



2010

CLASSROOM PRONOUNCER GUIDE

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**Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster

Merriam-Webster Pronunciation Symbols

225. **banana**, **collect**
- 'ə, ə** **humdrum**
 225. as in one pronunciation used by *r*-droppers for **bird** (alternative |ə|)
225. two-value symbol equivalent to the unstressed variants |ə|, |ɪ|, as in **habit**, **duchess** (|ˈhæbət| = |ˈhæbət, -bit|)
225. immediately preceding |l|, |n|, |m|, |ŋ|, as in **battle**, **mitten**, and in one pronunciation of **cap** and **bells** |ˈm-|, **lock** and **key** |ˈŋ-|; immediately following |l|, |m|, |r|, as in one pronunciation of French **table**, **prisme**, **titre**
- əɪ** as in one pronunciation used by *r*-droppers for **bird** (alternative |əɪ|)
- ər** **operation**; stressed, as in **bird** as pronounced by speakers who do not drop *r*; stressed and with centered period after the |r|, as in one pronunciation of **burry** (alternative |ər|) and in one pronunciation of **hurry** (alternative |əɹ|); stressed and with centered period after |ər| as in one pronunciation of **hurry** (alternative |əɹ·|)
225. **mat**, **map**
225. **day**, **fade**, **date**, **aorta**
225. **bother**, **cot**; most American speakers have the same vowel in **father**, **cart**
225. **father** as pronounced by speakers who do not rhyme it with **bother**; **farther** and **cart** as pronounced by *r*-droppers
- aa** **bad**, **bag**, **fan** as often pronounced in an area having New York City and Washington, D.C., on its perimeter; in an emphatic syllable, as before a pause, often |aaə|
- ai** as in some pronunciations of **bag**, **bang**, **pass**
- aɪ** **now**, **loud**, some pronunciations of **talcum**
225. **baby**, **rib**
- ch** **chin**, nature |ˈnāchə(r)| (actually, this sound is |t| + |ʃh|)
225. **elder**, **undone**
225. as in the usual American pronunciation of **latter**, **ladder**
225. **bet**, **bed**
- 'ē, ē** **beat**, **nosebleed**, **evenly**, **sleepy**
225. as in one pronunciation of **evenly**, **sleepy**, **envious**, **igneous** (alternative |i|)
- ee** (in transcriptions of foreign words only) indicates a vowel with the quality of *e* in **bet** but long, not the sound of *ee* in **sleep**: *en arrière* |ãˈnɑryeer|
- eū** as in one pronunciation of **elk**, **helm**
225. **fifty**, **cuff**
225. **go**, **big**
225. **hat**, **ahead**
- hw** **whale** as pronounced by those who do not have the same pronunciation for both **whale** and **wail**
225. **tip**, one pronunciation of **banish** (alternative unstressed |ɛ|), one pronunciation of **habit** (alternative |ə|; see ə)
225. **site**, **side**, **buy** (actually, this sound is |ä| + |i|, or |ä| + |i|)
- iū** as in one pronunciation of **milk**, **film**
225. **job**, **gem**, **edge**, procedure |prəˈsɛjə(r)| (actually, this sound is |d| + |zh|)
225. **kin**, **cook**, **ache**
225. as in one pronunciation of **loch** (alternative |k|), as in German **ich-laut**
225. **lily**, **pool**
225. **murmur**, **dim**, **nymph**
225. **no**, **own**
225. indicates that a preceding vowel is pronounced with the nasal passages open, as in French *un bon vin blanc* |œˈbɔ̃ˈvaˈblɑ̃|
225. **sing** |ˈsɪŋ|, **singer** |ˈsɪŋə(r)|, **finger** |ˈfɪŋgə(r)|, **ink** |ˈɪŋk|
225. **bone**, **snow**, **beau**; one pronunciation of **glory**
225. **saw**, **all**, **saurian**; one pronunciation of **horrid**
225. French **bœuf**, German **Höhle**
225. French **feu**, German **Höhle**
- oi** **coin**, **destroy**, **strawy**, **sawing**
- oo** (in transcriptions of foreign words only) indicates a vowel with the quality of *o* in **bone** but longer, not the sound of *oo* in **food**: *comte* |kɔ̃ˈtɛ|
225. **pepper**, **lip**
225. **rarity**, one pronunciation of **tar**
225. **source**, **less**
- sh** with nothing between, as in **shy**, **mission**, **machine**, **special** (actually, this is a single sound, not two); with a stress mark between, two sounds as in **death's-head** |ˈdeθs.hed|
225. **tie**, **attack**; one pronunciation of **latter** (alternative |d|)
- th** with nothing between, as in **thin**, **ether** (actually, this is a single sound, not two); with a stress mark between, two sounds as in **knighthood** |ˈniːt.hʊd|
- th** **then**, **either** (actually, this is a single sound, not two)
225. **rule**, **fool**, **youth**, union |ˈyünyən|, **few** |ˈfyü|
225. **pull**, **wood**, curable |ˈkyürəbəl|
225. German **füllen**, **hübsch**
225. French **rue**, German **föhlen**
225. **vivid**, **give**
225. **we**, **away**
225. **yard**, cue |ˈkyü|, union |ˈyünyən|
225. (in transcriptions of foreign words only) indicates that during articulation of the sound represented by the preceding character the tip of the tongue has substantially the position it has for the articulation of the first sound of **yard**, as in French **digne** |dɛ̃ˈn|
- yü** **youth**, **union**, **cue**, **few**
- yü** **curable**
225. **zone**, **raise**
- zh** with nothing between, as in **vision**, **azure** |ˈazhə(r)| (actually, this is a single sound, not two); with a stress mark between, two sounds as in **rosehill** |ˈrɔ̃z.hil|
225. mark preceding a syllable with primary (strongest) stress: |ˈpenmən.ship|
225. mark preceding a syllable with secondary (next-strongest) stress: |ˈpenmən.ship|
- () indicate that what is symbolized between is present in some utterances but not in others: **factory** |ˈfakt(ə)rɛ|

Guidelines Regarding Pronunciation

Pronunciation

For many words in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster (*Webster's Third*), more than one pronunciation is offered. In this classroom pronouncer guide, the chief pronunciation for a word is most often the first pronunciation given in this dictionary. Occasionally, however, the word panel has chosen to assign the dictionary's second or third pronunciation as the chief pronunciation. This decision has been made whenever the panel has reason to think that a certain pronunciation has become the most prevalent one since this dictionary was first published.

Many of the variations in pronunciation listed in *Webster's Third* are included in this publication as alternate pronunciations and are listed in square brackets under the chief pronunciation. These alternate pronunciations are all the variants in the dictionary's pronunciation data that differ phonemically from the chief pronunciation. Minor phonetic variations that are described in the dictionary pages are not included here, however, such as pronunciations that differ only in the level of stress on given syllables. In addition, this publication has not included the voluminous treatment of *r*-dropping and vowel variations before /r/ such as those that are found in certain geographical dialects of American English. Experience has shown that this information about nuances of phonetic variation in pronunciation can be the cause for confusion for spellers and pronouncers alike.

Nevertheless, every pronunciation in *Webster's Third* that can offer any clues about spelling is listed as an alternate pronunciation herein. The phrase *no alternate pronunciations* means simply that, while the dictionary entry may or may not contain further details about phonetic differences in different dialects, the word in question has no other pronunciations that differ phonemically from the chief pronunciation that is provided.

Tips for Conducting Your Classroom Spelling Bee

Help your students prepare by:

- giving your students the grade-specific 50-word study list from the log-in section of spellingbee.com, *and*
- providing the full *2010 School Spelling Bee Study List* to your students if they seek a challenge.

Become familiar with the organization of this guide, in which:

- words 1-225 were selected from the 2010 School Spelling Bee Study List *and*
- words 226-250 were selected from were selected from *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster.

Decide at what point in this guide to begin your classroom bee. We recommend that you:

- begin **Grade 1** classroom spelling bees with **word 1** (page 10),
- begin **Grade 2** classroom spelling bees with **word 26** (page 14),
- begin **Grade 3** classroom spelling bees with **word 51** (page 17),
- begin **Grade 4** classroom spelling bees with **word 76** (page 22),
- begin **Grade 5** classroom spelling bees with **word 101** (page 26),
- begin **Grade 6** classroom spelling bees with **word 126** (page 29),
- begin **Grade 7** classroom spelling bees with **word 151** (page 33), *and*
- begin **Grade 8** classroom spelling bees with **word 176** (page 37).

As pronouncer, be sure to:

- review the words on this list prior to your bee,
- refer to the Merriam-Webster Pronunciation Symbols (page 2) if you need assistance interpreting diacritical markings, *and*
- note that some words offer two example sentences. The first sentence is a traditional example sentence. The second sentence, noted with a smiley (☺), is a humorous alternative. You may offer either sentence or both sentences in an order of your choosing.

As judge, keep in mind that:

- you may consult our *Rules for Local Spelling Bees* (page 5) if you need rules (pay special attention to Rule 10 for instruction regarding end-of-bee procedure) *and*
- you may wish to have a copy of *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster, available for reference. If you do not have a copy of *Webster's Third*, the preferred alternative is *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, eleventh edition, copyright 2003, Merriam-Webster.

Resources

- *Webster's Third New International Dictionary*, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster
- *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, eleventh edition, copyright 2003, Merriam-Webster
- School Log-in section of spellingbee.com:
 - Grade-specific study lists
 - 2010 School Spelling Bee Study List

Rules for Local Spelling Bees

Preface

We encourage spellers, parents, teachers, and spelling bee officials to read these rules prior to any spelling bee.

These rules are guidelines designed to assist spelling bee officials and spellers at the local level. Spellers should check with their local spelling bee officials for the rules in effect in their area. Spelling bee officials include the pronouncer, judges, coordinator, and sponsor.

While local spelling bee officials have the prerogative to amend Rules 2 through 11, amendments—particularly any amendments to the end-of-bee procedure—should be undertaken only with careful consideration of the various outcomes that may result from the amendments.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee has no authority over the conduct of local spelling bees (namely, spelling bees other than the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.). Consequently, the national office will not render judgments relating to the conduct of local spelling bees. Individuals bearing complaints about the conduct of local spelling bees should register their concerns with local spelling bee officials. DECISIONS OF LOCAL SPELLING BEE OFFICIALS ARE FINAL.

These *Rules for Local Spelling Bees* are not the rules in effect at the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. When a local spelling bee official says, “We use the national rules,” he or she is probably indicating that the *Rules for Local Spelling Bees* are in effect.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., operates under a significantly different set of rules called the *Contest Rules of the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee*. These rules—obtainable through www.spellingbee.com—contain provisions that are specific to unique conditions at the event in Washington, D.C. Their successful implementation at the local level is considered impossible and therefore is not recommended.

Rules

1. Eligibility: A speller qualifying for the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., must meet these requirements:

- (1) The speller must not have won a Scripps National Spelling Bee championship in Washington, D.C.
- (2) The speller must attend a school that is officially enrolled with the Scripps National Spelling Bee.
- (3) The speller must not have passed beyond the eighth grade on or before February 1, 2010.
- (4) The speller must not have repeated fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth grade for the purpose of extending spelling bee eligibility. If the speller has repeated fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, or eighth grade, the speller must notify the Scripps National Spelling Bee of the circumstances of grade repetition by March 26, 2010; and the Scripps National Spelling Bee will, at its sole discretion, determine the speller’s eligibility status on or before April 30, 2010.
- (5) The speller—or the speller’s parent, legal guardian, or school official acting on the speller’s behalf—must not have declared to another entity an academic classification higher than eighth grade for

any purpose, including high school graduation equivalency or proficiency examinations and/or examinations such as the PSAT, SAT, or ACT.

- (6) The speller must not have earned the legal equivalent of a high school diploma.
- (7) The speller must not have completed or have been enrolled in more than six high school–level courses or two college-level courses on or before April 30, 2010.
- (8) The speller must not eschew normal school activity to study for spelling bees. The Scripps National Spelling Bee defines normal school activity as adherence to at least four courses of study other than language arts, spelling, Latin, Greek, vocabulary, and etymology for at least four hours per weekday for 34 of the 38 weeks between September 1, 2009, and May 23, 2010.
- (9) The speller must not have reached his/her 15th birthday on or before September 1, 2009.
- (10) The speller must have won a final local spelling bee on or after February 1, 2010.

(11) Once having been disqualified at any level of a sponsor's spelling bee program between June 2009 and April 2010, the speller remains disqualified for the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee and may not seek advancement in the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee program through another sponsor and/or enrollment in another school.

(12) The speller, upon qualifying for the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., must submit a completed Champion Bio Form, a Certification of Eligibility Form, a signed Appearance Consent and Release Form, and a hard copy of a photo to the Scripps National Spelling Bee no later than March 26, 2010. The speller will notify the Bee—at least 24 hours prior to the first day of competition in the Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.—if any of the statements made on the Certification of Eligibility Form are no longer true or require updating. The speller's sponsor will provide access to the necessary forms.

The Scripps National Spelling Bee may disqualify prior to or during competition any speller who is not in compliance with any of its eligibility requirements; and it may—at any time between the conclusion of the 2009 Scripps National Spelling Bee and April 30, 2010—require any speller who is found to have not been in compliance with any of the eligibility requirements to forfeit the prizes, rank, and other benefits accorded to the speller as a result of participation in the 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

2. Format: The spelling bee is conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells one word in each round—except in the case of a written, multiple choice, or online test. The spelling bee may be conducted orally or in writing or in a manner that is a combination of the two; however, if the spelling bee officials specify an oral format, the speller may not demand a written format except under the conditions of Rule 4.

3. Word list: Local spelling bee officials are responsible for selecting the word lists for use at each local spelling bee. Many local spelling bee officials use word lists generated by the Scripps National Spelling Bee. These lists include many words that appear in the current edition of *Spell It!* as well as some “end-of-bee” words. All words on Scripps National Spelling Bee word lists are entries in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster, the official dictionary of the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

4. Special needs: Spelling bee officials will strive to provide accommodation for spellers who have physical

challenges. All requests for spelling bee officials to accommodate special needs involving sight, hearing, speech, or movement should be directed to spelling bee officials well in advance of the spelling bee date. The judges have discretionary power to amend oral and/or written spelling requirements on a case-by-case basis for spellers with diagnosed medical conditions involving sight, hearing, speech, or movement.

5. Pronouncer's role: The pronouncer strives to pronounce words according to the diacritical markings in Scripps National Spelling Bee word lists and *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster.

Homonyms: If a word has one or more homonyms, the pronouncer indicates which word is to be spelled by defining the word.

Speller's requests: The pronouncer responds to the speller's requests for a definition, sentence, part of speech, language(s) of origin, and alternate pronunciation(s). When presented with requests for alternate pronunciations, the pronouncer or an aide to the pronouncer checks for alternate pronunciations in either *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster or *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, eleventh edition. The pronouncer does not entertain root word questions, requests for alternate definitions, or requests for markedly slower pronunciation.

Pronouncer's sense of helpfulness: The pronouncer may offer word information—without the speller having requested the information—if the pronouncer senses that the information is helpful and the information is presented in the entry for the word in a 2010 Scripps National Spelling Bee word list or *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster.

6. Judges' role: The judges uphold the rules and determine whether or not words are spelled correctly. They also render final decisions on appeals in accordance with Rule 11. They are in complete control of the competition, and their decision is final on all questions.

Interaction with the speller: Because seeing the speller's lip movements may be critical in detecting misunderstandings or misspellings, the judges encourage spellers to face them when pronouncing and spelling the word.

Notice of rules: The judges ensure that all spellers and audience members are given an opportunity to receive a complete copy of the rules prior to the start of the spelling bee.

Misunderstandings: The judges participate in the exchange of information between the speller and pronouncer if they feel that clarification is needed. Also, the judges listen carefully to the speller's pronunciation of the word; and, if they sense that the speller has misunderstood the word, the judges work with the speller and pronouncer until they are satisfied that reasonable attempts have been made to assist the speller in understanding the word. While the judges are responsible for attempting to detect a speller's misunderstanding, it is sometimes impossible to detect a misunderstanding until a spelling error has been made. The judges are not responsible for the speller's misunderstanding.

Pronouncer errors: The judges compare the pronouncer's pronunciation with the diacritical markings in the word list. If the judges feel that the pronouncer's pronunciation does not match the pronunciation specified in the diacritical markings, the judges direct the pronouncer to correct the error as soon as it is detected.

Disqualifications for reasons other than clear misspelling: The judges will disqualify a speller (1) who refuses a request to start spelling; (2) who does not approach the microphone when it is time to receive the word; (3) who does not comply with the eligibility requirements; (4) who engages in unsportsmanlike conduct; (5) who, in the process of retracing a spelling, alters the letters or sequence of letters from those first uttered; or (6) who, in the process of spelling, utters unintelligible or nonsense sounds.

Speller activities that do not merit disqualification: The judges may not disqualify a speller (1) for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it, (2) for asking a question, or (3) for noting or failing to note the capitalization of a word.

7. Speller's role: The speller makes an effort to face the judges and pronounce the word for the judges before spelling it and after spelling it. The speller *while facing the judges* makes an effort to utter each letter distinctly and with sufficient volume to be understood by the judges. The speller may ask the pronouncer to say the word again, define it, use it in a sentence, provide the part of speech, provide the language(s) of origin, and/or provide an alternate pronunciation or pronunciations.

Misunderstandings: The speller is responsible for any misunderstanding of the word unless (1) the pronouncer never provided a correct pronunciation; (2) the pronouncer provided incorrect information regarding the definition, part of speech, or language of origin; or (3) the speller correctly spelled a

homonym of the word and the pronouncer failed to either offer a definition or distinguish the homonyms.

8. Correction of a misspelling: The pronouncer and judges will not ask the speller to correct another speller's misspelling, even in end-of-bee circumstances.

9. Misspelling: Upon incorrectly spelling a word, the speller immediately drops out of the competition, except as provided in Rule 10.

10. End-of-bee procedure:

If all spellers in a round misspell: If none of the spellers remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, all remain in the competition and a new round begins.

Ties: All spellers eliminated in the same round are tied for the same place. After the champion has been determined, spelling bee officials may opt to conduct tiebreakers (of their own design) if tiebreakers are necessary for the awarding of prizes or the determination of qualifying spellers for the next level of competition.

If only one speller in a round spells correctly: If only one speller spells correctly in a round, a new one-word round begins and the speller is given an opportunity to spell the next word on the list (anticipated championship word). If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the anticipated championship word in this one-word round, the speller is declared the champion.

Example: In Round 12 there are four spellers. Spellers 6 and 21 misspell. Speller 30 spells correctly. Speller 42 misspells. So, Speller 30 is the only speller in the round to spell correctly. Speller 30 begins Round 13—a one-word round—and is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 30 correctly spells the anticipated championship word and is declared champion.

Example: Two spellers spell in Round 10. Speller 14 misspells. Speller 25 spells correctly. Speller 25 begins Round 11—a one-word round—and is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 25 correctly spells the anticipated championship word and is declared champion.

Example: Two spellers spell in Round 16. Speller 3 spells correctly. Speller 9 misspells. Speller 3 begins Round 17—a one-word round—and is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 3 correctly spells the anticipated championship word and is declared champion.

VERY IMPORTANT: If a speller misspells the anticipated championship word in a one-word round:

A *new* round begins with ALL the spellers who spelled (correctly *and incorrectly*) in the previous round. These spellers spell in their original order.

Example: In Round 8 there are three spellers. Speller 12 spells correctly and Spellers 23 and 37 misspell. Round 9—a one-word round—begins, and Speller 12 is offered the anticipated championship word. Speller 12 misspells the anticipated championship word. Round 10 begins and includes Spellers 12, 23, and 37. The rules prescribe that spellers 12, 23, and 37 spell in their original order; so Speller 12 gets the next word on the list even though Speller 12 misspelled the previous word on the list. Round 10 is not complete until all three spellers have spelled.

Tip: Spelling bee officials may find it helpful to designate a record keeper or judge to track the progress of spellers throughout the rounds. The record keeper's information will be helpful in preventing end-of-bee confusion.

11. Appeals: The speller's parent(s), legal guardian, or teacher may appeal to the judges for the speller's reinstatement provided that the appeal is in compliance with the appeal protocol. The judges render a final decision on the appeal in accordance with the reinstatement protocol.

Appeal protocol

A written appeal must be hand delivered to the designated official (usually the spelling bee coordinator/director). The deadline for delivering an appeal is before the speller affected would have received his/her next word had he/she stayed in the spelling bee; however, to minimize disruptions to the spelling bee, every effort should be made to deliver an appeal by the end of the round in which the speller was eliminated. When five or fewer spellers remain, the written appeal requirement is suspended, and an oral appeal must be made before the speller would have received his/her next word had he/she stayed in the spelling bee. A written appeal must provide the speller's name, the word in question, and the reason the speller should be reinstated.

While the competition is in session, individuals who have filed appeals may not directly approach the judges unless explicit permission to approach the judges has been given. The judges will contact the speller if they decide to reinstate the speller. To minimize disruption to the pace of the spelling bee and the concentration of the spellers, the judges are under no obligation to stop the spelling bee in order to discuss with the speller's parent(s), legal guardian,

or teacher a denied appeal. The judges' decisions are final and are subject neither to review nor to reversal by the Scripps National Spelling Bee's headquarters office.

Reinstatement protocol

Pronouncer mispronunciation: An appeal claiming that a speller's elimination from the spelling bee was due to pronunciation error should be denied unless there is agreement that the pronouncer *never* offered a correct pronunciation.

Alternate pronunciations: An appeal claiming that the pronouncer did not offer alternate pronunciations should be denied unless it is determined that the speller requested alternate pronunciations *and* the pronouncer did not accommodate the speller's request for alternate pronunciations *and* it appears that the speller's spelling almost matches the correct spelling.

Speller's misunderstanding: An appeal claiming that the speller's elimination from the spelling bee was due to the speller's not understanding the word [its pronunciation(s) and/or other information about the word] should be denied. It is the speller's responsibility to understand the word.

Speller offered correct spelling, as indicated in *Webster's Third*: An appeal claiming that the speller correctly spelled the word should be denied unless an audio recording of the bee's proceedings or bee officials' recollections clearly indicate that the word was indeed spelled correctly.

Exception: If the speller's spelling is listed in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, Merriam-Webster, copyright 2002, the speller should be reinstated if all of the following three criteria are met: (1) The pronunciations of the words are identical, (2) the definitions of the words are identical, and (3) the words are clearly identified as being standard variants of each other. Spellings at other locations having temporal labels (such as *archaic*, *obsolete*), stylistic labels (such as *substand*, *nonstand*), or regional labels (such as *North*, *Midland*, *Irish*) which differ from main entry spellings not having these status labels will not be accepted as correct.

Speller offered correct spelling, as indicated in a dictionary other than *Webster's Third*: An appeal claiming that the speller spelled the word correctly according to a dictionary other than *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* and its addenda section, copyright 2002, Merriam-Webster, should be denied.

Homonym: An appeal claiming that the speller's elimination was unfair because the speller's word is a homonym should be denied unless the pronouncer failed to define the word *and* the speller correctly spelled a homonym of the word.

Incorrect or unsolicited information: An appeal claiming that the speller's elimination was unfair because the pronouncer offered incorrect or unsolicited information about the word should be denied unless it is determined that the pronouncer indeed gave factually incorrect information *and* it appears that the speller's spelling would have been correct if not for the incorrect or unsolicited information provided by the pronouncer.

Bee officials failed to correct a misunderstanding: An appeal claiming that the speller misspelled because the judges and/or pronouncer failed to correct the speller's mispronunciation of the word should be denied. It is sometimes impossible to detect a speller's mispronunciation or misunderstanding, and ultimately it is the responsibility of the speller to understand and correctly pronounce the word.

Disqualification request: An appeal seeking to dislodge another speller from the spelling bee should be denied.

Words 1–225 are Scripps National Spelling Bee Study Words.

*This is the recommended starting point for **Grade 1 Classroom Spelling Bees**.
There is no rule stating that you must proceed word-for-word from this list.
You may skip a word if you sense that the word may present a problem at your bee.*

1. **jet** \ 'jet \ a noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a forceful rush of liquid, gas, or vapor through a narrow restricted opening in spurts or in a continuous flow.
*The firefighter trained a powerful **jet** of water on the fire.*
☺ *When Mary asked the fireman to help get her cat down from the tree, she didn't think his method of choice would be a powerful **jet** of water from a hose.*
2. **can** \ 'kan \ a noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a receptacle (as for holding liquids) usually cylindrical in shape.
*Ginger opened a **can** of soda and offered it to her sister.*
3. **got** \ 'gät \ a verb
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] became the recipient or possessor of.
*Dallas **got** a new video game for his birthday.*
4. **fun** \ 'fən \ a noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] what provides amusement or enjoyment.
*The backyard pool takes some work to maintain but gives the children a great deal of **fun**.*

If a word has a homonym or near homonym, the word's homonym status is probably noted at the word's entry in this guide. We encourage you to include these words in your bee, provided you indicate the word's homonym or near homonym status to the speller.

*If you think a word is a homonym and yet a homonym is not listed, please check Webster's Third New International Dictionary for further information or skip the word.
It is possible that we did not note the fact that the word is a homonym.*

The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide, without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.

5. **wig** \ 'wig \ a noun [has homonym: Whig]
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a manufactured covering of hair for the head.
*For her role in the play, Eileen wore a blond **wig**.*

The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide, without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.

6. **red** \ 'red \ an adjective [has homonyms: read, redd]
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] of a color whose hue resembles that of blood or of the ruby.
*The fire department is buying a new **red** ladder truck.*
☺ *Simon preferred to think the **red** F atop his term paper stood for "fabulous."*

The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide, without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.

- | | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| 7. nap | \ 'nap \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] | <p>a noun [has homonyms: <i>knap</i>, <i>nappe</i>]
a short sleep especially during the day.
<i>Grandma takes a nap every afternoon.</i>
☺ <i>Gerald felt that not being able to take a nap at school after his kindergarten year was one of life's great injustices.</i></p> |
| 8. leg | \ 'leg \
[\ 'lāg \] | <p>a noun
one of the appendages of an animal that are used chiefly in supporting the body and in moving from point to point especially by walking.
<i>A dog chased Tony and bit his leg.</i>
☺ <i>Curtis learned the hard way it was not smart to pinch an elephant on the back of the leg.</i></p> |
| 9. cup | \ 'kəp \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] | <p>a noun
a handled vessel of china or glass that is set on a saucer and used for hot liquids (as coffee, tea, or soup).
<i>Mr. Saunders handed Marisa a cup of tea and asked if she wanted milk or sugar.</i>
☺ <i>When the customer complained that she didn't want ice in her cup of water, the server told her to wait a half hour and the problem would go away.</i></p> |
| 10. ham | \ 'ham \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] | <p>a noun
the thigh of a hog either fresh or cured by salting and smoking.
<i>Virginia usually eats vegetarian food but cannot resist a big sandwich with country ham and spicy mustard.</i></p> |

The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide, without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.

- | | | |
|----------------|---|---|
| 11. see | \ 'sē \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] | <p>a verb [has homonyms: <i>ce/cee</i> and <i>sea</i>]
perceive by the eye : apprehend by sight.
<i>Emily and her sisters wonder which one of them will see the Gateway Arch first on their approach to St. Louis.</i></p> |
| 12. lid | \ 'lid \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] | <p>a noun
something that covers the opening of a hollow container (as a vessel or box).
<i>Betty had trouble getting the lid off the pickle jar.</i></p> |

13. far	\ 'fär \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adverb to a considerable distance in space : to a remote place. <i>Jenna's rail pass allowed her to travel far and frequently on a limited budget.</i> ☺ Far from the gaze of the faculty and staff, Principal Roberts rented a cabin and read the entire <i>Twilight</i> saga from front to back.
14. glad	\ 'glad \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective experiencing pleasure, joy, or delight through some immediate cause : made happy. <i>Joan was glad that both of her children had made the varsity swim team.</i> ☺ <i>Tim was glad he didn't get that other speller's word.</i>
15. drum	\ 'drəm \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a musical instrument of percussion usually consisting of a hollow cylinder with a skin head stretched over each end which is beaten with a stick or pair of sticks in playing. <i>The students were excited about the prospect of being allowed to play the large drum in the music room.</i> ☺ <i>Mark's drum was a gift from a time when his parents thought he might actually have rhythm.</i>
16. last	\ 'last \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective being, occurring, or coming after all others in time, place, or order of succession. <i>Sally and Jeff are going to spend the last week of summer vacation at the beach.</i> ☺ <i>I wouldn't have come in last place if those other runners hadn't all passed me.</i>
17. tell	\ 'tel \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a verb express in words. <i>The students will tell the teacher why they did not finish their homework and hope she will be sympathetic.</i>
18. she	\ 'shē \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a pronoun that female one—used as nominative feminine pronoun of the third person singular usually in reference to a previously specified subject or to someone identified by an accompanying relative clause or prepositional phrase. <i>When John invited Rhonda to have lunch with him today, she asked if she could have a rain check.</i>

50. **other** \ 'əʊðər \ an adjective
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] being the one (as of two or more) left.
 *Marge said that she didn't like this car as much as she liked the **other** one.*

*This is the recommended starting point for **Grade 3 Classroom Spelling Bees**.
 There is no rule stating that you must proceed word-for-word from this list.
 You may skip a word if you sense that the word may present a problem at your bee.*

51. **camping** \ 'kæmpɪŋ \ a verb
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] living usually temporarily in a place of temporary shelter or
 outdoors especially for recreation.
 *Jack is **camping** in the woods while he builds a permanent
 cabin.*

52. **summer** \ 'sʌməər \ a noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] the season between spring and autumn reckoned astronomically
 as extending from the June solstice to the September equinox.
 *Paul's plans for this **summer** include hiking part of the
 Appalachian Trail.*

53. **phone** \ 'fōn \ a verb
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] make a call to (a person) using a device for reproducing sounds,
 especially articulate speech, at a distance.
 *Tom's mother will **phone** his dentist to set up an appointment.
 © Darcy threatened to **phone** the police if the clown threw
 another water balloon at her head.*

*The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide,
 without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.*

54. **main** \ 'mān \ an adjective [has homonyms: *Maine, mane*]
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] outstanding, conspicuous, or first in any respect.
 *The penguins are the **main** attraction at the aquarium.*

55. **seven** \ 'sevən \ an adjective
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] being one more than six in number.
 ***Seven** students in the class earned A's on the final exam.*

56. **mice** \ 'mīs \ a plural noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] small rodents typically resembling small rats having a pointed
 snout, rather small ears, elongated body, and slender hairless or
 sparsely haired tail.
 *The abandoned house was infested with **mice**.
 © While Gavin's hotel room sadly did not have the flat panel
 television promised on the Web site, it did surprisingly offer the
 sounds of **mice** skittering around in the ceiling.*

The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide, without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.

75. **quick** \ 'kwɪk \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)]

an adjective [has homonym: acronym KWIC (“key word in context”)]
 done or taking place with rapidity : done or taking place within only a small interval of time.
*Sarah gave her mom a **quick** kiss as she dashed out the door to meet the school bus.*
 ☺ *Lila mastered the art of giving her sister’s hair a **quick** tug when her mother wasn’t looking*

This is the recommended starting point for **Grade 4 Classroom Spelling Bees**.
 There is no rule stating that you must proceed word-for-word from this list.
 You may skip a word if you sense that the word may present a problem at your bee.

76. **season** \ 'sēz'n \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)]

a noun
 a particular period of the year, as the annual period during which a plant produces its fruit, flower, or other economic part.
*Jill loves fresh fruit and thinks that strawberry **season** is way too short.*
 ☺ *Erica spent the weekend eating Chunky Monkey ice cream and watching an entire **season** of Hannah Montana.*

77. **camera** \ 'kamrə \
 [\ 'kamərə \]

a noun
 a lightproof box fitted with a lens through the aperture of which the image of an object is recorded.
*Lynn’s new digital **camera** takes extremely high-resolution photographs.*

78. **because** \ bə'kôz \
 [\ bē'kôz \, \ bə'kəz \]

a conjunction
 for the reason that.
*Dan and Claire stopped for lunch early **because** they had skipped breakfast.*
 ☺ *It’s debatable whether Dan’s mother-in-law complained **because** he never came to visit, or vice versa.*

The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide, without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.

79. **fellow** \ 'fe(.)lō \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)]

a noun [has homonym: *felloe*]
 a thing : a creature—used of children or animals.
*Faith went to look at the guinea pig in the pet shop, but the little **fellow** was asleep in his plastic cave.*

*This is the recommended starting point for **Grade 5 Classroom Spelling Bees**.
There is no rule stating that you must proceed word-for-word from this list.
You may skip a word if you sense that the word may present a problem at your bee.*

101. **cancel** \ 'kan(t)səl \ a verb
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] revoke : annul : invalidate.
*Jeanne will **cancel** her vacation to stay with her brother while he recovers from a broken hip.*
102. **furnace** \ 'fərnəs \ a noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] an apparatus for the production or application of heat.
Fortunately, the weather turned warmer the same week Ernie's furnace stopped working.
103. **dangerous** \ 'dānjərəs \ an adjective
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] involving risk : demanding caution or care as extremely unsafe.
The mountaineers know that tomorrow's climb is more dangerous than any they have yet attempted.
☺ *Leo was tempted by the sandwich in the fridge but decided it would be too **dangerous** to eat it because he could not remember making a sandwich in the last two months.*
104. **towel** \ 'taüəl \ a noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a piece of absorbent cloth or paper often rectangular in shape for wiping or drying.
Jennifer dried her hair with a towel.
105. **imagine** \ ə'majən \ a verb
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] think : suppose : guess.
Laura and Kate imagine that their parents will allow them to go to the away football game.

*The following word could be confused with another word similar in sound and/or spelling.
Ensure that the speller has a clear understanding of the word's pronunciation.*

106. **coffee** \ 'kɒfē \ a noun [could be confused with genus "Coffea"]
 [\ 'käfē \] a drink made by infusion or decoction from the roasted and ground or pounded seeds of small tropical or subtropical upland trees or shrubs having cherrylike fruits.
*If Griff drinks **coffee** after dinner, he will stay awake until dawn.*
☺ *"I think my next **coffee** should be decaf," Lonnie thought as the cup chattered against her teeth.*
107. **laundry** \ 'lɒndrē \ a noun
 [\ 'lāndrē \] collection of clothes or household linens to be washed.
*Mike's mother told him that she expects him to put his dirty **laundry** in the hamper.*

108. **surround** \ sə'raʊnd \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] a verb
be situated or found in all or various directions from a fixed point or in a ring about.
*Many cottages **surround** the lake.*
109. **urgent** \ 'ɜrjənt \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] an adjective
calling for or demanding immediate attention.
*The blood bank has an **urgent** need for type O positive blood.*
☺ *Gabrielle weighed the options in her two-year-old mind and, after careful deliberation, decided that it was indeed **urgent** that she press every button in the elevator.*
110. **thought** \ 'thɒt \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] a verb
had as an opinion : believed.
*The customer **thought** that the price of the car was too high.*
111. **guard** \ 'gɑrd \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] a verb
stand on the border or at the entrance of as if being a gate person or watch person of a building or plant.
*The two marble lions that **guard** the entrance to the New York Public Library were adorned with wreaths last November and December.*
☺ *Two marble lions **guard** the entrance to the New York Public Library, a situation that will surely change once it's discovered that book thieves are unafraid of lion statues.*
112. **suggest** \ səg'jest \
[\ sə'jest \] a verb
mention (something) as a possibility.
*The students at Mark's school routinely **suggest** that the school system purchase more computers.*

The following word could be confused with another word similar in sound and/or spelling. Ensure that the speller has a clear understanding of the word's pronunciation.

113. **terrible** \ 'terəbəl \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] an adjective [has near homonym: *tearable*]
overwhelmingly disastrous.
*The **terrible** pileup on the Interstate last weekend occurred during heavy fog.*
114. **celebration** \ .selə'brāshən \
[no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
the act or process of honoring (as a holy day or feast day) by conducting or engaging in religious, commemorative, or other solemn ceremonies or by refraining from ordinary business.
*This year's Passover **celebration** will bring family members from three states to Rachel's house.*

115. exact	\ ɪgˈzækt \ [\ ɛgˈzækt \]	an adjective devoid of any addition, subtraction, or other variation from fact or a standard. <i>The decorator made exact measurements of the windows in the hotel.</i> ☺ <i>Sarah could not recall the exact number off the top of her head but promised her dad he had already told her this story approximately a million times.</i>
116. avenue	\ ˈavə.ni \ [\ ˈavə.nyü \]	a noun a city street especially when broad and attractive. <i>The city council approved funds for the beautification of the avenue that runs through the heart of the business district.</i>
117. semifinal	\ ,se(ɪ)mēˈfɪnəl \ [\ ,se.miˈfɪnəl \ , \ ,semiˈfɪnəl \]	an adjective next to the last. <i>Selena reached the semifinal round in the tennis tournament.</i> ☺ <i>No one could have predicted that at the end of the tennis tournament they would see André hoist the championship trophy, certainly not after they watched him lose in the semifinal round: Someone call security!</i>
118. brighten	\ ˈbrɪtˈn \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a verb become shining or luminous. <i>The baby’s eyes brighten whenever her mother walks into the room.</i>
119. receive	\ rəˈsi:v \ [\ rēˈsēv \]	a verb take possession or delivery of. <i>Students who have made the A honor roll every grading period will receive a plaque at the end of the the school year.</i>
120. plural	\ ˈplʊərəl \ [\ ˈplʊərəl \]	an adjective belonging to a class of grammatical forms used to denote more than one. <i>“Geese” is the plural form of the word “goose.”</i>
121. holiday	\ ˈhɑ:lə.dā \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a day on which one is exempt from one’s usual labor or vocational activity. <i>Marshall likes to go to the beach whenever he has a holiday.</i>
122. squeeze	\ ˈskwēz \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a verb exert pressure especially on opposite sides or parts of : press together closely or tightly. <i>The twins always squeeze the toothpaste tube in the middle despite the protests of their parents.</i> ☺ <i>James would later regret not knowing that the substance he was about to squeeze onto his toothbrush was denture cream.</i>

129. estimate	\ 'estə.māt \ [\ 'estəmāt \]	a verb judge the value of. <i>The insurance adjuster will estimate the damage to Ken's car and give him a check to have it repaired.</i> © <i>Brian's teachers did not like it when he would estimate their ages.</i>
130. cabbage	\ 'kabij \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a leafy garden plant distinguished by a short stem upon which is crowded a mass of leaves usually green but in some varieties red or purplish forming a dense globular head that is used as a vegetable. <i>Irena's grandmother often makes a traditional Polish stew from cabbage and sausage.</i>
131. headache	\ 'hedāk \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun pain inside the division of the human body that contains the brain, the eyes, the ears, the nose, and the mouth. <i>Riding in a car with four complaining children gave Mother a headache.</i> © <i>Edward's line graph showed a strong correlation between his headache and math homework.</i>
132. solemn	\ 'säləm \ ['söləm]	an adjective marked by grave sobriety and earnest serious sedateness : free from casualness or lighthearted levity. <i>Donald looked solemn as he apologized to the class.</i>
133. missile	\ 'misəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun [has homonyms: <i>missal, missel, mistle</i>] a self-propelling unmanned weapon (as a rocket or a robot bomb). <i>The fighter plane launched a missile to destroy the tank.</i>
134. straightforward	\ 'strāt'förwərd \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective free from the use of an unnecessarily large number of words to express an idea : direct or not roundabout in expression. <i>The instructions for playing the video game were quite straightforward.</i>
135. octopus	\ 'äktəpəs \ ['äktəpüs]	a noun a mollusk having a small saclike body, a large head, highly developed eyes, and eight arms united at the base by a membrane and usually provided with two rows of suckers by which the mollusk clings to the sea bottom or holds its prey. <i>The octopus can change color to hide from predators.</i>

149. **calories** \ 'kalərēz \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)]

a plural noun
 units expressing heat-producing or energy-producing values in food that when oxidized in the body are capable of releasing units of energy.
*Rachel always looks at the nutrition information on candy, especially the number of **calories** per serving.*
 ☺ *The weight loss counselor said with a clever smile that a cake with zero **calories** was any cake you did not eat.*

150. **beautiful** \ 'byüdəfəl \
 [\ 'byütəfəl \]

an adjective
 marked by extreme physical attractiveness and loveliness.
*Rahul thought that he had never seen a building as **beautiful** as the Taj Mahal.*

*This is the recommended starting point for **Grade 7 Classroom Spelling Bees**.
 There is no rule stating that you must proceed word-for-word from this list.
 You may skip a word if you sense that the word may present a problem at your bee.*

151. **chemical** \ 'keməkəl \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)]

an adjective
 relating to applications of a science that deals with the composition, structure, and properties of substances and of the transformations that they undergo.
*Mrs. Davis is searching for something more exciting than mixing vinegar and baking soda to demonstrate a **chemical** reaction in the science lab.*

152. **tolerant** \ 'tälərənt \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)]

an adjective
 showing understanding or leniency for conduct or ideas differing from or conflicting with one's own.
*The preacher said that we should be more **tolerant** of each other's differences.*
 ☺ *Chad's family was **tolerant** of his burgeoning singing hobby until he chose yodeling as his specialty.*

153. **successful** \ sək'sesfəl \
 [\ sik'sesfəl \]

an adjective
 gaining or having gained a desired end; especially : having attained wealth, position, or fame.
*Ethan graduated from college and became a **successful** business executive.*

154. **commentary** \ 'kämən.tərē \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)]

a noun
 a spoken description or series of observations accompanying a motion picture or other exhibition.
*Sheila listened to the prerecorded **commentary** as she viewed the series of paintings in the exhibit.*
 ☺ *After the movie Brian thanked the couple behind him for their unending **commentary** throughout the film.*

155. significant	\ sig'nifəkənt \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective having or likely to have influence or effect : important. <i>The 2008 presidential election was a significant event in American history.</i>
156. routine	\ rü'tēn \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a standardized piece of entertainment or the art of a person having a sense or knack for dramatization or visual effectiveness; specifically : a theatrical number. <i>An emcee introduced each routine in the variety show.</i> ☺ <i>The comedian's mad cow routine was not well received at the beef industry convention.</i>
157. fertilize	\ 'fərd ^ə līz \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a verb apply compost, manure, or a chemically-prepared substance to (a growing medium) in order to supply nutriment or make available nutriment already present. <i>The Newells fertilize their garden with a combination of goat manure and homemade compost.</i> ☺ <i>Nancy let Spot outside so that he could fertilize the backyard.</i>
158. casserole	\ 'kasə.rōl \ [\ 'kazə.rōl \]	a noun a vessel of earthenware, glass, or metal usually having a cover and a handle or a separable holder of metal and in which food may be baked and served. <i>Laura baked chicken and broccoli in a casserole.</i> ☺ <i>Lisa asked Frannie for the ingredients to her casserole so she could remember to never put those ingredients together in her own kitchen.</i>
159. mildew	\ 'mil.dü \ [\ 'mil.dyü \]	a noun a superficial usually whitish growth produced on various forms of organic matter and on living plants by fungi. <i>Books stored in a cellar are susceptible to damage from mildew.</i>
160. punctuation	\ ,pəŋkchə'wāshən \ [\ ,pəŋkshə'wāshən \]	a noun the act, practice, or system of inserting standardized marks or signs in written or printed matter in order to clarify the meaning and separate structural units. <i>Mrs. Winslett always refers to her old grammar textbook when she has questions about punctuation.</i> ☺ <i>Jerry's friends teased him about the obsessively accurate punctuation in his text messages.</i>
161. artificial	\ ,ärtə'fishəl \ [\ ,ärdə'fishəl \]	an adjective produced or accomplished by the skill of humans to imitate nature : simulated. <i>Bettina placed an artificial rose in every bud vase in the café.</i>

162. centipede	\ 'sentəpēd \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun any of various flattened elongated arthropods constituting the class Chilopoda, the body divided into a number of segments each bearing one pair of legs and being active, predatory, and chiefly nocturnal animals useful as destroyers of noxious insects. <i>The centipede is so adaptable that it is found in deserts, rainforests, and arctic tundra.</i> ☺ <i>Dusty wondered how a video game about a centipede could have been a popular game, much less his own father's favorite game.</i>
163. dynamite	\ 'dīnə.mīt \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a solid blasting explosive used especially in mining, quarrying, and engineering that contains nitroglycerin incorporated with a base which increases the safety of handling. <i>The Swedish chemist Alfred Nobel invented dynamite in 1866.</i>
164. apology	\ ə'päləjē \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun an admission to another of a wrong or discourtesy done him or her accompanied by an expression of regret. <i>The teacher received a sincere apology from the disrespectful student.</i>
165. immature	\ im.mə'tür \ [im.mə'tyūr, im.mə'chür]	an adjective lacking complete growth, differentiation, or development. <i>The immature tomato plants need to be shielded from hot sunshine for the first few days after they are planted.</i> ☺ <i>Now that she is a first grader, Brenda can totally see how immature the kindergartners are.</i>
166. guidance	\ 'gīd'n(t)s \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun advice in choosing courses, preparing for a vocation or further education, or coping with personal problems given to students by a teacher or a professional counselor. <i>Robert's alma mater offers extensive career guidance to its undergraduates.</i> ☺ <i>The best guidance Mario ever got was from his free-spirited uncle who lived in a hatchback Tercel parked behind Walmart.</i>
167. velocity	\ və'lāsədē \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun quickness of motion : swiftness : speed. <i>George estimates that the velocity of the wind is 22 miles per hour.</i> ☺ <i>The velocity of Ryan's stride on his way toward the sliding glass door was thankfully only enough to cause a broken nose and a wounded ego.</i>

168. **denominator** \ də'nämə.nādər \
 [\ dē'nämə.nādər \] a noun
 the part of a fraction that is below the horizontal or slanting line
 signifying division and that in fractions with numerator 1
 indicates into how many parts the unit is supposed to be divided.
 *The teacher spent today's math period teaching the students how
 to find the least common **denominator** of the fractions 1/5, 1/6,
 and 1/15.*
169. **accurate** \ 'akyərət \ an adjective
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] correct : exact : precise.
 *The detective prided himself on making **accurate** reports of
 crime scenes.*
170. **monarch** \ 'mänərk \ a noun
 [\ 'mä.närk \] a person who reigns over a major territorial unit (as a kingdom
 or empire) usually for life and by hereditary succession.
 *Lady Jane Grey was England's shortest-reigning **monarch**,
 ruling for only nine days.*
 ☺ *Never a fan of the democratic process, Leo petitioned the
 school to appoint him student body **monarch** rather than have
 him go through the tedious process of running for president*
171. **pharmacy** \ 'färməsē \ a noun
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a place where medicines are compounded or dispensed.
 *Tim got a text message from the **pharmacy** indicating that his
 prescription was ready to be picked up.*
 ☺ *While in line at the **pharmacy**, Grandma grabbed a magazine
 off the rack to catch the latest news about alien invaders.*

*The following word could be confused with another word similar in sound and/or spelling.
 Ensure that the speller has a clear understanding of the word's pronunciation.*

172. **condemn** \ kən'dem \ a verb [has near homonym: *contemn*]
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] pronounce as ill-advised, reprehensible, wrong, or evil typically
 after definitive judgment and without reservation or mitigation.
 *Often custom justifies an action that years later it will **condemn**.*
 ☺ *Leonard did not have the heart to **condemn** his children for
 eating the rest of the cake; after all, the cake was left out on the
 table, and his children were actually cocker spaniels.*

*The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide,
 without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.*

173. **tutor** \ 'tütər \ a verb [has homonyms: *tooter, Tudor*]
 [\ tyütər \] teach, guide, or instruct usually on an individual basis and in a
 specific subject or for a particular occasion or purpose.
 *A bright classmate will **tutor** Hannah in math.*

174. **article** \ 'ärd-äkəl \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
 a generally short nonfictional prose composition usually forming an independent portion of a publication (as a newspaper, magazine, or encyclopedia).
*Lisa was commissioned to write the **article** on Brazil for the encyclopedia.*
 ☺ *The **article** incorrectly identified the horn player as the victim and a frozen pork loin as the suspected weapon.*

175. **faucet** \ 'fösät \
 [\ 'fäsät \] a noun
 a fixture for drawing a liquid from a pipe, cask, or other vessel.
*When Kitty turned the handle of the **faucet**, only a slow trickle of water emerged.*

*This is the recommended starting point for **Grade 8 Classroom Spelling Bees**.
 There is no rule stating that you must proceed word-for-word from this list.
 You may skip a word if you sense that the word may present a problem at your bee.*

The following word is a homonym. Inform speller that this word is a homonym and provide, without being asked by the speller to do so, the word's part of speech and definition.

176. **pigeon** \ 'pijən \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun [has homonym: *pidgin*]
 a bird having a stout body with rather short legs and smooth and compact plumage.
*A **pigeon** fluttered about the eaves of the old barn.*
 ☺ *The flock plaintively cooed after a fellow **pigeon** disappeared under the taxi, but they knew: Not every bird could make it in this city.*

177. **competitive** \ kəm'ped-əd-iv \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] an adjective
 of or relating to a contest between rivals.
*The **competitive** spirit of the two musicians rings loud and clear when they play the tune "Dueling Banjos."*
 ☺ *I never knew Skipper was so **competitive** until I saw him trash-talking his opponents on the tetherball court*

178. **scholarship** \ 'skälər.ship \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
 a sum of money or its equivalent offered to enable a student to pursue his or her studies at a school, college, or university.
*Pamela received a **scholarship** to attend the state university.*

179. **apprentice** \ ə'prentəs \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
 one who is learning by practical experience under skilled workers a trade, art, or calling usually for a prescribed period of time and at a prescribed rate of pay.
*Jake hopes to become an **apprentice** in a stained-glass studio.*
 ☺ *The mime never had an **apprentice** until Eugene arrived at the studio and feigned getting swallowed by a boa constrictor.*

180. exhaust	\ ɪg'zɔst \ [\ eg'zɔst \]	a noun an arrangement for withdrawing undesirable fumes, dusts, or odors from an enclosure (as a factory room or a kitchen). <i>The safety inspector told Sharon that the greasy residue on the kitchen exhaust was a fire hazard.</i>
181. monopolize	\ mə'nɒpə.lɪz \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a verb have or get the exclusive privilege of the means of dealing in or the exclusive possession of : engross the whole of. <i>Sanjay wants to leave the room when his parents monopolize the conversation at gatherings.</i> ☺ <i>Sherman found that flipping the circuit breakers was the best way to stop his brother from trying to monopolize the Playstation.</i>
182. scruple	\ 'skrɪpəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a moral principle that inhibits action. <i>Because of an ecological scruple, Rachel never buys bottled water.</i>
183. agricultural	\ ,agrə'kəlchərəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective of, relating to, or used in the science or art of cultivating the soil, harvesting crops, and raising livestock. <i>Tina's report on agricultural disasters began with a discussion of the Dust Bowl of the 1930s.</i>
184. encore	\ 'æn.kɔr \ [\ æŋ.kɔr \]	a noun the further appearance of a performer or an additional performance requested by an audience. <i>The audience was so thrilled by the singer's rendition of the aria that it cheered for an encore.</i> ☺ <i>Marli asked for an encore when her brother slipped on the freshly mopped floor.</i>
185. suburban	\ sə'bərbən \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective of, relating to, inhabiting, or located in the residential area on the outskirts of any city or large town. <i>Except for the hour-long commute to his job in the city, Jason enjoys his suburban lifestyle.</i>
186. quarantine	\ 'kwɔrən.tēn \ ['kwärən.tēn]	a noun a regulation restraining a ship from physical connections with the shore while suspected of offering a threat of contagion. <i>Were it not for the quarantine, the port city might have experienced an outbreak of a deadly strain of influenza.</i> ☺ <i>The passengers recounted the harrowing days of the cruise ship's subjection to quarantine, when they were forced to watch a hairy chest contest while listening to a calypso band under the tropical sun.</i>

187. oblige	\ ə'blɪj \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>a verb</p> <p>constrain (as another or oneself) by physical, moral, or legal force : put under binding agreement to do or to forbear from doing something.</p> <p><i>The new rules oblige students to wear prescribed uniforms to school.</i></p> <p>☺ <i>Ramon plans to protest the new rules that oblige him to take out the trash.</i></p>
188. hysterical	\ hi'sterəkəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>an adjective</p> <p>exhibiting unrestrained emotionalism.</p> <p><i>When their team won the world championship, the fans became hysterical with joy.</i></p> <p>☺ <i>“That Donnie Osmond is hysterical, hysterical,” Edith whispered to Gladys in the event room of the Sunrise Retirement Community.</i></p>
189. miraculous	\ mə'rakyələs \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>an adjective</p> <p>interpreted as performed by a supernatural power or accomplished by the direct agency of an almighty power and not by natural causes.</p> <p><i>Juan made a miraculous recovery after the accident.</i></p>
190. affiliation	\ ə.filē'āshən \ [\ ə.filē'āshən \]	<p>a noun</p> <p>the state or relation of being attached as a member or branch.</p> <p><i>Professor Bruner retired after a 30-year affiliation with Harvard University.</i></p> <p>☺ <i>Nadia hoped her affiliation with the Police Athletic League would help her get out of this ticket.</i></p>
191. subterranean	\ .səbtə'rānēən \ [\ .səbtə'rānyən \]	<p>an adjective</p> <p>functioning, operating, or suitable for operating beneath the surface of the earth.</p> <p><i>The mole is a subterranean creature.</i></p>
192. luxury	\ 'ləkshərə \ [\ ləgzhərə \]	<p>a noun</p> <p>a nonessential item or service that contributes to self-indulgent living.</p> <p><i>Ted says that a new car is a luxury that he cannot afford right now.</i></p> <p>☺ <i>In college, having a clean pair of underwear on hand is often considered a luxury.</i></p>
193. indelible	\ in'deləbəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>an adjective</p> <p>that cannot be removed, washed away, or erased : permanent.</p> <p><i>Lily's narrow escape from drowning left an indelible mark on her personality.</i></p>

201. **photosynthesis** \ ˌfōdō'sin(t)θəsəs \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
 the formation of carbohydrates from carbon dioxide and a source of hydrogen (as water) in chlorophyll-containing cells (as of green plants) exposed to light.
Photosynthesis provides plants with necessary carbohydrates.
202. **ineffable** \ in'efəbəl \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] an adjective
 incapable of being expressed in words : unutterable : indescribable.
*Billy felt **ineffable** joy when his parents presented him with a puppy.*
203. **fallacy** \ 'faləsē \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
 a plausible reasoning that fails to satisfy the conditions of valid argument or correct inference.
*Though Ben's argument may seem credible, it is pure **fallacy**.*

*The following word could be confused with another word similar in sound and/or spelling.
 Ensure that the speller has a clear understanding of the word's pronunciation.*

204. **psychoanalysis** \ ˌsī(,)kōə'naləsəs \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun [could be confused with differently pronounced variant *psichanalysis*]
 a method of investigating (as through free association and dream study) content lying outside the sphere of physical science or knowledge and mechanisms not readily accessible to voluntary exploration by the conscious mind.
*The doctor recommended **psychoanalysis** to treat Sam's abnormal behavior.*
205. **vengeance** \ 'venjən(t)s \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
 infliction of punishment in return for an injury or offense.
*The defeated rebels howled with rage and fury and swore bloody **vengeance**.*
206. **aggrandizement** \ ə'grandəzmənt \
 [\ ə'gran.dīzmənt \
 \ 'agrən.dīzmənt \] a noun
 the act, action, or result of making great or greater (as in power, honor, or wealth).
*Because she was a commoner, Ruth was accused of marrying the prince for her personal **aggrandizement**.*
207. **labyrinth** \ 'labə.rin(t)θ \
 [no alternate pronunciation(s)] a noun
 a maze in a park or garden formed by paths separated by high thick hedges.
*Carole brags about being the first person in her class to reach the middle of the **labyrinth** behind the Governor's Palace on their trip to Colonial Williamsburg.*

208. cajolery	\ kə'jɔləre \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun the act or practice of alluring or inducing by soft words or flattery. <i>After much cajolery, the kitten finally came down from the tree.</i>
209. rotisserie	\ rɔ'tisəre \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a cooking appliance fitted with a spit on which food is rotated before or over a source of heat. <i>Herb used the rotisserie on his new gas grill to cook Cornish hens for supper.</i>
210. omniscient	\ əm'nishənt \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective having infinite awareness, understanding, and insight : knowing all things. <i>Many people believe in an omniscient Deity.</i> © <i>The editor was delighted that Hamilton had taken the advice to use an omniscient narrator but worried that it was too distracting that on every other page the narrator boasted about how awesome it was to know everything.</i>
211. circuitous	\ sər'kyüədəs \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective being a winding course : indirect : roundabout. <i>The road going up the mountain was increasingly circuitous.</i>
212. anticoagulant	\ ən(ɪ)tkɔ'agyələnt \ [\ ,antɛkɔ'agyələnt \, \ antəkɔ'agyələnt \]	a noun a substance (as a drug) that hinders clotting of blood. <i>The surgeon administered an anticoagulant after the operation.</i> © <i>"The good news," Sam thought to himself, "is I stopped taking my anticoagulant last month. The bad news is that it's a shark, alright."</i>
213. conundrum	\ kə'nəndrəm \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a puzzle or problem that is usually intricate and difficult to solven. <i>As a mayoral candidate, Kevin spent weeks puzzling over the conundrum of how to balance the city's budget while maintaining its services.</i> © <i>The governor called on the advice of his closest advisers but struggled with the conundrum until late into the night, when he finally figured out how to get his bath to be the perfect temperature.</i>
214. palatable	\ 'palədəbəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective agreeable to the taste : appetizing. <i>George dislikes broccoli but finds it palatable if it is topped with melted cheese.</i>

221. paramecium	\ ,parə'mēshēəm \ [\ ,parə'mēshəm \ \ ,parə'mēsēəm \]	a noun a one-celled animal having an elongate body covered with tiny hairlike structures. <i>Karen used a microscope to observe the division of the paramecium into two daughter cells.</i> ☺ <i>Charles was upset that everybody mistook his Halloween costume for an amoeba when he was clearly a paramecium.</i>
222. adjudicate	\ ə'judə.kāt \ [\ ə'judē.kāt \]	a verb hear and determine (as a litigated question) or decide in the case of (as a person) in or as if in a court charged with the administration of law. <i>A council composed of students and teachers will adjudicate all reports of honor code violations.</i>
223. calisthenics	\ kaləs'theniks \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a plural noun systematic exercises performed usually in rhythm and often in a group without apparatus or with light hand apparatus to improve the strength, suppleness, balance, and health of the body. <i>Aunt Julia does calisthenics twice a week in a program called "Body Recall."</i>
224. brigadier	\ ,brigəd'dir \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun an army, marine, or air force officer ranking just below a major general and above a colonel. <i>After the decisive battle in which he had a crucial role, Hiram was promoted to brigadier.</i> ☺ <i>The brigadier was not impressed that his colonel had taught the troops to skip in formation.</i>
225. anemone	\ ə'nemənē \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun any of numerous almost invariably solitary and often large and brilliantly colored polyps that in form, bright and varied colors, and cluster of tentacles surrounding the mouth superficially resemble a flower. <i>An anemone attaches itself to a rock or coral reef and feeds on organisms that pass by.</i>

Words 226–250 are selected from Webster's Third.

226. solitaire	\ 'sälə.tar \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a card game designed for one person to play alone. <i>Shelley often relaxes by playing solitaire after everyone else has gone to bed.</i>
227. unpredictable	\ ,ənprē'diktəbəl \ [\ ,ənprə'diktəbəl \]	an adjective not to be foretold. <i>The raging forest fire was difficult to contain because of the unpredictable weather patterns of the area in which it occurred.</i>

228. intrigue	\ ɪn'trɪg \ [\ 'in.trɪg \]	a verb arouse the interest, desire, or curiosity of. <i>The Hanging Gardens of Babylon intrigue Christine more than any of the other legendary seven wonders of the ancient world.</i>
229. chromosome	\ 'krɒmə.sɒm \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun one of the rodlike chromatin-containing bodies constituting the genome which are regarded as the seat of the genes. <i>A gene consists of a length of DNA on a chromosome.</i>
230. mystical	\ 'mɪs.tɪkəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective remote from ordinary human knowledge or comprehension. <i>Annette was intrigued by the mystical appearance of the fairies on the stage.</i>
231. exhibited	\ ɪg'zɪbətəd \ [\ 'eg'zɪbətəd \]	a verb presented to view : showed : displayed. <i>Elizabeth brought her decorated cake into the room and exhibited it quite proudly.</i>
232. bilingual	\ bɪ'lɪŋɡwəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective having or using two languages especially as spoken with the fluency characteristic of a native speaker. <i>Bilingual speakers of English and Arabic are in high demand by the Department of Defense.</i>
233. sufficiently	\ sə'fɪʃəntli \\ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adverb in a manner marked by quantity, scope, power, or quality to meet with the demands, wants, or needs of a situation or of a proposed use or end. <i>Many citizens in the audience felt that their questions were not sufficiently answered by the city council members.</i>
234. avalanche	\ 'avə.lɑnʃ \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a verb present or supply at one time with a superabundance of anything : overwhelm : flood. <i>Every spring the citizens avalanche the city's public works department with e-mails about potholes in the streets.</i>
235. incumbency	\ ɪn'kʌmbənsē \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun the sphere of action or period of office of the holder of an office. <i>The presidential incumbency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt was more than 12 years.</i>
236. synthesizer	\ 'sɪnθə.sɪzər \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a usually computerized electronic apparatus for the production and control of sound (as for producing music). <i>The music of Bach is especially well suited to the synthesizer.</i>

237. Doppler	\ 'däplər \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective of, relating to, or utilizing a shift in frequency caused by motion between the source of electromagnetic waves and the observer. <i>In Doppler navigation the change of frequency of reflected radar waves is used to give information on velocity and position.</i>
238. abscess	\ 'ab.ses \ [\ 'absəs \]	a noun a localized collection of pus surrounded by an area of inflamed tissue. <i>A dental abscess results from a bacterial infection of the pulp of the tooth.</i>
239. montage	\ män'täzh \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun an impressionistic sequence of images linked usually by dissolves or superimpositions and introduced into a film or television program to develop a single theme, suggest a state of mind, or bridge a time lapse. <i>The program's opening credit sequence is a montage of white beaches, swaying palm trees, racing boats, and attractive sunbathers.</i>
240. pestilent	\ 'pestələnt \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective giving rise to annoyance : vexing : irritating. <i>Kate thought her little brother was sometimes her best friend and sometimes a pestilent terror.</i>
241. chlorination	\ klōrə'nāshən \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun the act or process of treating or causing to combine with a common nonmetallic element best known as a heavy greenish irritating toxic gas of disagreeable odor used chiefly as a powerful bleaching, oxidizing, and disinfecting agent in water purification. <i>Chlorination is a measure that prevents microbial growth from occurring in water.</i>
242. reminiscent	\ .remə'nisənt \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	an adjective that reminds one of something previously seen or known : suggestive. <i>The perfume's fragrance is reminiscent of fresh lilacs.</i>
243. ostensible	\ ä'sten(t)səbəl \ [\ ó'sten(t)səbəl \]	an adjective professing genuineness and sincerity but often concealing the real aspects behind a plausible false, superficial, or artificial appearance. <i>George's ostensible reason for calling Mary was to ask her about the math homework assignment.</i>
244. Gibraltar	\ jə'bröltər \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	a noun a place beyond criticism or question occupied or dominated by a special group or faction. <i>Louis viewed his private club as a Gibraltar of civility.</i>

245. fluoroscope	\ 'flūrəˌskōp \ [\ 'flōrəˌskōp \]	<p>a noun</p> <p>an instrument used for observing the internal structure of an opaque object by means of the shadow cast by the object examined upon a screen when placed between the screen and a source of X rays.</p> <p><i>The fluoroscope is used for detecting weapons in the luggage of passengers who are about to board an airplane.</i></p>
246. glycogenesis	\ ,glīkəˈjenəsəs \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>a noun</p> <p>formation of a white amorphous tasteless polysaccharide constituting the principal form in which carbohydrate is stored in animal tissues.</p> <p><i>Glycogenesis converts sugar into a form that can be stored in muscle and liver tissues.</i></p>
247. centripetal	\ senˈtrɪpədəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>an adjective</p> <p>moving, proceeding, or acting in a direction toward a center or axis.</p> <p><i>Centripetal force serves to keep electrons moving around the nucleus of an atom.</i></p>
248. delicatessen	\ ,deləkəˈtesən \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>a noun</p> <p>a store where ready-to-eat food products (as cooked or processed meats, cheeses, prepared salads) are sold either to be taken out or to be eaten on the premises (as in sandwiches).</p> <p><i>Marta stopped at the delicatessen to buy some cold cuts for our lunch.</i></p>
249. pterodactyl	\ ,terəˈdaktəl \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>a noun</p> <p>any of numerous extinct flying reptiles having no feathers, a wing membrane, and a tail usually rather short but sometimes expanded and resembling a rudder.</p> <p><i>The museum's dinosaur exhibit includes a mechanical replica of a pterodactyl.</i></p>
250. horripilation	\ (,)hōˌrɪpəlāshən \ [no alternate pronunciation(s)]	<p>a noun</p> <p>a bristling of the hair of the head or body (as from disease, terror, or chilliness) : goose bumps.</p> <p><i>Jennifer reacted to the movie's scary scenes with noticeable horripilation.</i></p>

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49. face	105. imagine	161. artificial	217. enfranchise	
50. other	106. coffee	162. centipede	218. analgesia	
51. camping	107. laundry	163. dynamite	219. latitudinarian	
52. summer	108. surround	164. apology	220. adieu	
53. phone	109. urgent	165. immature	221. paramecium	
54. main	110. thought	166. guidance	222. adjudicate	
55. seven	111. guard	167. velocity	223. calisthenics	
56. mice	112. suggest	168. denominator	224. brigadier	