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Scripps National Spelling Bee

Vocabulary List for Fifth Graders

2017-2018

- canal** (*noun*) an artificial waterway designed for navigation or for draining or irrigating land.
- shilling** (*noun*) a former British monetary unit that was equal to 12 pence or 1/20 pound.
- halter** (*noun*) a rope or strap with or without a part that encircles the head that is used to lead or tie up a horse or other animal.
- basting** (*verb*) moistening foods with liquid (such as pan drippings) while they are cooking to prevent the food from drying out and to add flavor.
- hornet** (*noun*) any of the larger social wasps that are vigorous strong-flying insects with powerful stings.
- Viking** (*noun*) one of the pirate Northmen who plundered the coasts of Europe in the 8th to 10th centuries.
- chapel** (*noun*) a private place of worship.
- pouted** (*verb*) showed displeasure by thrusting out the lips or wearing a sullen expression.
- aspect** (*noun*) a position facing a particular direction : exposure.
- rotating** (*verb*) performing something in turn : alternating in a series.
- crooked** (*adjective*) bent : twisted.
- warmth** (*noun*) gentle heat.
- craggy** (*adjective*) full of steep, rugged, rocky natural high grounds.
- Icelandic** (*adjective*) relating to a language of the people from an island near the Arctic Ocean southeast of Greenland.
- temple** (*noun*) a building dedicated to the worship of a deity.
- engraved** (*verb*) cut upon (something, such as wood or metal) with a carving instrument in order to form an inscription or image.
- newlyweds** (*plural noun*) people recently married.
- protested** (*verb*) objected to.
- amusing** (*adjective*) pleasantly entertaining.
- cinders** (*plural noun*) ashes : the incombustible residue of something burnt.
- abroad** (*adverb*) beyond the boundaries of a country.
- superb** (*adjective*) of the highest quality.



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This list includes 50 challenging fifth grade words and, to extend learning, 50 challenging sixth grade words. If you learn the spellings and meanings of these 100 words, you will be well prepared for a fifth grade classroom bee. If you would like to be well prepared for a school spelling bee, ask your teacher for the 450-word School Spelling Bee Study List.

23.	Norse	<i>(adjective)</i>	of or relating to ancient Scandinavia or the language of its inhabitants.
24.	custody	<i>(noun)</i>	protection, care, maintenance and tuition : guardianship.
25.	sullen	<i>(adjective)</i>	gloomily or resentfully silent.
26.	Bollywood	<i>(noun)</i>	the motion-picture industry in India.
27.	clambering	<i>(verb)</i>	moving by or as if by catching hold with the hands and feet : crawling, climbing.
28.	strident	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by insistent, discordant, harsh or grating sound.
29.	severely	<i>(adverb)</i>	in a manner that is strict in judgment, discipline or government.
30.	manure	<i>(noun)</i>	animal waste from stables and barnyards that is used to supply nutrients to soil.
31.	intersect	<i>(verb)</i>	to divide something by passing through or across it : cross.
32.	slobbery	<i>(adjective)</i>	marked by drooling or allowing saliva to fall or dribble from the mouth.
33.	valuables	<i>(plural noun)</i>	things of worth usually of the nature of personal effects.
34.	expensive	<i>(adjective)</i>	characterized by high price or cost.
35.	Venice	<i>(geographical entry)</i>	city and port in northeastern Italy.
36.	breakfast	<i>(noun)</i>	the first meal of the day.
37.	salvation	<i>(noun)</i>	the source, cause or means of preservation.
38.	unison	<i>(adverb)</i>	in precise and perfect agreement — used with "in."
39.	diagram	<i>(noun)</i>	a drawing or design that explains rather than represents.
40.	spinster	<i>(noun)</i>	a woman who seems unlikely to marry.
41.	grocery	<i>(noun)</i>	the store or place of business of a retail dealer in foods and household supplies.
42.	pastures	<i>(plural noun)</i>	lands that are used for the grazing of animals or are suitable for such use.
43.	neglected	<i>(adjective)</i>	not properly or sufficiently attended to or cared for.
44.	receptions	<i>(plural noun)</i>	social gatherings often for the purpose of extending a ceremonious or formal welcome.
45.	energetic	<i>(adjective)</i>	vigorously active.
46.	plantations	<i>(plural noun)</i>	usually large estates in a tropical or subtropical region that are generally cultivated by unskilled or semiskilled labor under central direction.
47.	decent	<i>(adjective)</i>	fairly good but not excellent.
48.	survival	<i>(noun)</i>	the continuation of life or existence in the presence of or despite difficult conditions.
49.	disguise	<i>(noun)</i>	unfamiliar or uncharacteristic style of dress worn to conceal one's identity.



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50.	undesirable	<i>(adjective)</i>	unwanted, objectionable.
51.	tonic	<i>(noun)</i>	something that invigorates, restores, refreshes or stimulates.
52.	enlisted	<i>(adjective)</i>	of, relating to, for, or constituting the part of a military or naval force ranked below commissioned officers and warrant officers.
53.	tomes	<i>(plural noun)</i>	books that are often large or scholarly.
54.	levied	<i>(verb)</i>	imposed or collected (as a tax or tribute) by legal process or by authority : exacted.
55.	bookmobile	<i>(noun)</i>	a truck that serves as a traveling library.
56.	nursery	<i>(noun)</i>	a child's bedroom.
57.	shortage	<i>(noun)</i>	not enough of something that is required : deficit.
58.	precise	<i>(adjective)</i>	lacking anything vague, unclear or uncertain.
59.	roundabout	<i>(adjective)</i>	not following a straight line or course.
60.	handiwork	<i>(noun)</i>	work done personally : personal or individual achievement.
61.	balloonist	<i>(noun)</i>	someone who operates a bag that is filled with heated air or a gas lighter than air so as to rise and float in the atmosphere and that usually carries a suspended load (such as a gondola with passengers).
62.	improvise	<i>(verb)</i>	to compose, recite or sing especially in verse or to play on an instrument or act without preparation.
63.	altitude	<i>(noun)</i>	the vertical elevation of an object above a given level (such as a foundation, the ground or sea level).
64.	sparsely	<i>(adverb)</i>	in a thinly scattered manner : scantily.
65.	musician	<i>(noun)</i>	someone who is skilled at incorporating pleasing, expressive, or intelligible combinations of vocal or instrumental tones into a structured, continuous composition.
66.	practically	<i>(adverb)</i>	nearly, almost.
67.	testament	<i>(noun)</i>	a written document a person creates to declare their intent as to the disposal of their estate and effects after their death : will.
68.	simulate	<i>(verb)</i>	to give the appearance or effect of : imitate.
69.	disengage	<i>(verb)</i>	to loosen or detach from something clung to.
70.	Mohawk	<i>(noun)</i>	a hairstyle with a narrow center strip of upright hair and the sides of the head shaved.
71.	exterior	<i>(adjective)</i>	suitable for use on outside surfaces (as of a house).
72.	scenery	<i>(noun)</i>	the array of impressive natural prospects and imposing features of a particular place.
73.	opponent	<i>(noun)</i>	an adversary : a foe.
74.	allowance	<i>(noun)</i>	an amount of money that is given in reimbursement and is to be used for personal or household expenses.



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75.	committee	<i>(noun)</i>	a group of people delegated to consider, investigate, or act on and usually to report on some matter or business.
76.	bulletin	<i>(noun)</i>	a brief public notice concerning a matter of marked current interest and usually issuing from an authoritative source.
77.	hoarsely	<i>(adverb)</i>	in a rough or harsh-sounding manner : gratingly.
78.	automated	<i>(verb)</i>	converted to operation by mechanical or electronic devices that take the place of human labor.
79.	subdivision	<i>(noun)</i>	a tract of land surveyed and divided into lots for purposes of sale.
80.	heralded	<i>(verb)</i>	greeted especially with enthusiasm : hailed.
81.	appointed	<i>(verb)</i>	assigned, designated or set apart by authority.
82.	regents	<i>(plural noun)</i>	people who govern kingdoms when the sovereigns are not able to govern because they are too young or ill or are away.
83.	infraction	<i>(noun)</i>	a violation by failure to follow, observe or obey.
84.	Pacific	<i>(adjective)</i>	of or relating to the ocean extending from western North America and western South America to eastern Asia and Australia.
85.	affirmation	<i>(noun)</i>	an act that confirms, validates or asserts something as true : a positive assertion.
86.	cipher* or cypher	<i>(noun)</i>	a method of transforming a text in order to conceal its meaning by substituting or rearranging letters.
87.	administration	<i>(noun)</i>	performance of executive duties : management.
88.	geometry	<i>(noun)</i>	a branch of mathematics that deals with the measurement, properties, and relationships of points, lines, angles, surfaces and solids.
89.	consecutive	<i>(adjective)</i>	one right after the other often with small intervening intervals.
90.	scavenger	<i>(noun)</i>	an organism that typically feeds on refuse or carrion.
91.	defensiveness	<i>(noun)</i>	the quality or state of having or showing a tendency to react aggressively to any real or imagined criticism.
92.	vegetation	<i>(noun)</i>	plant life or total plant cover (as of an area, forest or prairie).
93.	sconces	<i>(plural noun)</i>	ornamental electric light fixtures for a wall that look like bracket candlesticks or groups of candlesticks.
94.	Cyclops	<i>(noun)</i>	one of a race of giants in Greek mythology with a single eye in the middle of the forehead.
95.	aerospace	<i>(adjective)</i>	of or relating to the earth's atmosphere and beyond, to vehicles used in that region or the manufacture of such vehicles, or to travel in that region.
96.	correctional	<i>(adjective)</i>	dealing with the treatment of offenders through a program involving custody, parole and probation.



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| 97. | segregation | <i>(noun)</i> | the separation of a group of people based on their race, class, or ethnic group by such means as restricting where they live, the people with whom they interact, and which schools they can attend. |
| 98. | instantaneous | <i>(adjective)</i> | done, occurring or acting without any perceptible duration of time. |
| 99. | nausea | <i>(noun)</i> | a sensation of stomach discomfort usually associated with an urge to retch or vomit. |
| 100. | Chesapeake | <i>(geographical entry)</i> | city in southeastern Virginia south of Norfolk. |

*preferred U.S. spelling