has homonym: toke] a woman's small brimless hat made in any of various soft close-fitting shapes.
Margo buttoned her jacket and adjusted her blue velvet toque in front of the mirror.

toquilla

torero

n
/ tɔ're(ɪ)rɔ /
L > Sp
a bullfighter.
Pepe dreamed of being a famous torero like his uncle Luis.

toreutics

n pl
/ tɔ'ri:di:k /
Gk
the art or process of working in metal especially by embossing or engraving.
Archaeological artifacts attest to the ancient Celts' excellence in toreutics.

torii

tormented

adj
/ 'tɔr.men.təd /
L
distressed.
The tormented hypochondriac finally decided to seek help from a psychotherapist.

tormentil

n
/ 'tɔ(r)mən.til /
L > E
[Note: Could be confused with tormentilla.] a yellow-flowered Eurasian herb with a root that contains an astringent and is used sometimes in tanning and dyeing.
The hillside was ablaze with the bright color of tormentil.

tornado

n
/ tɔr'nā(ɪ)dɔ /
L > Sp
a violent destructive whirling wind accompanied by a funnel-shaped cloud that progresses in a narrow path over the land.
In a few moments of unforgettable terror, a tornado roared into the Texas town, killing three people and destroying about 300 houses.

torpedo

torpid

adj
/ 'tɔrpəd /
L
sluggish in functioning or acting.
Eric's parents told him that too many hours watching television would make his mind torpid.

torporific

adj
/ .tɔ(r)pə'rifik /
L
producing mental or spiritual sluggishness or apathy.
Ben's allergy medicine had a torporific effect, robbing him of energy.

torque

Torquemada

n
/ .tɔ(r)k(w)ə'mädə /
Sp
one who harasses in a manner to injure, grieve, or afflict usually because of some difference of outlook or opinion : oppressor.
The new police chief has been described as a ruthless Torquemada.

torquemeter

n
/ 'tɔ(r)k.mēd-ə(r) /
L > F + Gk
an instrument to measure or record a force that produces or tends to produce rotation or torsion.
A torquemeter is used to measure the power delivered by airplane propellers, jet engines, and other rotating machinery.

torr

n
/ 'tɔ(ə)r /
It name
[has homonyms: tor, tore] a unit of pressure equal to 1/760 of an atmosphere and very nearly equal to the pressure of a column of mercury 1 millimeter high at 0 degrees Celsius and standard gravity.
Jill learned that 1 torr is an extremely small amount of pressure.

torrenticole

torrone

n
/ tɔ'rɔnē /
L > Sp > It
a candy made of honey and almonds.
For the holidays the catalog offers a variety of Italian confections, including panettone and torrone.

torsion

torte

n
/ 'tɔrdə /
L > It? > G
[has homonym and near homonym: torta and tort] a cake or pastry made of many eggs, sugar, and often grated nuts or dry bread crumbs in place of flour and baked in a large flat form, being sometimes filled with jam and usually covered with a rich frosting
Luke baked a chocolate torte for his sister's birthday.

torus

totalitarian

adj
/ (ɪ)tɔ.talə'terēən /
L + Ecff
of or relating to centralized control by an autocratic leader or hierarchy.
Totalitarian theory and practice are solidly opposed to any institutional division of power.

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totem

n
/ 'tɒdəm /
Ojibwa
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a dark reddish orange—called also “Mars red.”
Jessica’s fiery personality perhaps explains why she wants to paint her room totem.

totalpalmate

totipotency

n
/ tɒ'tɪpədənsē /
L + L
ability to generate or regenerate a whole organism from a part.
Certain cells from tadpoles have been shown to have developmental totipotency.

tottered

v
/ 'tɒdə(r)d /
E
staggered, wobbled.
“Don’t look down,” advised Milo as the bug tottered upward on unsteady legs.

toucanet

n
/ 'tʊkənət /
Tupi > Pg > F
any of several small South and Central American toucans predominantly green in color.
While visiting her cousin in Costa Rica, Carla enjoyed the company of her pet toucanet.

tough

adj
/ 'tʌf /
E
[has homonym: tuff] extremely difficult to cope with or comprehend.
The questions on the final exam were so tough that only the well-prepared students got a passing grade.

tourlourou

tourniquet

towhead

townsite

toxicity

toxicology

n
/ 'tɒksə'käləjē /
Gk
a science that deals with poisons and their effect on living organisms and with the clinical, industrial, legal, or other problems involved.
Dr. Krause quickly consulted his textbook on toxicology to find the antidote.

toxoid

trabeated

adj
/ 'træbē.ād.əd /
L
designed or constructed of horizontal beams or lintels.
A trabeated structural form gives a building a solid, boxy shape.

tracheitis

n
/ ,trākē'ɪd.əs /
Gk
inflammation of the main trunk of the system of tubes by which air passes to and from the lungs in vertebrates.
Because of the singer’s tracheitis, many of her concerts had to be canceled.

tracheole

n
/ 'trākē.əl /
Gk > L
one of the minute delicate endings of a branched air-conveying tubule of an insect.
In the respiratory system of insects, oxygen diffuses through the tracheole to enter the body cells.

trachodon

n
/ 'trækədän /
Gk + Gk
a dinosaur of a genus comprising large duck-billed dinosaurs of the Upper Cretaceous that have a broad spatulate snout.
The trachodon had several hundred blunt teeth and fed on twigs, seeds, fruits, and pine needles.

traction

tractor

tradal

trademark

tradition

traffic

tragic

adj
/ 'trajɪk /
Gk
disastrous, fearful.
It is hard to conceive of the tragic significance of the atomic bomb’s very existence.

tragopan

trainable

traineau

n
/ trā'nō /
F
sledge, sleigh.
During the winter, guests at the lodge are met at the station by a long, horse-drawn traineau.

trait

traitor

traitorous

tramontane

trample

tranquil

tranquillo

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

transaction

transcendent

transceiver

transcript

transcutaneous

adj
/ ,tranzkyü'tänēəs /
L

passing or entering through the skin.

Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation was used to relieve Kim's chronic back pain.

transept

transfer

transfixed

v
/ tranz'fikst /
L
affixed, fastened, or held motionless by or as if by piercing especially with an absorbing emotion or interest.
They were all transfixed by the Trivium's soothing voice.

transform

transhumance

n
/ tranz'hyümən(t)s /
L > Sp > F
[has homonym: transhumants]
seasonal movement of livestock and especially sheep between mountain and lowland pastures.
Transhumance remains an essential pastoral activity in many sheep-raising areas.

transilient

transistor

n
/ tran'zistə(r) /
L
a tiny electronic device that amplifies, oscillates, or switches the flow of current.
If the transistor had not been invented, today's handheld electronic devices would not exist.

transistorize

transitory

adj
/ 'tranzə.tōrē /
L
marked by the quality of passing away : evanescent, transient.
Last week's homily emphasized the transitory nature of material wealth.

transliterate

translucently

adv
/ tran(t)'slüs'ntlē /
L + Ecf
in a manner permitting the passage of light and diffusing it so that objects beyond cannot be clearly distinguished.
The frosted glass in the window let the sunlight in translucently.

transmittal

n
/ tran(t)'smid'əl /
L
an act, process, or instance of giving or conveying (a disease or infection) to another person or organism.
Washing one's hands is an effective method of preventing the transmittal of germs.

transparency

transparent

adj
/ tranz'pa(a)rənt /
L
having the property of transmitting light so that bodies lying beyond are entirely visible.
Because the protective book cover was transparent, the colorful book jacket could be seen through it.

transpicuous

transpierce

transportee

transposable

adj
/ tranz'pōzəbəl /
L
capable of being interchanged.
In the early 1950s geneticists discovered that transposable genes may change their position on the chromosome.

transposition

transtracheal

adj
/ tranz'trākēəl /
L + Gk
extending or effected through the trachea or windpipe.
Oxygen had to be supplied to the patient through a transtracheal tube.

transversal

trapezoidal

trapunto

n
/ trə'pün(,)tō /
L
a decorative quilted fabric design in high relief.
The oldest coverlet in the museum's collection features a central medallion worked in trapunto and embroidery.

traumatic

adj
/ trō'madik /
Gk
of, relating to, or resulting from an injury or wound to the human body caused by the application of external force or violence.
It took Marsha years to get over her traumatic experience with the revolving door.

travail

traveler

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

traverse

v
/ trə'vərs /
L

go or travel across or over.
The minivan will traverse the middle of the state during the tornado watch.

treacle

n
/ 'trɛkəl /
Gk > L > F > E

a blend of molasses, sugar, and corn syrup used as a table syrup.
Put a small amount of treacle or a bit of sugar on your porridge.

tread

treadle

n
/ 'tredl /
E

a swiveling or lever device pressed by the foot to drive a machine.
Janna set a basket of magazines on the antique sewing machine's treadle.

treasurable

treasurer

treaty

trebly

trellises

tremble

trembling

v
/ 'tremb(ə)liŋ /
L > F > E

quaking with or as if with fear or other emotion.
She found him trembling from fright in a corner with a gun in each hand.

tremellose

tremolo

n
/ 'tremələ /
L > It

a perceptible rapid variation of pitch in the voice especially in singing.
Tremolo in vocal music and vibrato in instrumental music are similar sound effects.

trenchancy

trepak

n
/ trə'pāk /
Russ

a fiery Ukrainian folk dance performed by men and featuring an extension of the legs alternately from a squatting position.
Olga's favorite characters in The Nutcracker are the Cossacks who dance the trepak.

trephone

trespassing

trevally

triacetate

triannulate

triaxial

tribology

n
/ trī'bäləjē /
Gk

a study that deals with the design, friction, wear, and lubrication of interacting surfaces in relative motion to each other (as in bearings or gears).
After getting an undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering, Jeff studied for a master's degree in tribology.

triceratops

n
/ trī'serətäps /
Gk

any animal or fossil of the huge herbivorous dinosaurs having a skull with two large horns above the eyes, a median horn on the nose, and a great bony hood or transverse crest over the neck.
Of all Angela's stuffed dinosaurs, the triceratops is her favorite.

trichologist

trichotillomania

n
/ ,trikətılə'mänēə /
Gk + Gk + Gk

abnormal desire to pull out one's hair.
Susan has been diagnosed with trichotillomania, which explains her lack of eyebrows and eyelashes.

trichotomized

v
/ trī'kädə'mīzd /
Gk

divided into three parts, elements, or classes.
Sigmund Freud trichotomized the mind into id, ego, and superego.

tricolette

tricolor

tricot

tricuspid

tridactylous

adj
/ trī'daktələs /
Gk

having three fingers or toes.
The museum exhibit included the fossilized footprint of a tridactylous dinosaur.

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tridental

adj
/ trī'dentəl /
L

having the form of a three-pronged scepter or spear serving in classical mythology as the attribute or symbol of a sea god.

It is easy to see that Paul's tridental prop is actually a modified pitchfork.

triduum

trifecta

n
/ trī'fektə /
L + L

a betting pool in which the bettor must pick the first, second, and third finishers in a specified race or contest in the correct order.

Grandmother liked to bet the trifecta on her weekly visit to the racetrack.

trifid

trifle

trifling

trifurcate

v
/ 'trifər.kāt /
L

fork or divide into three branches.
Under consideration is a proposal to trifurcate the small nation into Hindu, Muslim, and Buddhist sections.

trigger

triglycerides

n pl
/ trī'glisərīdz /
Gk + Gk + Ecf

esters formed from glycerol by reacting all three of its hydroxy groups with fatty acids.

Triglycerides, researchers say, significantly contribute to the progression of coronary artery disease.

trijugate

trillado

trimaran

tripartite

adj
/ trī'pär.tīt /
L

consisting of three parts or divisions.

In Mr. Baker's tripartite system of evaluation, one number represents classroom participation, one number represents homework effort, and one number represents grades.

triphibian

triphibious

triphthong

triptych

triskaidekaphobia

n
/ .tri.skī.dekə'föbēə /
Gk

fear of the number 13.
Because of his triskaidekaphobia, Alton called the front desk and asked to be moved from Room 1313.

trismus

tritor

triumphant

adj
/ trī'əm(p)fənt /
L > F > E

conquering, victorious.
The triumphant general was given a parade in his honor.

triumvir

trivial

trochee

troching

n
/ 'trō.kiŋ /
F > E

[has homonym with regional label: troking] a small point of a stag's antler.

During mating-season fights, it is common for a troching or two to break off of a stag's antler.

trochlea

troglobiont

trombone

tromometer

n
/ .trō'mämədə(r) /
Gk + Gk

an instrument for measuring or detecting minute earth tremors.

George's new security system is based on a tromometer that can detect footfalls anywhere in the building.

trophobiosis

n
/ .träfō.bī'ōsēs /
Gk

a relation in which an organism of one kind aids and protects an organism of another kind in return for some food product.

The entomologist described the relation between some ants and aphids from whom they obtain sweet secretions as "trophobiosis."

trophy

tropism

n
/ 'trō.pizəm /
Gk

an innate tendency to react in a definite manner to stimuli.

Any type of tropism involves turning toward or away from a stimulus.

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troposphere

n
/ 'trɒpə.sfi(ə)r /
Gk
the portion of the mass of air around Earth that extends outward about seven to ten miles from Earth's surface.
The temperature of the troposphere decreases with altitude.

trotteur

trottoir

troupe

truancy

truant

trudged

v
/ 'trʌjd /
unknown
marched on foot wearily.
Omar picked up his youngest boy and trudged off down the road, the other three children trotting after him.

trumpeter

truncal

adj
/ 'trʌŋkəl /
L
[has near homonym: truckle] of or relating to the trunk of the body.
The paramedics examined Rob for truncal bruises, but his only injury was a broken finger.

truncheoned

adj
/ 'trʌŋtʃənd /
L > F > E
having a nightstick.
The truncheoned officer saw no need to carry a handgun while walking his beat.

trunnion

truss

v
/ 'trʌs /
L? > F > E
[has near homonym: trust] arrange for cooking by binding the wings or legs of (as fowl) close to the body.
The woman on the Thanksgiving turkey hotline told Kay how to truss a turkey properly so that the stuffing wouldn't leak out during roasting.

trypanosomiasis

n
/ trə'panəsɔ'miəsəs /
Gk > L
an infectious disease spread by certain bloodsucking insects.
American trypanosomiasis occurs primarily in the Central and South American tropics.

tuba

tubercle

tuberculate

tubifacient

tuft

tuition

tumbler

tumbleweed

tumefacient

tumefy

tumid

adj
/ 't(y)üməd /
L
marked by swelling.
Mark had a badly infected tumid leg.

tumming

tumorigenic

tumult

tunic

n
/ 't(y)ünik /
Sem > L
a simple slip-on garment made with or without sleeves and usually knee-length or longer, belted at the waist, and worn as an under or outer garment.
The prince's tunic was embroidered with his coat of arms.

turbidity

turbulent

tureen

turnbuckle

n
/ 'tɜrn.bʌkəl /
E + L > F > E
a right-and-left screw link used for tightening a rod or stay.
Each of the tension wires that supported the old tree had a turnbuckle to allow adjustments.

turnip

turquoise

tussle

tutorial

tuxedo

tweezer

twig

n
/ 'twɪg /
E
a small shoot or branch usually without its leaves.
Dicken could tell when an unpromising bough or twig still had green life in it.

twinkling

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

twinkly

adj
/ 'twɪŋk(ə)lɪ /

E
beaming with lively feeling.
Beth was quite fond of her twinkly grandpa, who was always ready with a good joke.

twister

n
/ 'twɪstə(r) /

E
a tornado, waterspout, sand column, or dust whirl in which the rotatory ascending movement of a column of air is especially apparent.
By the time people see or hear an approaching twister, they have just a few minutes to find shelter.

twistiness

twitter

v
/ 'twɪdə(r) /

E
utter the successive chirping notes of a bird.
The parakeets fill the petstore with song when they twitter.

twoling

tychism

tydie

type

typeface

typical

typographical

tyrant

n
/ 'tɪrənt /

Gk
one who by unfair or unreasonable demands or rigorous exploitation imposes burdens and hardships on those under his or her control.
The Latin teacher, a bitter tyrant, gave his students a huge homework assignment over the holiday break.

ulcer

uliginous

adj
/ yū'lijənəs /

L
growing in wet or swampy ground.
Quentin is making a study of uliginous mosses.

ullaged

ulmin

ulna

ultimate

ultimogeniture

n
/ ʌltəmɔ'jenə.chù(ə)r /

L
a system of inheritance by which the youngest son or sometimes daughter or collateral heir succeeds to the estate.
Mr. Case, deciding that his father's adherence to ultimogeniture was unfair, planned to divide the family farm equally among his siblings and himself.

ultrafiche

ultralight

ultramarine

n
/ ʌltrəmə'rɛn /

L
a vivid blue.
The ultramarine of Billy's eyes is enhanced by tinted contact lenses.

ululate

Ulysean

adj
/ yū'lisēən /

Gk name
of, relating to, or resembling Ulysses, the hero of Homer's Odyssey.
James Joyce's Ulysses describes a single day in the life of his Ulysean hero, Leopold Bloom.

umbellulone

umber

n
/ 'ʌmbə(r) /

L
a brown earthen material highly valued by artists as a permanent pigment.
When umber is ground, washed, and dried, it is called "raw umber."

unaccommodating

unachieved

unadulterated

adj
/ ʌnə'dɛltə.rādəd /
Ecf + L
pure, unmixed, uncorrupted.
Children reared in poverty cannot experience the unadulterated happiness of childhood that they deserve.

unanimity

unappreciative

adj
/ ʌnə'prɛshədɪv /
E + L
not having or showing sensitive awareness of worth or aesthetic value.
Tara thought her brother was unappreciative of the help she gave him.

unasked

unassimilable

unatonable

unbowdlerized

unbudgeable

adj
/ ʌn'bʊdʒəbəl /
Ecf + L > F
incapable of being moved or shifted.
The poem exemplifies the author's unbudgeable belief in human goodness.

uncanny

unceremoniously

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unceremoniousness

n
/ .ən.sə.rə'mōn.ē.sən.səs /
Ecf + Etruscan? > L + Ecf
state of being informal.
Memories of the disagreement began to fade, and soon Mr. Knightley conducted himself with the unceremoniousness of perfect amity.

unchangeable

adj
/ .ən'chānjəbəl /
E + F > E
not capable of being changed : immutable.
Mr. Jowett denied that age makes habits unchangeable.

uncial

uncinus

n
/ .ən'sīnəs /
L
a small hooklike structure or process.
An uncinus is one of a set of structures that the mollusk uses to tear up its food and draw it into its mouth.

uncivilly

uncle

uncompliant

uncomplimentary

adj
/ .ənkəmplə'mentərē /
Ecf + L > E
degrading, derogatory.
Betsy felt sure that her new haircut would elicit many uncomplimentary remarks.

unconcerned

unconscionably

adv
/ .ən'kānch(ə)nəblē /
L
in a manner not guided or controlled by conscience.
Nathan behaved so unconscionably in elementary school that his juvenile delinquency surprises no one.

unconscious

uncooperative

adj
/ .ənkō'öpərədɪv /
Ecf + L
not marked by willingness and ability to work with others in a common effort.
Mr. Jenkins sighed, "Do you enjoy being the most belligerent, uncooperative child in school?"

uncoquettish

unction

n
/ 'ʊŋ(k)shən /
L
the anointing of the sick with oil that is a religious rite of healing.
The Catholic sacrament of extreme unction can be given by a priest to any baptized person who has reached the age of reason.

undecagon

undecided

undecipherable

undergrowth

underlier

underling

underrated

v
/ .əndə(r)'rād.əd /
Ecf + L
undervalued.
The students soon learned that they had underrated the intelligence of their teacher.

understudy

n
/ 'əndə(r).stədē /
E + L
one who stands prepared to act another's part or take over the work or duties of another.
While the leading lady was ill, her understudy performed admirably in her role.

undine

undiscerned

adj
/ .əndə'sərnd /
Ecf + L
unseen.
Many circumstances had passed undiscerned, but the two latest occurrences were witnessed by several individuals.

undisguisable

unequally

unequivocally

unexpugnable

unfastidious

unfathomable

adj
/ .ən'fathəməbəl /
E
incomprehensible, inscrutable.
Maggie's poker face was completely unfathomable.

unfavorable

adj
/ .ən'fāvər(ə)bəl /
E + L > E
opposed, contrary.
Willa decided the time was unfavorable for her to tell her mother the news.

unfirmamented

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unforeseeable

adj
/ ʌnfɔːr'siːəbəl /

E
incapable of being foreseen, foretold, or anticipated.
The problem was made worse by a number of unforeseeable complications.

ungregarious

ungrudgingly

anguiferate

ungulate

n
/ ˈɒŋɡjələt /
L
a hoofed typically herbivorous quadruped mammal (as a cow, camel, horse, pig, or elephant).
The elephant is the largest ungulate in existence.

uniaxial

adj
/ ˌjʊniːˈæksɪəl /

L
having but one axis.
Uniaxial orientation takes place during the drawing of a filament.

unicellular

unideaed

uniformity

unilaterally

adv
/ ˌjʊniːləˈdɛərəli /
L + L + Ecff
in a one-sided manner.
The dictator unilaterally proclaimed the action a breach of international law and an act of war.

uninterrupted

unionize

uniquity

Unitarian

n
/ ˌjuːnəˈterɪən /

L
a Christian who believes that the deity exists only in one person.
Horace's father was a Unitarian, and his mother was agnostic.

unite

univalve

adj
/ ˈjuːnəˈvɒlv /

L
having or consisting in one valve.
The aquatic univalve will usually attach its eggs to leaves or sticks.

universality

universe

n
/ ˈjuːnɪˈvɜːs /
L
the entire celestial cosmos.
Many a philosopher has pondered the question "Are we alone in the universe?"

university

univocal

unkempt

adj
/ ʌnˈkempt /

E
deficient in order or neatness of person : disheveled.
Janice feared that she would look unkempt after her six-hour flight.

unknowable

unlute

unmanacle

unmerciful

unmitigable

adj
/ ʌnˈmɪdʒəbəl /
Ecf + L
not causing to make less severe, violent, cruel, intense, painful.
The traffic jam caused unmitigable anger and frustration in Mr. Nelson.

unmitigated

unnecessarily

adv
/ ˌʌn.nɪˈsɛrəlɪ /
Ecf + L
not in such a way that it cannot be otherwise : to a needless degree.
The taxi ride was unnecessarily long because the driver did not know the best route to take.

unneighborly

unnerve

v
/ ʌnˈnɜːv /
E + L
deprive of courage and physical strength : cause to become weak and ineffective especially from fear.
Only after the rush of adrenaline wore off did the horrible accident unnerve the paramedic.

unobtrusively

adv
/ ˌʌnəbˈtrʊsɪvli /
E + L
in a manner that is not blatant, immodest, or overly aggressive.
The Italian film had English subtitles placed unobtrusively near the bottom of the frame.

unoccupied

unparallelable

unpersuadable

adj
/ ʌnpə(r)ˈswādəbəl /
L
not capable of being induced by argument, entreaty, or expostulation into some mental position : adamant.
Both the Mr. Knightleys were as unpersuadable on that matter as Emma.

unperturbed

unpropitious

unpropitiously

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unregenerate

adj
/ ˌʌnrɛˈjɛn(ə)rət /
E + L
obstinate, stubborn.
Orrin's unregenerate refusal to admit he was wrong angered his wife.

unrehearsed

unreliable

unremitting

adj
/ ˌʌnrəˈmɪtɪŋ /
E + L
constant, incessant.
Doug was a careful and unremitting student of political thought.

unremunerative

unresolved

unscarred

unseasonable

adj
/ ˌʌnˈsiːz(ə)nəbəl /
Ecf + L > F > E + Lcf > Ecf
not usual or normal and usually undesirable for the season of the year.
An unseasonable cold snap proved deadly to many of Kate's roses.

unsentimental

adj
/ ˌʌn.sɛntəˈmɛntəl /
E + L
not characterized or dominated by excessive emotion.
Jerome tried to be unsentimental in his assessment of the situation.

unsepulchered

unshunnable

unsympathetic

adj
/ ˌʌn.sɪmpəˈθɛdɪk /
E + Gk
not exhibiting ready comprehension of others' mental states : unresponsive.
Aaron found Mrs. Schubert totally unsympathetic to his ordeal.

untenable

adj
/ ʌnˈtɛnəbəl /
E + L
not able to be defended or maintained.
Arlen found himself in an untenable position when his boss asked him to lie to the auditors.

untimely

adj
/ ˌʌnˈtɪmlē /
E
occurring at an inopportune time.
Slim's untimely arrival interrupted the ceremony.

untraceable

adj
/ ˌʌnˈtrāsəbəl /
Ecf + F > E + Ecf
not capable of being tracked down.
The armored car was robbed of \$2 million in untraceable bills.

untrammelled

unvaccinated

adj
/ ʌnˈvaksənədəd /
Ecf + L
not being inoculated with a vaccine in order to produce immunity.
The injured, unvaccinated horse was given a tetanus antitoxin shot.

unwarrantable

unwearable

unwritten

upbeat

adj
/ ˈʌp.bēt /
E + E
marked by optimism : cheerful, happy.
The students came away from the pep rally in an upbeat mood.

updraft

n
/ ˈʌp.draʃt /
E + E
an upward movement of air or other gas.
A storm's life and power are determined by the middle atmospheric winds around the central updraft.

upheave

v
/ ˌʌpˈhēv /
E
lift or raise, usually with great force.
The engineer used dynamite to upheave the boulder.

upholsterer

n
/ (ˌ)ʌpˈhɔɪltɪ(ə)rə(r) /
E
one whose occupation is the covering of furniture with padding and fabric.
The upholsterer nearly fainted when he ripped open the lumpy cushion and found it stuffed with rolls of dollar bills.

uppityness

uprightously

uraeus

n
/ yəˈrēəs /
Gk > L
[has homonym and near homonym: ureas and urias] a stylized representation of the sacred asp appearing on the headdress of ancient rulers especially just over the forehead and serving as a symbol of sovereignty.
Robin admired the large golden uraeus on the pharaoh's crown.

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uranium	uveitis n / ,yüvĕ'īdās / L + Ecf inflammation of the portion of the eye composed of the iris and ciliary body together with the choroid coat. <i>Uveitis in horses is sometimes called "moon blindness."</i>	vagabonds n pl / 'vægəbāndz / L > F > E individuals who wander about from place to place. <i>Jill and Jenny enjoyed being vagabonds in Europe the summer after they graduated from high school.</i>
uranography		vagarious
uranometry		vagile adj / 'væjəl / L free to move about. <i>Vagile organisms are inherently difficult to observe, which makes study of their interactions challenging.</i>
urban		vagueness n / 'vāgnəs / L > F + Ecf the quality or state of lacking expression. <i>Roy's little eyes began to shine, and they lost their vagueness.</i>
urbane		vain
urn		vainglorious
ursiform	uvular adj / 'yüvyələ(r) / L [Note: Could be confused with uvula.] of or relating to the pendent fleshy lobe in the posterior border of the soft palate; specifically : produced with the aid of this lobe. <i>Try as she might, Joanie could not produce a uvular trill.</i>	vair n / 'va(a)(ə)r / L > F > E a heraldic pattern of interlocking shield-shaped panes. <i>Rosalind had a difficult time trying to paint the vair of her family's coat of arms.</i>
urticaria		valence n / 'vālən(t)s / L the degree of combining power of any element or radical. <i>Iron has a variable valence: two in ferrous chloride and three in ferric chloride.</i>
usage		valetudinary
usance		valid
usufructuary n / ,yüzə'frækchə.werē / L one having the use or enjoyment of something. <i>Although he leased his farm to a large corporation, Silas remained the usufructuary of the wooded sections.</i>	uxoricide n / ,æk'sōrəsīd / L + L the murder of a wife by her husband. <i>The police suspected the missing woman was a victim of uxoricide.</i>	
usurp		
utile adj / 'yüd·l / L [has homonym: util] practical, useful. <i>Metals such as copper and tin are particularly utile in manufacturing.</i>	uxoriously	
utmost	vacancy	
utopia	vacant	
utricle	vacillant	
utterable	vacillatory adj / 'vasələ.tōrē / L characterized by changeableness or indecisiveness. <i>Lacking a strong leader, the committee tended to be vacillatory in regard to budget cuts.</i>	
uvala	vacuole	
	vacuometer	

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valise

n
/ və'li:s /
It > F

traveling bag.

Mrs. McDonald asked the flight attendant to put her valise in the overhead bin.

valorization

valuable

adj
/ 'valyəbəl /
L > F > E

possessing monetary worth in use or exchange.

After quitting her job, Brenda sold a few valuable articles and took a trip to Australia.

valuta

van

vanadium

n
/ və'nādiəm /
ON goddess

a gray or white malleable ductile polyvalent metallic element that is resistant to air, seawater, alkalies, and reducing acids except hydrofluoric acid.

Vanadium is often used as a dye in ceramics and pottery.

vane

n
/ vān /
E

[has homonyms: vain, vein] a movable device attached to a spire, mast, or other elevated object for showing the direction of the wind.

Atop the barn is a metal weather vane in the form of a rooster.

vanillery

n
/ və'nilərə /
L > Sp > F

a plantation of vanilla.

Juan Aguiar owns a large vanillery north of Guatemala City.

vanishing

vanity

vapid

adj
/ 'vəpəd /
L

lacking flavor, zest, animation, or spirit : uninteresting.

The couple sat through the vapid movie simply because they had paid good money to see it.

vapor

n
/ 'vāpə(r) /
L

diffused matter floating suspended in air and impairing its transparency.

The vapor of exhaust hung thick in the air near the truckstop.

vaporizer

varietal

variety

varioliform

adj
/ ,verē'älə:fɔ:m /
L + Ecf

resembling smallpox.

When the relief worker saw the refugee's varioliform lesions, she suspected an experiment in germ warfare had taken place.

variometer

variorum

various

variscite

varlet

n
/ 'vārlət /
F

a low fellow : a base unprincipled person.

Some varlet put his parking ticket on Claudia's car.

varsity

vary

vascular

vasculature

n
/ 'vaskyləchü(ə)r /
L

the disposition or arrangement of blood vessels in an organ or part.

In the biology lab, students are investigating the vasculature of a fetal pig.

vasoconstrictor

vassalage

n
/ 'vasəlij /
L > F > E

a position of subordination or submission (as to a political power or a detrimental influence).

After unifying China, Kublai Khan sent envoys to neighboring kingdoms, obliging them to accept vassalage.

vastitude

n
/ 'vastətüd /
L

immensity.

The vastitude of the proposal held him spellbound.

vaticinal

adj
/ və'tis'nəl /
L

of, relating to, or containing prophecy.

Will just laughed at his grandmother's vaticinal utterances, for none of her predictions ever came true.

vaticination

n
/ və'tis'n'āshən /
L

something foretold : prediction.

The doomsayer's woeful vaticination fell on deaf ears.

vaunted

adj
/ 'vɔntəd /
L > E

boasted about : praised to the skies.

Jess was looking forward to the vaunted Hawaiian sunshine, but it rained throughout his vacation.

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

vector

n
/ 'vektə(r) /
L

a course or compass direction, especially of an airplane.
The pilot received the vector for landing from the control tower.

Vedic

adj
/ 'vādik /
Skt

of or relating to the most ancient sacred writings of the Hindus.
Ivy took a class in Vedic Sanskrit in her first year of graduate school.

veering

v
/ 'vi(ə)riŋ /
D or G > E
turning, shifting.

The sharks began veering abruptly when the diver pulled the dead fish from her bag.

vega

vehement

veil

n
/ 'vāil /
L > F > E

[has homonym: vale] a length of cloth worn by women as a covering for the head and shoulders and often especially in Eastern countries for the face.
After arriving at the church, the bride frantically announced that she had forgotten her veil.

veined

velvet

velveteen

n
/ ,velvə'tēn /
L > F > E + Ecf

a clothing fabric usually of cotton in twill or plain weaves made with a short close weft pile in imitation of velvet.
Jenny can't wait to wear her holiday dress made of dark green velveteen.

venality

venatic

venatorial
adj
/ ,venə'tōriəl /
L

of, relating to, or used in hunting.
As the duck-hunting season begins, Jake can be counted on to retell accounts of his past venatorial successes.

vendue

venenate

venire

n
/ və'nīrē /
L

an entire panel which is drawn for jury duty and from which a jury is to be selected.
On reporting for jury duty, Astrid was directed to join the venire in courtroom 17.

vent

ventilation

ventrally
adv
/ 'ventrəlē /
L

on, near, or in the direction of the belly.
The aquarium fish was striped both ventrally and dorsally.

ventricle

n
/ 'ventrə'kəl /
L

one of the chambers of the heart which receives blood from a corresponding atrium and from which blood is forced into the arteries.
The heart patient's right ventricle is the source of his trouble.

ventricular

ventripotent

venture

n
/ 'venchə(r) /
E

an undertaking involving chance, risk, or danger.
"My heart was beating finely when we two set forth in the cold night upon this dangerous venture," he confided.

verbalize

verbiage

verbigeration

verbose

verbosity

verdigrised

v
/ 'vərdə,grēsd /
L > F > E

covered or coated with a green or bluish deposit especially of copper carbonates formed on copper, brass, or bronze surfaces.
Five years of weathering verdigrised the roof over the bay window from the color of a shiny new penny.

verein

veridical

adj
/ və'ridə'kəl /
L

conforming to the truth : truthful.
The therapist tried to help the patient distinguish veridical perceptions from illusory ones.

veridicality

verify

vermicular

vermiform
adj
/ 'vərmə'fɔrm /
L

wormlike.
Some insect larvae are vermiform.

vermilion

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

vermin

verminous

adj
/ 'vɜrmənəs /

L
infested by small animals (as lice, bedbugs, mice) that tend to occur in great numbers, are difficult to control, and are offensive as well as injurious.

Mayor Skopek promised to demolish the verminous abandoned buildings.

vernacularize

v
/ və(r)'nakyələ.rɪz /

L
render into or express in a native language or dialect of a country, region, or person.
Vera's attempt to vernacularize the dialog in her novel is requiring more research than she had anticipated.

verruca

version

versus

prep
/ 'vɜrsəs /

L
[has near homonym: verses] against.
The landmark court case "Brown versus Board of Education of Topeka" paved the way for school desegregation.

verticil

n
/ 'vɜrdəsɪl /

L
a circle or whorl of similar body parts (as flowers about a point on an axis).
A verticil of flowers grew at the tip of the plant's stem.

verve

vespetro

vesta

n
/ 'vestə /

L name
a short wooden match.
Robin removed a vesta from the vintage match safe and struck it on the grated exterior.

vestigial

Vesuvian

adj
/ və'süvɪən /

L geog name
marked by uncertainty or sudden outbursts : furious.
Gerald's cardiologist advised him to control his Vesuvian rage lest he jeopardize his health.

veteran

veterans

n pl
/ 'vedərənz /

L
ones skilled through length of service.
The supervisors depended on the veterans to help the novices on the assembly line.

veterinarian

n
/ ,vedərə'nerɪən /

L
one skilled in treating diseases and injuries of animals.
The veterinarian removed a large splinter from Misty's paw.

vettura

vexillary

n
/ 'veksə.lərɪ /

L
standard-bearer.
If the appointed vexillary fell in battle, it was the duty of the nearest soldier to rescue the standard.

viability

n
/ ,vɪə'bilədɪ /

L
the ability to live, grow, and develop.
The viability of the crop was in question after the severe hailstorm.

viaduct

vial

viand

n
/ 'vɪənd /
L > F > E

an article of food.
The pantry was so full that there wasn't room for a single viand more.

vibrant

adj
/ 'vɪbrənt /

L
pulsating with life, vigor, or activity.
The nurse had a vibrant personality that could cheer even the most despondent patient.

vibrissa

vicar

vicarious

vicariously

adv
/ vɪ'ka(a)rɪəsli /

L
in a manner experienced or realized through imaginative or sympathetic participation in the experience of another.
Erin loves to read travel magazines so that she can vicariously enjoy trips to exotic lands.

vicinal

vicinity

vicious

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

vicissitudes

n pl
/ və'sis.ə.tüdz /
L

fluctuations in condition (as of wealth, prosperity, or happiness).
One could not have imagined the extreme vicissitudes the Great Depression brought our nation's populace.

videlicet

vidimus

n
/ 'vidəməs /
L

an attested copy of a document.
In purely legalistic terms, a notarized document could be called a "vidimus."

viga

n
/ 'vɛgə /
Sp

one of the heavy rafters that is often a log and that supports the roof in the native Indian and Spanish colonial architecture of the Southwest.
At least one termite-infested viga was responsible for the roof's collapse.

vigil

n
/ 'vijəl /
L

a religious service on the morning of the day before a holy day.
Deborah enjoyed the Christmas Eve vigil as a respite from her hectic family life.

vigilant

adj
/ 'vijələnt /
L

alertly or watchfully awake; especially : alert or watchful to discover and avoid danger.
The teachers on bus duty were not very vigilant at their posts, choosing instead to socialize with each other.

vigintillion

vigorish

n
/ 'vigərɪʃ /
Russ > Yiddish?

a charge taken (as by a bookie or gambling house) on bets.
David won \$500 at the races but had to pay his bookie a vigorish of \$50.

vigorous

vigorously

adv
/ 'vig(ə)rəslē /
L > F > E

in a manner full of physical or mental strength or active force.
Jesse vigorously objected to the referendum.

vilely

villager

villanelle

n
/ 'vilə'nel /
It > F

a chiefly French poem having typically five tercets and a quatrain.
One of the most striking aspects of the villanelle is its rhyme scheme.

vimineous

adj
/ və'minēəs /
L

of or producing long slender twigs or shoots.
Ryan's backyard is shaded by a huge vimineous willow tree.

vindaloo

n
/ 'vində.lu /
Pg > Indo-Pg > Konkani
a curried meat dish made with garlic and wine or vinegar.
Sweet chutney is a delicious counterpoint to spicy vindaloo.

vindictive

vintage

violaceous

adj
/ vɪə'lāʃhəs /
L

of the color violet.
The prism cast a violaceous band across Sally's face.

violate

violently

adv
/ 'vɪələntlē /
L > F > E

in a manner characterized by extreme force.
The hail beat violently against the spring flowers.

violet

virement

virent

virgule

n
/ 'vɔr.gyül /
L > F

a short, usually slanting stroke or mark used in medieval manuscripts.
In modern times a virgule is often used to divide a date into month, day, and year.

viridity

n
/ və'ridədē /
L

the quality or state of being green : the color of grass or foliage.
Zoysia grass is known for its lack of viridity in cool months.

virility

virtual

virulently

adv
/ 'vir(y)ələntlē /
L + Ecf

in a manner full of bitter malicious hatred.
The campaign turned virulently hostile as the candidates exchanged nasty personal insults.

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

visceral

viscid

adj
/ 'visəd /

L
having an adhesive quality : gluey, sticky.

Katie gazed in fascination at the steaming vat of viscid sap, which would soon be maple syrup.

vise

n
/ 'vīs /

F
[has homonym: vice] any of various tools having two jaws for holding work that close usually by a screw, lever, or cam.

Keith put the copper bar in a vise and hammered the end of it into the desired shape.

visible

Visigothic

adj
/ ,vizə'gäthik /

Gmc > L
of or relating to the western division of the Germanic peoples who invaded the Roman empire beginning in the fourth century and who later established kingdoms between the Loire and Gibraltar.

Herve found several Visigothic artifacts while hiking in the Pyrenees.

visualize

v
/ 'vizhə'līz /

L + E + Ecf
see a mental image of.

Arthur could still visualize the accident down to the smallest detail.

vitality

vitellus

n
/ vī'teləs /

L
the yolk of egg.

In an egg, a ropelike structure called a "chalaza" helps anchor the vitellus and protect it from damage while allowing it to turn easily.

viticetum

n
/ ,vidə'sēdəm /

L
a growth or plantation of vines, especially grapevines.

Mr. Sampson owns the largest viticetum in the county.

viticulture

n
/ 'vidə,kəlchə(r) /

L
the cultivation of grapes.
Whitney has always been interested in viticulture; even as a child she had two grapevines that she grew herself.

vitrailed

viuva

vivacious
adj
/ və'vāshəs /

L
lively in temper or conduct : sprightly.
The vivacious teenager thought nothing of chatting for hours on the telephone.

viviparous

adj
/ vī'vip(ə)rəs /

L
producing living young instead of eggs from within the body in the manner of nearly all mammals, many reptiles, and a few fishes.
Some species of the eelpout lay eggs, while others are viviparous.

vivisection

vivisepture

vocalize

v
/ 'vøkə'līz /
Gk > L > F > E

utter, speak, sing.
Teresa had to relearn how to vocalize some sounds while recovering from a head injury.

vocational

voeu

voile

volador

n
/ ,vɔlə'dò(ə)r /
L > Sp

[has near homonym: voladora] any of various flying fishes.
Sammy was proud to have caught a volador on his first day of fishing.

volary

volatilize

v
/ 'væləd'līz /
L > F > E

cause to pass off into vapor.
Sampson said it would be easy to volatilize the acid by heat.

volcano

n
/ vāl'kā(,)nō /
L

a vent in Earth's crust from which molten or hot rock and steam issue.
Is that volcano in Hawaii still active?

volley

v
/ 'vālē /
L > F

propel (an object of play) while in the air and before touching the ground.
Cesar won his tennis match by staying close enough to the net to volley hard.

volleyball

voltage

voltolization

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

voluble

volucrine

adj
/ 'vɒlyəkri:n /

L
of or relating to birds.
The adoption program at the zoo raised more money for the volucrine residents than for any other group of animals.

voluminous

adj
/ və'lʊmənəs /

L
bulky, large, swelling.
Sam's chin sank into a billow of his voluminous shirt front.

voluntary

volunteered

v
/ 'vɒlənti(ə)rd /

L > F
entered into or offered oneself for any service of one's own free will without solicitation or compulsion : offered.
Milo thought for just a moment and then resolutely volunteered to go.

voluptuous

volutation

vorticity

votary

n
/ 'vɒdəre /

L
a devout or zealous worshiper.
It is said that there are eleven steps, or grades, that lead a Jainist from householder to votary to monkhood.

votive

adj
/ 'vɒdiv /

L
undertaken or performed in fulfillment of a vow.
This year Sue made her votive pilgrimage to the estate of her favorite performer.

vouchsafe

vousoir

vowelless

adj
/ 'vaʊ(ə)lləs /
L > F > E + Ecf
[Note: Could be confused with foulest.] having only consonants.
Winifred amazed her friends by working a vowelless crossword puzzle in less than an hour.

vulcanization

wafflestomper

n
/ 'wɒfəl.stæmpə(r) /
D + E
a hiking boot with a thick rubber sole with ridges patterned to increase traction.
The typical wafflestomper has a suede upper reaching to the ankle and is lighter than many other boots.

waft

v
/ 'wɒft /
D or G > E
bear along on or as if on a buoyant medium.
As the aroma of coffee started to waft into the room, Mory woke up.

wafture

n
/ 'wɒfchə(r) /
D or G > E + Ecf
a wavelike motion : waft, beckoning.
The wafture of the stadium crowd gave Ebenezer a thrill.

waggery

n
/ 'wagəre /
E
mischievous merriment.
The twins delighted in waggery.

Wagnerian

adj
/ vɒg'nirēən /
G name
belonging to, characteristic of, or suggestive of the operas of the German composer Richard Wagner.
Star Trek Klingon opera is even more somber than Wagnerian opera.

wahine

wail

wailing

v
/ 'weɪlɪŋ /
Scand > E
expressing sorrow audibly.
The wailing cries of the relatives filled the cemetery.

waistband

waiter

waitress

waiver

n
/ 'weɪvə(r) /
F
[has homonym: waver] the act of intentionally relinquishing or abandoning a known right, claim, or privilege.
The attorney explained to her client how a waiver of a jury trial could be to his advantage.

waldhorn

walepiece

walkathon

wallboard

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

walleye

n
/ 'wò.lī /
ON > E

a large vigorous freshwater food and sport fish that has large prominent eyes.

The walleye put up a good fight but nevertheless ended up as dinner for the fisherman.

wallow

walnut

wane

v
/ 'wān /
E

[has homonym: wain] diminish in phase or intensity—used of the Moon and other satellites and inferior planets.

Mercury will begin to wane on June 23rd.

wantwit

wapentake

warble

warbler

wardwite

ware

warily

adv
/ 'wa(a)rəlē /
E

cautiously.

The toddler approached the puppy warily.

warlock

n
/ 'wòr.läk /
E

one given to black magic.

The warlock shrieked in rage as the paladin shattered his amulet.

warrant

n
/ 'wòrənt /
Gmc > F > E

a writ issued by a magistrate authorizing an officer to make an arrest, a seizure, or a search or to do other acts incident to the administration of justice.

Police officers, armed with a search warrant, entered the suspect's apartment and seized the stolen computers.

warrantee

warranty

n
/ 'wòrəntē /
F > E

[has homonym: warrantee] a usually written guarantee of the integrity of a product specifying that the maker will for a period of time be responsible for the repair or replacement of defective parts.

Celeste angrily waved the warranty for her refrigerator under the repairman's nose.

wary

adj
/ 'wa(a)rē /
E

marked by keen caution, cunning, and watchful prudence in detecting and escaping danger.

The negotiator's subtle diplomacy and wary tactics were the result of years of experience.

washin

waspish

wassail

wassailry

waterbailage

waterfowl

waterspout

n
/ 'wòdər.spəüt /
E + E

a slender funnel-shaped or tubular column of rapidly rotating cloud-filled wind on the surface of an ocean or lake.

The photograph is an aerial view of a waterspout about 2000 feet high.

waterwheel

n
/ 'wòdə(r).hwēl /
E + E

a hubbed circular frame mounted vertically on an axle and made to rotate by direct action of a liquid.

The gristmill operator opened the gate in the sluice, and the waterwheel creaked and groaned as it began to turn.

waterzooi

n
/ 'wòdər.züē /
D > Flem

a stew of chicken or seafood and vegetables in a seasoned stock thickened with cream and egg yolks.

Glen ordered the waterzooi simply because it was the most unusual item on the menu.

watteau

n
/ wä'tō /
F name

[Note: Plural form is pronounced identically.] a hat having a shallow crown and a wide brim turned up at the back to hold flower trimmings.

Betty celebrated the coming of spring by wearing her straw watteau delicately decorated with pink and red roses.

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watts
n pl
/ 'wäts /
Scot name
[has homonym: what's] absolute meter-kilogram-second units of power, each equal to 1 absolute joule per second : units of power 1/746 horsepower each.
Tom's smile was so bright that photographers began to call it the "smile of a thousand watts."

wavelet

waviness

waybill

waywiser

weakling

wealthy

weapon

weaponry

wear

weatherize

Websterian
adj
/ webz'tirēən /
American name
of, relating to, or characteristic of the lexicographer Noah Webster or his dictionary.
Jack's Websterian skill at defining and familiarity with word origins made him an ideal editor.

wedel
v
/ 'väd'l /
G
[has near homonym: fatal] ski downhill by moving the rear of the skis from side to side making a series of short quick turns while following the fall line.
The ski instructor watched as Ursula began to wedel confidently down the steep slope.

Wednesday
n
/ 'wenz(,)dā /
E
the day following Tuesday.
Most schoolchildren look forward to Wednesday as the day when the school week is half over.

weighbridge

weighhouse

weight

weimaraner
n
/ 'vīməränə(r) /
G geog name
a German breed of large gray, short-haired sporting dogs with pendulous ears and cropped tail.
The trembling and excessive shyness of the weimaraner may be signs of overbreeding.

wejack

weka

Wellington
n
/ 'welɪŋtən /
Brit name
a leather boot having a loose top with the front usually coming above the knee.
The Wellington was introduced into the British army by the Duke of Wellington to replace the jackboot.

weltpolitik

wentletrap

westerlies
n pl
/ 'westə(r)lēz /
E
winds blowing from the west.
Groves of tall trees had been planted to comb the meanness out of California's prevailing westerlies.

westward

whally

whammy

wheelchair

wheeze

wheezed
v
/ 'hwēzd /
Scand > E
breathed with difficulty with a usually audible sibilant or whistling sound.
"Too much too quickly, too much too quickly," wheezed the out-of-shape gentleman, between gulps.

whelked
adj
/ 'hwelkt /
E
formed like the twisted shell of numerous marine mollusks : convoluted.
The antelope had whelked horns that curved inward.

whencesoever

whereas

whereupon

whether
conj
/ '(h)wethə(r) /
E
[has homonyms: weather, wether]—used as a function word followed usually by correlative or or by or whether to indicate alternative conditions or possibilities.
Jill cannot decide whether or not she would like to go to the prom.

whew

why

whyey

whichever

whiffet

whiffle

while

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

whinchat

whinny

whirlpool

whiskery

whiteout

n
/ 'hwīt.əūt /
E + E

a surface weather condition in an arctic area in which no object casts a shadow, the horizon cannot be seen, and only dark objects are discernible.

When the blizzard thickened to a whiteout, motorists pulled off the road and waited until visibility returned.

whitewashed

v
/ 'hwīt.wòsht /
E

washed, treated, or covered with a white liquid composition.

Breanna and Logan whitewashed the fence together.

whitherward

whitster

whittle

wholehearted

wholly

whorl

whosoever

whump

wickawee

wickedness

wicket

n
/ 'wìkət /
Gmc > F > E
[has near homonym: wicked] the period of play in cricket from the commencement of a batter's innings to his or her dismissal.
Edward scored five runs during the fourth wicket of the Eton championship.

widespread

adj
/ 'wìd.spred /
E
generally prevalent.
The widespread Dutch Elm Disease has all but eliminated the old elm trees in our town.

wield

wienerwurst

n
/ 'wēnə(r).wərst /
G

Vienna sausage.

Blaine decided that it was the wienerwurst, not the 14 pickles, that had caused his indigestion.

wiesenboden

n
/ 'vēz²n.bōd²n /
G
any of an intrazonal group of dark brown to black meadow soils rich in organic matter.
The sedge grass thrived in the wiesenboden.

wigan

wigwam

wilco

wildfowl

wile

wiles

n pl
/ 'wīlz /
E
[has homonym: whites] tricks or stratagems intended to ensnare or deceive.
George Washington believed that nations must ultimately depend on themselves alone and warned against "the insidious wiles of foreign influence."

wiliness

wiliwili

willet

n
/ 'wìlət /
imit
a large shore bird of the snipe family of the eastern and Gulf coasts and the central parts of North America.
The willet feeds near the mud flats in the summer.

willies

willow

willowware

wimble

wincéd

v
/ 'wín(t)st /
Gmc > F > E
shrank back involuntarily.
Waldo wincéd at the Sun's glare.

winceyette

windblown

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

windchill

n
/ 'wind.chil /
E + E
a still-air temperature with the same cooling effect on exposed human flesh as a given combination of temperature and wind speed.
Winds ripped the air at 60 miles an hour, and the windchill dropped to 50 degrees below zero.

winddog

windlass

windowpane

wingspan

winnable

adj
/ 'winəbəl /
E
able to be won.
The coach knew that the game was winnable, but he watched his team throw it away.

winnow

v
/ 'wi(.)nō /
E
treat so that the result is free of unwanted or baser components.
The superintendent spent all day trying to winnow the immense number of applications for director of special education.

wistful

adj
/ 'wɪstfəl /
E
full of timorous longing or unfulfilled desire : melancholy.
Glenn grew wistful as he reminisced about his boyhood friends.

witan

witchcraft

witching

adj
/ 'wɪtʃɪŋ /
E
of, relating to, or suitable for sorcery or supernatural occurrences.
Tension grew as the clock neared the witching hour of midnight.

withdrawal

withhold

withholding

witticize

wizard

n
/ 'wɪzə(r)d /
E
magician.
The wizard vowed to use his powers to help the townspeople.

wizened

wizzled

woad

n
/ 'wɔd /
E
a blue dye prepared especially formerly from the leaves of a plant of the same name and containing indigo as its essential constituent.
The ancient Picts of England were known to use woad to make body paint.

wokas

wolfsbane

wombat

n
/ 'wɒm.bat /
Australian name
any of several stocky Australian marsupials resembling small bears.
The wombat lives in burrows, which it digs with its strong foreclaws.

wonderful

woodburytype

woody

adj
/ 'wʊdzē /
E
of, relating to, characteristic of, suggestive of, or of the nature of woods.
The Girl Scout Handbook tells us to "look for trillium and violets in woody, shady spots."

would

woolliness

wootz

wordle

workaholic

n
/ ,wɜrkə'hɒlɪk /
E + Ar > Sp > L + Ecf
a compulsive worker.
Beth is a workaholic who hasn't taken a vacation in over six years.

worrywart

worship

v
/ 'wɜrʃɪp /
E
honor or reverence as a divine being or supernatural power : venerate.
Joe found a Web page for people who worship Athena, the ancient Greek goddess of wisdom.

worsted

n
/ 'wɜrstəd /
E geog name
any of various closely woven fabrics made from smooth yarn spun from long combed fibers, used especially for suits and tailored garments.
The salesman brought out a jacket made from woolen worsted for Brandon to try on.

worthwhile

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

wounded

adj
/ 'wʊndəd /

E
injured, hurt by, or suffering from an injury to the body consisting of a laceration or a breaking of the skin.

Tommy nursed his wounded arm carefully.

wrangle

v
/ 'ræŋɡəl /

E
engage in argument, dispute, or controversy.

No matter what the topic is, the MacNeil brothers all love to wrangle.

wrathful

wreck

wrench

v
/ 'rɛnʃ /

E
twist violently to one side or out of line, shape, or position.

The sudden noise caused Merl to wrench his head around.

wrenched

wresting

wrestling

wrinkly

wristband

writ

n
/ 'rɪt /

E
a written order held to constitute a symbol of the power and authority of the issuer.

President Kennedy pledged to support the United Nations and to “enlarge the area in which its writ may run.”

writhed

v
/ 'rɪθd /

E
moved or proceeded with twists and turns.

A banner writhed in the wind as the storm approached.

writhen

wrote

wrought

wry

wryly

wryneck

wrytail

Xanadu

n
/ 'zænədə /

E poetic name
an idyllic, exotic, or luxurious place.

Kerry told her friends that Bali was just the Xanadu she had hoped for.

xanthomelanous

xanthophyll

xanthosis

xenial

adj
/ 'zɛniəl /

Gk + Ecf
of, relating to, or constituting hospitality or relations between host and guest and especially among the ancient Greeks between persons of different cities.

Gene is good at all the xenial niceties, offering his guests food and rest as soon as they arrive.

xenomania

xenon

xenophobic

adj
/ zɛnə'fɒbɪk /

Gk + Gk
of, relating to, or characterized by fear and hatred of what is foreign and especially of people of foreign origin.

Roger’s xenophobic personality made him unfit for the Peace Corps.

xeroderma

xerophobic

adj
/ zə'ræfəbəs /

Gk + Gk

having little capacity to resist drought—used of a plant.

Knowing how forgetful she can be, Rachel avoided buying any xerophobic plants.

xerophyte

xiphoid

adj
/ 'zɪ.fɔɪd /

Gk

shaped like a sword.

“The sword plant is so named for its xiphoid leaves,” Simon told the botany students.

xoanon

xylary

xylographer

n
/ zɪ'lɑːgrəfə(r) /

Gk + Gk

one that practices or is skilled in artistic wood carving.

The Chinese xylographer exhibited printings of Buddhist scripture that he had made from woodcuts.

xyloid

adj
/ 'zɪ.lɔɪd /

Gk

having the qualities or nature of wood.

Twigs and xyloid plants were used for toothbrushes many years ago.

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

xylology

n
/ zī'läləjē /
Gk + Gk

a branch of dendrology dealing with the gross and the minute structure of wood.

In xylology, students learn to identify different woods and to distinguish real wood from imitations.

yacca

yakitori

n
/ ,yāki'tōrē /

Jpn
bite-sized marinated pieces of chicken, beef, or seafood grilled on small bamboo skewers.

Mrs. Saito brought an appetizer of chicken yakitori to the Japanese class's end-of-year banquet.

yamen

yardang

n
/ 'yär.dän /
Turkish

a sharp-crested ridge carved by wind erosion.

A yardang marked the boundary between the sand dunes and the surrounding hillside.

yardarm

n
/ 'yärd.ärm /
E + E

either end of a long spar set perpendicularly on a mast to support and spread a square sail.
The custom of the Royal Navy is to fly the Union Jack from the yardarm when a court martial is taking place aboard.

yardbird

yardstick

yarmouth

yawmeter

n
/ 'yò.mēdə(r) /
unknown + Gk

an instrument for measuring the angle of yaw of an airplane.
The pilot was sure her yawmeter was malfunctioning.

yaws

yeanling

yearling

n
/ 'yi(ə)rlɪŋ /
E

one that is a year old; especially : an animal one year old or in the second year of its age.

Although its small size made Ken think the rabbit was a yearling, it was actually closer to three years old.

yearnful

yearning

yellow

yelp

Yiddishkeit

n
/ 'yidish.kīt /
G

Jewish way of life.
Rabbi Cohen answered questions from the Hebrew school pupils about the fundamental values of Yiddishkeit.

yieldable

yielding

yippee

yogism

yoke

yolk

youthful

yperite

zanily

zaniness

zany

zanyism

zarzuela

n
/ zärz'wälə /
Sp

a Spanish opera having spoken dialogue and usually a comic subject.

Linda and Jaime attended an amusing zarzuela on their trip to Barcelona.

zealless

zealotry

n
/ 'zelətrē /
Gk

fanatical devotion.
Terrorists typically justify their violence as acts of zealotry.

zebraic

zebroid

zebu

n
/ 'zē.byü /
Tibetan > F

an Asiatic ox marked by a hump behind the neck and used primarily for draft or riding.
Yasmin used to ride on her family's zebu when she was small, but now she milks it every morning instead.

zeitgeist

n
/ 'tsīt.gēst /
G

the spirit of the time : the general intellectual and moral state or the trend of culture and taste characteristic of an era.
The fact that speed is part of our zeitgeist is one explanation for the popularity of e-mail.

zelkova

zephyrous

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

zero

zerography

zest

zetetic

adj

/ zə'tedɪk /

Gk

proceeding by inquiry.

The class government has its own zetetic justice system.

zigzag

zigzagged

zigzaggedly

zigzaggery

n

/ 'zɪg,zəgərē /

G > F

a course having sharp turns or angles.

The zigzaggery of the stitches is an attractive feature of the afghan.

zilch

n

/ 'zɪlç /

unknown

zero, nil.

Eliza told Kevin that the chance of his becoming her sweetheart was zilch.

zillionaire

n

/ 'zɪljənə(a)(ə)r /

E > L > It > F

one whose wealth is of unspecified millions (as of dollars, pounds, or francs).

Nancy wants to start a software company and be a zillionaire, just like Bill Gates.

zinc

zincography

zinfandel

zinnia

zirconium

ziti

n

/ 'zēdē /

It

medium-sized tubular pasta.

The waiter announced that Tuesday's special was ziti in tomato sauce with eggplant and mushrooms.

zocalo

zoic

zoism

n

/ 'zō.izəm /

Gk

belief in animal powers and influences.

Many Native American tribes practice zoism.

Zolaesque

adj

/ zōlə'esk /

F name

of, relating to, or suggestive of Emile Zola or his writings.

The editor accepted two of Sophie's short stories for publication in the literary magazine, declaring them Zolaesque.

zombiism

zonation

zonda

n

/ 'zōndə /

Sp

a hot enervating north wind that sweeps down from the Andes over the Argentine pampas.

The zonda brings hot spells of many days' duration when temperatures can exceed 100 degrees.

zoogenic

zoology

n

/ zō'äləjē /

Gk

a branch of the science of life concerned with the animal kingdom and its members.

It is surprising that Gretchen, an animal lover, dreads her studies in zoology.

zoom

zoomorphic

adj

/ .zōə'mɔrfɪk /

Gk > L

having an animal form that often conforms to a style of expression that is extreme in character, not true to the appearance of nature.

The Mayan ruins included altars carved with zoomorphic figures.

zoophagous

zori

n

/ 'zōrē /

Jpn

a flat thonged sandal usually made of straw, cloth, leather, or rubber.

While running on the pier, Terry caught his zori between two planks and pulled out the thong.

zouave

zumbooruk

n

/ zəm'bū.rək /

Per > Ar

a small cannon mounted on a swivel; especially : one fired from a rest on the back of a camel.

The desert nomads were proud of their marksmanship with the zumbooruk.

zwinger

n

/ 'tsfɪŋə(r) /

G

a fortress protecting a city.

The assailing army was unable to breach the zwinger.

zygodactylous

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

zygoneure

zymoscope

n

/ 'zīməskōp /

Gk > ISV

an apparatus for determining the fermenting power of yeast by measuring the amount of carbon dioxide evolved from a given quantity of sugar.

The brewer used a zymoscope to assess the yeast varieties.

zymosis

zymurgy

n

/ 'zī.mərjē /

Gk

a branch of applied chemistry that deals with fermentation processes.

The chemist had performed many experiments in zymurgy before taking the job at the brewery.

zythum