



## 2024 Classroom and School Competition Lists

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# Vocabulary Supplement

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## About the Vocabulary Supplement

This supplement is intended to offer materials that allow you, if you choose, to implement the testing of vocabulary at your bee. All words that are offered in this vocabulary supplement were selected from the 2024 School Spelling Bee Study List. The correct answer for a vocabulary question is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

The materials provided allow you to integrate vocabulary in two different ways:

### Oral Vocabulary

The Oral Vocabulary Rounds can be used to challenge spellers with vocabulary questions during an oral spelling competition. The rounds in this supplement are broken out into grade-level lists, First Grade through Eighth Grade. Each grade has 25 questions, for a total of 225 words.

To include a vocabulary round at your bee:

- Wait until you've completed an entire round of spelling and there are 25 or fewer spellers left in the competition.
- Note the word number (word \_\_\_\_\_) of the last spelling word you gave.
- Begin a new round of strictly vocabulary questions using the lists provided in this supplement.
- As you go, mark off each vocabulary question you use in case you wish to incorporate future vocabulary rounds.

Once every student has answered a vocabulary question, the round is complete and you can return to the spelling word list, using the word following the number you noted earlier (word \_\_\_\_\_).

### Written Vocabulary

The Written Vocabulary Tests can be given to your students as supplementary material either before or after an oral bee. They are broken out by grade levels, First Grade through Eighth Grade. Each grade has 25 test questions, for a total of 225 words. These words are different from those included in the Oral Vocabulary Rounds.

## Guidelines Regarding Pronunciation

For many words in Merriam-Webster Unabridged, copyright 2023, Merriam-Webster (<http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com>), more than one pronunciation is offered. In this Vocabulary Supplement, the pronunciation for a word is most often the first pronunciation given in this dictionary. If the Bee has reason to think that a certain pronunciation has become the most prevalent one, the Bee may choose to assign an alternate pronunciation as the first pronunciation.

Additionally, the Bee may elect to include a pronunciation crafted from the most current publication of another Merriam-Webster product, most notably but not exclusively *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, eleventh edition, copyright 2003, Merriam-Webster, Inc., or m-w.com. This is done at the discretion of the Bee if it is deemed to be helpful; however, the Bee is under no obligation to provide any pronunciation that appears outside of Merriam-Webster Unabridged.

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# Merriam-Webster Pronunciation Symbols

- ə** ..... banana, collect
- ʼə, ə** ..... humdrum
- ɚ** ..... as in one pronunciation used by *r*-droppers for *bird* (alternative \əɪ\)
- ə̆** ..... two-value symbol equivalent to the unstressed variants \ə, ɪ\, as in *habit*, *duchess* (\ˈhəbət = \ˈhəbət, -bit\)
- °** ..... immediately preceding \l, ɪ, ɪm, ɪŋ\, as in *battle*, *mitten*, and in one pronunciation of *cap* and *bells* \-ˈm-, lock and key \-ˈŋ-;\; immediately following \l, ɪm, ɪr\, as in one pronunciation of French *table*, *prisme*, *titre*
- əɪ** ..... as in one pronunciation used by *r*-droppers for *bird* (alternative \əɪ\)
- ɚ** ..... 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 \əɪr\); and in one pronunciation of *hurry* (alternative \ə-r\); stressed and with centered period after \ər\ as in one pronunciation of *hurry* (alternative \ər-\)
- a** ..... mat, map
- ā** ..... day, fade, date, aorta
- ä** ..... bother, cot; most American speakers have the same vowel in *father*, *cart*
- â** ..... 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*
- au** ..... now, loud, some pronunciations of *talcum*
- b** ..... baby, rib
- ch** ..... chin, nature \ˈnætʃə(r)\ (actually, this sound is \t\ + \ʃ\)
- d** ..... elder, undone
- d̄** ..... as in the usual American pronunciation of *latter*, *ladder*
- e** ..... bet, bed
- ē, ē** ..... beat, nosebleed, evenly, sleepy
- ē** ..... 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* \äˈnəriyer\
- eū** ..... as in one pronunciation of *elk*, *helm*
- f** ..... fifty, cuff
- g** ..... go, big
- h** ..... hat, ahead
- hw** ..... whale as pronounced by those who do not have the same pronunciation for both *whale* and *wail*
- i** ..... tip, one pronunciation of *banish* (alternative unstressed \ē\), one pronunciation of *habit* (alternative \ə\; see ə)
- ī** ..... site, side, buy (actually, this sound is \ä\ + \i\, or \ä\ + \i\)
- iū** ..... as in one pronunciation of *milk*, *film*
- j** ..... job, gem, edge, procedure \prəˈsɛjə(r)\ (actually, this sound is \d\ + \zh\)
- k** ..... kin, cook, ache
- k̄** ..... as in one pronunciation of *loch* (alternative \k\), as in German *ich-laut*
- l** ..... lily, pool
- m** ..... murmur, dim, nymph
- n** ..... no, own
- ˆ** ..... indicates that a preceding vowel is pronounced with the nasal passages open, as in French *un bon vin blanc* \œˈbɔ̃ˈvaˈblɑ̃\
- ŋ** ..... sing \ˈsɪŋ\, singer \ˈsɪŋə(r)\, finger \ˈfɪŋgə(r)\, ink \ˈɪŋk\
- ō** ..... bone, snow, beau; one pronunciation of *glory*
- ó** ..... saw, all, saurian; one pronunciation of *horrid*
- œ** ..... French *bœuf*, German *Hölle*
- œ̄** ..... French *feu*, German *Höhle*
- oi** ..... coin, destroy, strawy, sawing
- oō** ..... (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* \koōˈt\
- p** ..... pepper, lip
- r** ..... rarity, one pronunciation of *tar*
- s** ..... 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* \ˈdeths.hed\
- t** ..... 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* \ˈnit.hud\
- th̄** ..... then, either (actually, this is a single sound, not two)
- ü** ..... rule, fool, youth, union \ˈyünyən\, few \ˈfyü\
- û** ..... pull, wood, curable \kyurəbəl\
- ue** ..... German *füllen*, *hübsch*
- ŷ** ..... French *rue*, German *fühlen*
- v** ..... vivid, give
- w** ..... we, away
- y** ..... yard, cue \kyü\, union \yünyən\
- ʷ** ..... (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
- yû** ..... curable
- z** ..... 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* \rōz.hil\
- ˈ** ..... mark preceding a syllable with primary (strongest) stress: \ˈpenmən.ship\
- ˌ** ..... mark preceding a syllable with secondary (next-strongest) stress: \ˌpenmən.ship\
- ( )** ..... indicate that what is symbolized between is present in some utterances but not in others: *factory* \fakt(ə)rē\

## Oral Vocabulary Round: First Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

1. **bike** \ 'bik \

*What does it mean to **bike**?*

- A. to walk on stilts
- ✓ B. to pedal a two-wheeled vehicle

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

2. **park** \ 'pärk \

*What is a **park**?*

- A. a written or printed symbol
- ✓ B. a piece of land maintained by a city or town

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

3. **four** \ 'fōr \

*What does "**four**" mean?*

- A. the center of a body or being
- ✓ B. being one more than three in number

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

4. **roads** \ 'rōdz \

*What are **roads**?*

- ✓ A. parts of streets over which cars and traffic move
- B. songs sung in a simple style

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

5. **May** \ 'mā \

***May** is a:*

- ✓ A. month of the year
- B. type of annual flower

6. **hug** \ 'hæg \

*What does it mean to **hug** something?*

- A. to test it for illness
- ✓ B. to put your arms around it tightly

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

7. **grid** \ 'grid \

*What is a **grid**?*

- A. a firm or tenacious grasp
- ✓ B. a network of uniformly spaced lines

8. **this** \ 'this \

*What does "**this**" mean?*

- A. the main point of an idea or argument
- ✓ B. the person or thing that is present or has just been mentioned

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

9. **tug** \ 'tæg \

*To **tug** something means:*

- ✓ A. to pull it
- B. to cut it

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

10. **first** \ 'fɜrst \

Something described as **first** is:

A. dry or in need of water

✓ B. number one in a series

11. **tape** \ 'tāp \

What is **tape**?

A. a marker used to add color

✓ B. a narrow strip with a sticky side

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

12. **vase** \ 'vās \

What is most likely to be put in a **vase**?

A. ice

✓ B. flowers

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

13. **pat** \ 'pat \

If you **pat** something, you:

✓ A. tap it gently with your hand

B. walk quickly across it

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

14. **his** \ 'hiz \

If something is **his**, it:

A. has not been recognized

✓ B. belongs to him

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

15. **bow** \ 'bō \

What is a **bow**?

✓ A. a knot with two loops

B. a line of people or things

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

16. **name** \ 'nām \

What is a **name** used for?

✓ A. to refer to a person or thing

B. to heal a scratch or cut

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

17. **coat** \ 'kōt \

A **coat** is a type of:

A. food

✓ B. clothing

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

18. **dots** \ 'däts \

What are **dots**?

A. tied shoelaces

✓ B. small round marks

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

19. **store** \ 'stör \

A **store** is:

✓ A. a place where you can buy things

B. a young male animal

20. **back** \ 'bak \

Where is the **back** on the human body?

A. on the underside of the hands

✓ B. from the neck to the end of the spine

21. **open** \ 'ōpən \

If you **open** something, it is then:

✓ A. not shut

B. on fire

22. **oops** \ 'ūps \

The word "**oops**" is most often used to express:

A. anger

✓ B. apology

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

23. **later** \ 'lāter \

If something is done **later**, it is done:

✓ A. at some time after a given time

B. in a careless manner

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

24. **block**    \ 'bläk \

*What do you do with a **block**?*

A. write with it

✓ B. build with it

25. **snap**    \ 'snap \

*To **snap** something is to:*

✓ A. break it in half

B. make it disappear

## Oral Vocabulary Round: Second Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

26. **snail** \ 'snāɪ \

A **snail** is:

A. a bent metal spike

✓ B. a small animal with a shell

27. **pride** \ 'prīd \

**Pride** is a sense of:

✓ A. delight or joy

B. anger or rage

28. **scream** \ 'skrēm \

What does it mean to **scream**?

✓ A. to voice a sudden sharp cry

B. to form or have an opinion

29. **wish** \ 'wɪʃ \

What does it mean to **wish** for something?

✓ A. to want it to happen

B. to try to catch it

30. **drew** \ 'drü \

If you **drew** something, you:

✓ A. made it by tracing a pen over a surface

B. prepared it for bad weather

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

31. **grand** \ 'grænd \

What is another word for **grand**?

A. slippery

✓ B. great

32. **brain** \ 'brān \

The **brain** is primarily associated with:

✓ A. thought

B. breathing

33. **stall** \ 'stɔl \

What are you most likely to find in a **stall**?

A. magical secrets

✓ B. an animal

34. **mile** \ 'mīl \

What is a **mile**?

✓ A. a unit of distance

B. a machine for grinding grain

35. **live** \ 'līv \

If something is **live**, it is:

✓ A. not dead

B. dark in color

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

36. **float** \ 'flōt \

What does it mean to **float**?

- ✓ A. rest on or partly under the surface of a liquid
- B. cover something with a protective coating

37. **brave** \ 'brāv \

If someone is **brave**, they:

- A. want something very badly
- ✓ B. don't give in to fear

38. **dance** \ 'dan(t)s \

What does it mean to **dance**?

- ✓ A. to move to music
- B. to look at something quickly

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

39. **second** \ 'sekənd \

If you come in **second**, you:

- A. are tied with first place
- ✓ B. come in right after first place

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

40. **enter** \ 'entər \

What does it mean to **enter**?

- A. to turn something around
- ✓ B. to come or go into

41. **smaller** \ 'smōlər \

The word **smaller** most closely means:

- ✓ A. of less size
- B. moving faster

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

42. **bright** \ 'brīt \

Something described as **bright**:

- A. is tied with string
- ✓ B. shines or radiates light

43. **stood** \ 'stūd \

If someone **stood**, they:

- ✓ A. rose to an upright position
- B. did less than their best

44. **front** \ 'frənt \

What does "**front**" mean?

- ✓ A. the part of something that seems to be directed forward
- B. an animal that is small compared with others of its kind

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

45. **blank** \ 'blɑŋk \

If something is described as **blank**, it is:

- ✓ A. free from writing or marks
- B. able to float on water

46. **snake** \ 'snāk \

A **snake** is a type of:

- ✓ A. reptile
- B. bear

47. **glue** \ 'glü \

**Glue** is used:

- ✓ A. to stick materials together
- B. to stir food that is cooking

48. **roast** \ 'rōst \

To **roast** something is to:

- A. sample it to test it for poison
- ✓ B. cook it by exposure to radiant heat

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

49. **peel** \ 'pēl \

If you **peel** something, you:

- A. come upon it without warning
- ✓ B. take off its outer layer

50. **bedroom** \ 'bed.rüm \

A **bedroom** is most often used for:

- A. eating
- ✓ B. sleeping



## Oral Vocabulary Round: Third Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

51. **bursting** \ 'bɜ:stɪŋ \

*Bursting means:*

- A. digging a hole in the ground for a home
- ✓ B. being full to the point of breaking open

52. **glasses** \ 'glɑ:səz \

*Why would someone use glasses?*

- ✓ A. to correct their vision
- B. to stir their food

53. **clearly** \ 'klɪrlē \

*Something done clearly is done:*

- ✓ A. without doubt or question
- B. in a sly or secretive way

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

54. **shall** \ 'ʃɑ:l \

*If something shall happen, it:*

- A. definitely won't happen
- ✓ B. seems likely to happen

55. **evening** \ 'ēvniŋ \

*When is the evening?*

- ✓ A. at the close of the day and the early part of night
- B. when the sun is just beginning to rise

56. **April** \ 'æprəl \

*April is:*

- ✓ A. the fourth month of the year
- B. a piece of clothing worn while cooking

57. **mother** \ 'mʌðər \

*What is a mother?*

- A. a younger sibling
- ✓ B. a female parent

58. **Thursday** \ 'θɜ:z.də \

*Thursday is part of:*

- ✓ A. a week
- B. a tree

59. **thumbs** \ 'θʌmz \

*Where on the body are thumbs found?*

- A. on the feet
- ✓ B. on the hands

60. **really** \ 'rēlē \

*Another word for really is:*

- ✓ A. actually
- B. poorly

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

61. **flowers** \ 'flaʊrɪz \

**Flowers** are:

- A. crystals of ice
- ✓ B. plants with blossoms

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

62. **pour** \ 'pɔr \

What does it mean to **pour**?

- ✓ A. to dispense something from a container
- B. to lose interest in something

63. **stew** \ 'sti \

A **stew** is a type of:

- ✓ A. food
- B. sickness

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

64. **while** \ 'hwɪl \

What is a **while**?

- ✓ A. a period of time
- B. a small yellow bird

65. **again** \ ə 'gen \

If you do something **again**, you do it:

- A. slowly
- ✓ B. one more time

66. **create** \ kri'eɪt \

What does it mean to **create**?

- ✓ A. to bring about by a course of action or behavior
- B. to make a long grating or squeaking sound

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

67. **angry** \ 'æŋgrɪ \

Someone described as **angry** is:

- A. a little sad
- ✓ B. very displeased

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

68. **steel** \ 'sti:l \

**Steel** is a type of:

- ✓ A. metal
- B. wood

69. **thoughts** \ 'θɔ:ts \

What are **thoughts**?

- A. small children
- ✓ B. whatever is in one's mind

70. **music** \ 'my:zɪk \

What is **music**?

- A. the study of animals
- ✓ B. sounds with melody and rhythm

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

71. **finally** \ 'fɪnəlɪ \

What is another word for **finally**?

- ✓ A. eventually
- B. sloppily

72. **gently** \ 'dʒentlɪ \

To do something **gently** is to do it:

- A. with extreme force or violence
- ✓ B. quietly, gradually, or slowly

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

73. **edge** \ 'eɪ \

Which of the following would most likely be considered an **edge**?

- A. the center of a bowl
- ✓ B. the cutting side of a knife

74. **glittery** \ 'glɪtəri \

What is another word for **glittery**?

- ✓ A. sparkling
- B. tough

75. **dazzle** \ 'dazəl \

What does it mean to **dazzle**?

- A. to paddle, splash, or play in water
- ✓ B. to impress deeply or stupefy with brilliance

## Oral Vocabulary Round: Fourth Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

76. **plaza** \ 'plazə \

*What is a **plaza**?*

- ✓ A. a public square in a city or town
- B. a corn mash used to make tortillas

77. **expressway** \ ik'spres.wā \

*What would you most likely do with an **expressway**?*

- A. live in it
- ✓ B. drive on it

78. **cress** \ 'kres \

*What would you most likely do with **cress**?*

- A. build a house with it
- ✓ B. eat it on a salad

79. **ignore** \ ig'nōr \

*To **ignore** something is to:*

- ✓ A. refuse to take notice of it
- B. drive a hole into it

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

80. **amused** \ ə'myüzd \

*If you **amused** someone, you:*

- ✓ A. entertained them
- B. disappointed them

81. **combat** \ 'käm.bat \

***Combat** is:*

- A. a grooming technique that results in straightened hair
- ✓ B. a fight or encounter between individuals or groups

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

82. **Internet** \ 'intər.net \

*The **Internet** is a type of:*

- ✓ A. electronic communications network
- B. structure used to imprison people

83. **stagecoach** \ 'stāj.kōch \

*What is a **stagecoach**?*

- A. a referee
- ✓ B. a carriage

84. **ailment** \ 'ālmənt \

*An **ailment** is:*

- ✓ A. a bodily sickness
- B. an airplane control panel

85. **gallon** \ 'galən \

*What is a **gallon**?*

- ✓ A. a unit of liquid volume
- B. a sharp claw on a predatory bird

86. **pantry** \ 'pantrē \

What is a **pantry**?

- A. a small skillet for cooking
- ✓ B. a room or closet for storing food

87. **stroll** \ 'strōl \

What is a **stroll**?

- ✓ A. a leisurely walk
- B. a small mammal

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

88. **dessert** \ dē'zərt \

What is an example of a **dessert**?

- A. a golden retriever puppy
- ✓ B. ice cream served after a meal

89. **valley** \ 'valē \

A **valley** is:

- ✓ A. low land between mountains or hills
- B. the action of hitting a ball back and forth over a net

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

90. **practice** \ 'praktəs \

What does it mean to **practice**?

- ✓ A. to perform an act often to become skilled at it
- B. to grant permission to enter a building

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

91. **squash** \ 'skwāsh \

**Squash** is a type of:

- ✓ A. garden vegetable
- B. carpenter's tool

92. **pouch** \ 'pūch \

Which of these is an example of a **pouch**?

- A. an eagle's nest
- ✓ B. a purse for holding coins

93. **yesterday** \ 'yestər.dā \

If something was done **yesterday**, it was done:

- A. centuries ago
- ✓ B. on the day before today

94. **nighttime** \ 'nīt.tīm \

What is **nighttime**?

- ✓ A. the time from dusk to dawn
- B. the time zone used in the western central USA

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

95. **buckeye** \ 'bək.iī \

What is a **buckeye**?

- A. a face card in a deck of cards
- ✓ B. a large nutlike seed of a shrub or tree

96. **transform** \ tran(t)s'fōrm \

What does it mean to **transform**?

- ✓ A. to change completely
- B. to speak to a crowd

97. **dapper** \ 'dapər \

Someone or something described as **dapper**:

- ✓ A. is neat and trim in appearance
- B. is skilled at dancing

98. **popovers** \ 'pöp.ōvərz \

What would you most likely do with **popovers**?

- A. sit under them
- ✓ B. eat them

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

99. **flea** \ 'flē \

A **flea** is type of:

- A. bird
- ✓ B. insect

100. **antlers** \ 'antlərz \

Where would you most likely find **antlers**?

- ✓ A. on a male deer
- B. in a colony of birds

## Oral Vocabulary Round: Fifth Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

101. **diamond**     \ 'dīmənd \

*In what sport would you find a **diamond** on the field?*

- A. soccer
- ✓ B. baseball

102. **composition**     \ .kämpə'zishən \

*A **composition** is:*

- ✓ A. a written exercise done in school
- B. a person who travels with another person

103. **doughnut**     \ 'dō.nət \

*What is a **doughnut**?*

- ✓ A. a small fried cake shaped like a ring
- B. a sign forbidding some activity

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

104. **hobbit**     \ 'həbət \

*What is a **hobbit**?*

- ✓ A. a member of a fictitious race of small, humanlike creatures
- B. a behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition

105. **completely**     \ kəm'plētē \

*What is another word for **completely**?*

- A. tightly
- ✓ B. entirely

106. **fascinated**     \ 'fasə.nātəd \

*If something **fascinated** you, it:*

- A. bored you to the point of annoyance
- ✓ B. commanded your interest strongly

107. **furniture**     \ 'fərnəçər \

*What are examples of **furniture**?*

- A. cats and dogs
- ✓ B. tables and chairs

108. **gloaming**     \ 'glōmɪŋ \

*Another word for **gloaming** is:*

- A. field
- ✓ B. dusk

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

109. **inventory**     \ 'invən.tōrē \

*What is an **inventory**?*

- ✓ A. an itemized list of current assets
- B. a laboratory for experiments

110. **termite**     \ 'tər.mīt \

*A **termite** is a type of:*

- ✓ A. wood-eating insect
- B. acidic chemical

111. **appreciation** \ əˌprɛʃhēˈæʃən \  
*What is **appreciation**?*  
✓ A. expression of gratification and approval or gratitude  
B. creation of a program for use on a mobile device

112. **saucer** \ 'sôsər \  
*What is a **saucer**?*  
✓ A. a small shallow dish for holding a cup  
B. a round skillet used in Asian cooking

113. **submerged** \ səb'mərjd \  
*If something has been **submerged**, it has:*  
✓ A. been plunged into water or other fluid  
B. been carefully layered, as in a sandwich

114. **poisonous** \ 'pöiz'nəs \  
*If something is described as **poisonous**, it:*  
A. has abundant courage and bravery  
✓ B. can harm or kill a living thing

115. **awfully** \ 'öfələ \  
***Awfully** means:*  
A. always, constantly  
✓ B. extremely, very

116. **wafting** \ 'wäftij \  
*If something is **wafting**, it is:*  
✓ A. being moved lightly by wind  
B. becoming a trend or fad

117. **fiddlehead** \ 'fid'l,hed \  
*Where would you most likely find a **fiddlehead**?*  
✓ A. on a fern  
B. in a music studio

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

118. **confident** \ 'känfədənt \  
*Someone described as **confident**:*  
✓ A. has a strong belief in themselves and is free from worry  
B. cheats people out of money using trickery and deceit

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

119. **possible** \ 'päsäbəl \  
*Something described as **possible** is:*  
A. heading for certain collapse  
✓ B. able to be done or conceived

120. **drawers** \ 'drörz \  
***Drawers** are:*  
A. horses adapted for pulling heavy loads  
✓ B. sliding boxes that are opened by pulling out

121. **precious** \ 'preshəs \  
*Another word for **precious** is:*  
A. sickly  
✓ B. valuable

122. **spacious** \ 'spāshəs \  
*Another word for **spacious** is:*  
A. unreliable  
✓ B. roomy

123. **intertwine** \ 'intər'twīn \  
*What does it mean to **intertwine**?*  
A. to refuse to trade with a country  
✓ B. to become mutually entangled or involved

124. **intimidate** \ in'timədāt \  
*What does it mean to **intimidate** someone?*  
✓ A. to make them fearful  
B. to befriend them

125. **gratitude** \ 'gratətüd \  
*Another word for **gratitude** is:*  
✓ A. thankfulness  
B. sneakiness

## Oral Vocabulary Round: Sixth Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

126. **captain** \ 'kaptən \

*What is a **captain**?*

- ✓ A. an officer in charge of a ship
- B. a subtitle beneath a television program

127. **inscrutable** \ in'skrütəbəl \

*Something described as **inscrutable** is:*

- A. prone to frequent and vast change
- ✓ B. not readily comprehensible

128. **replica** \ 'repləkə \

*A **replica** is:*

- A. a pastry stuffed with meat or cheese
- ✓ B. a copy of an original work of art

129. **Arabic** \ 'arəbik \

***Arabic** is a type of:*

- A. intricate ballet posture
- ✓ B. Semitic language

130. **Vaseline** \ 'vasə'lēn \

*What you most likely do with **Vaseline**?*

- A. play electronic music on it
- ✓ B. put in on your skin to soothe a burn

131. **thorax** \ 'thōr.aks \

*What is a **thorax**?*

- A. a heavy Norse war hammer
- ✓ B. the middle portion of an insect's body

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

132. **fallow** \ 'fa.lō \

*The word **fallow** is most associated with:*

- ✓ A. fields, farming, and crops
- B. respiration, lungs, and breath

133. **sultanate** \ 'səlt'nət \

*A **sultanate** is a type of:*

- A. wind instrument powered by bellows
- ✓ B. state governed by a ruling sovereign

134. **havens** \ 'hāvənz \

*What are **havens**?*

- A. small floating rafts
- ✓ B. places offering favorable conditions

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

135. **bunions** \ 'bənyənz \

***Bunions** are:*

- A. runners in long-distance races who set a fast pace
- ✓ B. inflamed swellings on the first joints of big toes

136. **mischievous** \ 'mischəvəs \

A person described as **mischievous**:

- A. prefers to live in solitude
- ✓ B. tends to cause annoyance or trouble

137. **disclaimer** \ dis'klāmər \

A **disclaimer** is:

- ✓ A. a denial or disavowal of legal demand for compensation or benefits
- B. an implement or tool for extracting a hook from a fish

138. **privilege** \ 'prɪvəlɪj \

What is a **privilege**?

- ✓ A. a right granted as a benefit or advantage
- B. a quantity of food taken on a journey

139. **tostones** \ tō'stōnāz \

**Tostones** are a type of:

- ✓ A. fried food
- B. aquatic tortoise

140. **syllables** \ 'sɪləbəlz \

What are **syllables**?

- ✓ A. units of spoken language
- B. written prophecies or predictions

141. **Oman** \ ɔ'män \

**Oman** is a country in:

- A. South America
- ✓ B. the Arabian peninsula

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

142. **voracious** \ vō'rāshəs \

Another word for **voracious** is:

- ✓ A. insatiable
- B. doubtful

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

143. **sacred** \ 'sākred \

Someone or something described as **sacred** is:

- A. shaped like a bag or a pouch
- ✓ B. religious in nature

144. **information** \ ɪnfər'māshən \

**Information** is:

- A. a swarm of troublesome insects in a human habitation
- ✓ B. knowledge of a particular event or situation

145. **bionic** \ bī'änik \

Something described as **bionic**:

- A. possesses common tastes, thoughts, and desires
- ✓ B. has natural capability enhanced by electromechanical devices

Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.

146. **mantel** \ 'mantl \

Where would you most likely find a **mantel**?

- A. in tropical Florida seas
- ✓ B. above a fireplace

147. **desecration** \ ˌdesɪ'krāshən \

What is **desecration**?

- A. the act of removing salt from water until suitable for drinking
- ✓ B. the act of treating an object of veneration or admiration irreverently

148. **quip** \ 'kwɪp \

What does it mean to **quip**?

- ✓ A. make witty observations
- B. stitch designs through layers of cloth

149. **amphitheater** \ 'am(p)fə.thēətər \

What is an **amphitheater**?

- ✓ A. a circular or semicircular building with rising tiers of seats about a central open space
- B. an animal of a class of vertebrates comprising the frogs, toads, and salamanders

150. **gastritis** \ gə'strītəs \

**Gastritis** is inflammation of the:

- ✓ A. stomach
- B. gallbladder



## Oral Vocabulary Round: Seventh Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

151. **patronize**    \ 'pātrə.nīz \

*What does it mean to **patronize** someone?*

- ✓ A. adopt an air of superiority toward them
- B. force them to enter military service

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

152. **tripe**    \ 'trīp \

*What is **tripe**?*

- A. an opening statement in a legal proceeding
- ✓ B. an animal's stomach used as food

153. **insufferable**    \ in'səfərəbəl \

*Someone or something described as **insufferable** is:*

- ✓ A. intolerable by reason of assumed superiority
- B. likely to induce fear or anxiety

154. **decibels**    \ 'desə.belz \

***Decibels** are:*

- ✓ A. degrees of loudness
- B. evergreen trees

155. **slakes**    \ 'slāks \

*If something **slakes** you, what does it do?*

- ✓ A. satisfies your thirst for something
- B. drives you crazy with questions

156. **uncanny**    \ .ən'kanē \

*If something is **uncanny**, it:*

- ✓ A. arouses feelings of inexplicable strangeness
- B. is overly complicated

157. **deficiencies**    \ də'fīshənsēz \

***Deficiencies** are:*

- A. measures taken to ensure no wastage of goods or materials
- ✓ B. shortages of substances (such as vitamins) necessary to health

158. **spawned**    \ 'spɔnd \

*If something **spawned**, it:*

- ✓ A. brought forth or produced something
- B. committed something to memory

159. **commandments**    \ kə'man(d)mənts \

***Commandments** are:*

- ✓ A. acts of directing authoritatively or what is directed in such a manner
- B. marks indicating where to pause for taking breaths in music

160. **horticulture**    \ 'hɔrtəkəlchər \

***Horticulture** is the science of:*

- ✓ A. growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, or ornamental plants
- B. immigration, emigration, and migration

161. **incarnated** \ ɪn'kärnätəd \

*Incarnated means:*

- ✓ A. gave bodily form and substance to
- B. turned or dyed a deep red color

162. **indignant** \ ɪn'dignənt \

*Someone described as **indignant** is marked by:*

- A. persistent melancholy or sadness
- ✓ B. deep-felt resentment or anger

163. **steeds** \ 'stēdz \

*What are **steeds**?*

- ✓ A. horses
- B. plants

164. **kung fu** \ .kəŋ'fū \

***Kung fu** is a:*

- ✓ A. martial art
- B. ceremonial sword

165. **repose** \ rə'pōz \

*What is **repose**?*

- ✓ A. a state of resting after exertion
- B. a type of news story in an online publication

166. **acclimate** \ 'aklɪ.māt \

*What does it mean to **acclimate**?*

- ✓ A. to adapt to a new temperature, environment, or situation
- B. to irritate by repeatedly or continuously bothering

167. **societal** \ sə'siət'ɪl \

*Something described as **societal** relates to:*

- A. the universe
- ✓ B. a community

168. **pervading** \ pər'vādiŋ \

*What is another word for **pervading**?*

- A. wilting
- ✓ B. permeating

169. **hitherto** \ .hi'hər'tü \

*Hitherto means:*

- A. in the near future
- ✓ B. up to this time

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

170. **contagion** \ kən'tājən \

*Contagion is:*

- ✓ A. the process by which disease is transmitted
- B. the mythical fountain of youth

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

171. **pews** \ 'pyüz \

*Where would you most likely find **pews**?*

- ✓ A. in a church
- B. in a hockey arena

172. **tunic** \ 'tünik \

*A **tunic** is a type of:*

- A. acidic fruit
- ✓ B. item of clothing

173. **interstellar** \ .intər'stelər \

*Something described as **interstellar** relates to:*

- A. wars
- ✓ B. stars

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

174. **incense** \ 'in.sen(t)s \

*What is **incense**?*

- ✓ A. perfume or smoke from spices when burned
- B. a compound used for sealing letters

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

175. **recede** \ ri'sēd \

*What does it mean to **recede**?*

- A. to sow plants again or anew
- ✓ B. to move back or away

## Oral Vocabulary Round: Eighth Grade

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the vocabulary question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct. The correct answer is the answer that most closely matches the definition of the word.

Respond to a speller's requests for the question and/or answer options to be repeated. You may also provide the spelling of the word in question.

A speller may answer the question by providing:

- the chosen answer, or
- both the chosen answer and the letter associated with it.

For example: If the speller is offered the question, "What is porridge made from? A. fur, or B. grain," either of the following methods of answering is correct:

- "grain," or
- "B. grain."

176. **lasso** \ 'la.sō \

*A lasso is used to:*

- A. curl eyelashes
- ✓ B. catch horses and cattle

177. **sauna** \ 'sō.nə \

*What is a sauna?*

- A. a group of animals adapted to a certain environment
- ✓ B. a bath in steam from water thrown on heated stones

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

178. **snivel** \ 'snivəl \

*The word snivel most closely means:*

- A. to sneeze with extreme force
- ✓ B. to speak in a whining manner

179. **paralysis** \ pə'raləsəs \

*Paralysis is:*

- A. activity on behalf of women's rights
- ✓ B. a state of powerlessness or inactivity

180. **elongated** \ i'lŏn.gātəd \

*If something has been elongated, it has been:*

- ✓ A. stretched out
- B. recycled

181. **antonyms** \ 'antə.nimz \

*Antonyms are:*

- A. fictitious names
- ✓ B. words of opposite meaning

182. **simultaneously** \ .sīməl'tānēəsle \

*The word simultaneously most closely means:*

- A. with great attention to detail
- ✓ B. at the same time

183. **jeopardy** \ 'jepərdē \

*If you are in jeopardy, you are:*

- A. in transit
- ✓ B. in danger

184. **aerosol** \ 'erəsäl \

*Aerosol is:*

- ✓ A. a substance and a propellant in a container that dispenses the substance as a suspension
- B. a branch of medicine that deals with the diseases and disturbances arising from flying

185. **contemptible** \ kən'tem(p)təbəl \

*Something described as contemptible:*

- ✓ A. merits scorn
- B. relies on others

186. **nitrogen** \ 'nitrəjən \

*In which class would you most likely learn about nitrogen?*

- A. English
- ✓ B. science

187. **perpendicularity** \ ,pərpən.dikyə'lerətē \

*Perpendicularity is the quality of:*

- A. swinging back and forth between two points
- ✓ B. being at right angles to a given line or plane

188. **secreted** \ si'krētəd \

*An organism that has secreted something has:*

- ✓ A. emitted a product that performs a specific function
- B. brought food to feed to its young

189. **senescent** \ sə'nesənt \

*Someone or something described as senescent is:*

- ✓ A. growing old
- B. being playful

190. **boba** \ 'bōbə \

*Boba is a type of:*

- ✓ A. sweet tea drink with small balls of tapioca
- B. Japanese noodle made from buckwheat flour

191. **altimeter** \ al'timətər \

*What does an altimeter measure?*

- A. distance traveled
- ✓ B. height

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

192. **shoal** \ 'shōl \

*The word shoal most closely means:*

- A. canyon
- ✓ B. sandbar

193. **Sumerian** \ sü'merēən \

*Something described as Sumerian relates to:*

- ✓ A. a part of ancient Babylonia
- B. a 19th-century British novelist

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

194. **arable** \ 'arəbəl \

*Something described as arable is:*

- ✓ A. capable of being plowed
- B. suitable for surgical treatment

195. **defoliant** \ də'fōlēənt \

*What is a defoliant?*

- ✓ A. a chemical applied to crop plants to cause the leaves to drop off
- B. a full spread of blank pages at the end of a book

196. **matterhorn** \ 'matər.hörn \

*What is a matterhorn?*

- ✓ A. a sharp-pointed peak or mountain
- B. a tool used to wash sheep's wool

197. **Erlenmeyer flask** \ 'ərln.mīər'flask \

*Where would you most likely find an Erlenmeyer flask?*

- A. in a symphony orchestra
- ✓ B. in a laboratory

198. **Mumbai** \ 'məm.bī \

*What is Mumbai?*

- ✓ A. a city and port in western India
- B. an island off the coast of Indonesia

199. **sphagnum** \ 'sfagnəm \

*Sphagnum is a type of:*

- A. chemical
- ✓ B. moss

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

200. **thyroid** \ 'thī.rōid \

*A thyroid is a type of:*

- A. cyst
- ✓ B. gland

201. **Taoism** \ 'taū.izəm \

*Taoism is a type of:*

- ✓ A. religion and philosophy
- B. scientific theory

202. **Versailles** \ vər'sī \

*Where is Versailles?*

- ✓ A. France
- B. Switzerland

203. **palomino** \ ,palə'mēnō \

*A palomino is a type of:*

- ✓ A. horse
- B. truck

204. **luciferin** \ lū'sifərən \

*What is luciferin?*

- A. a door in Roman mythology that opens to another realm
- ✓ B. a pigment found in luminescent organisms such as fireflies

205. **surfactant** \ ,sər'faktənt \

*Where are you most likely to find a surfactant?*

- A. in a stick of butter
- ✓ B. in a laundry detergent

206. **grebe** \ 'grēb \

*A grebe is a type of:*

- ✓ A. aquatic bird
- B. sturdy shoe

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

207. **moira** \ 'mōirə \

*What is another word for moira?*

- ✓ A. fate
- B. compassion

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

208. **fens** \ 'fenz \

*Fens are:*

- ✓ A. low peaty lands covered wholly or partly with water
- B. diagrams with overlapping partly shaded circles

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

209. **Tetrazzini** \ ,tetrə'zēnē \

*A food prepared Tetrazzini is:*

- A. made well in advance of serving
- ✓ B. prepared with pasta and a white sauce

210. **rooibos tea** \ 'rūē.bās'tē \

*Rooibos tea is a beverage made from:*

- ✓ A. a South African shrub
- B. a North American leaf

211. **Pleiades** \ 'plēə.dēz \

*What are the Pleiades?*

- ✓ A. a cluster of stars
- B. a series of legal appeals

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

212. **leks** \ 'leks \

*What are you most likely to find at leks?*

- A. musical performances
- ✓ B. courting birds

213. **coccidiosis** \kāk.sidē'ōsəs \

*Coccidiosis* is:

- ✓ A. infestation with or disease caused by a type of parasitic protozoans
- B. a type of cider apple formerly popular in England

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

214. **antimony** \ 'antə.mōnē \

*Antimony* is:

- A. a gene producing an effect opposite to that of the wild-type gene of the same locus
- ✓ B. a metalloid element that is used especially as a constituent of alloys

215. **Macedonia** \ ,masə'dōnēə \

*Where would you find Macedonia?*

- ✓ A. in the Balkan Peninsula in northeastern Greece
- B. on the western coast of Africa

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

216. **scandium** \ 'skandēəm \

*Scandium* is a type of:

- A. gossip intended to damage someone's reputation
- ✓ B. metallic element found in various minerals

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

217. **mangels** \ 'mangəlz \

*What are mangels?*

- A. untrained horses
- ✓ B. large beets

218. **nopales** \ nō'pālās \

*What would you most likely do with nopales?*

- ✓ A. eat them
- B. race them

219. **Samian** \ 'sāmēən \

*Something described as Samian relates to:*

- A. a Hungarian physicist
- ✓ B. a particular Greek island

220. **meitnerium** \ mīt'nirēəm \

*What is meitnerium?*

- A. a drug used topically as a sedative
- ✓ B. a short-lived radioactive element

221. **Macao** \ mə'kaü \

*What is Macao?*

- A. a city in southern Portugal
- ✓ B. a peninsula in southeastern China

222. **Popocatepetl** \ ,pōpə'katəpet'l \

*What is Popocatepetl?*

- ✓ A. a volcano in Mexico
- B. a Mayan game similar to soccer

223. **megaron** \ 'megərän \

*Where would you find a megaron?*

- ✓ A. inside an ancient Mycenaean house
- B. in a high-velocity particle accelerator

*Because the following word could be confused with a similar word, say the word then spell it aloud.*

224. **Shaanxi** \ 'shän'shē \

*Shaanxi is a province of which Asian country?*

- A. Japan
- ✓ B. China

225. **pronaos** \ prō'nā:ās \

*What is a pronaos?*

- A. a short poem marking a wedding ceremony
- ✓ B. the outer part of an ancient Greek temple



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test First Grade

1. *When you ask **why**, you're asking:*
  - A. for what reason
  - B. with what person
  - C. at what time
  
2. *Asking for **more** of something is asking for:*
  - A. an additional amount
  - B. an old version of it
  - C. something different
  
3. *If something is **hard**, it is:*
  - A. not easy
  - B. very soft
  - C. a bit smelly
  
4. *What does it mean to **toss** something?*
  - A. to lie across it
  - B. to gently throw it
  - C. to give light to it
  
5. *Something described as **cool** is:*
  - A. unpopular
  - B. silly or lighthearted
  - C. moderately cold
  
6. *What is the **tide**?*
  - A. the rising and falling of bodies of water
  - B. a cold wind that comes down mountains
  - C. the wearing away of land by rain
  
7. *Where would you most likely find a **chin**?*
  - A. under a rock
  - B. on someone's face
  - C. in a swimming pool
  
8. *What does it mean to **wag**?*
  - A. to move the tail to and fro
  - B. to hang loosely
  - C. to put something in a container
  
9. *What is a **deal**?*
  - A. a standard of beauty or excellence held to be perfect
  - B. an offering of a combination of products at a special price
  - C. a short-necked river duck of North America
  
10. *What are **sips**?*
  - A. clothes worn under dresses
  - B. small tastes of a drink
  - C. spicy sauces eaten with chips
  
11. *A **rug** is a:*
  - A. crawling insect
  - B. good friend
  - C. floor covering
  
12. *If you **zip** somewhere, you:*
  - A. move with speed
  - B. take your time getting there
  - C. end up being very late
  
13. *Which of the following are you most likely to see in the **sky**?*
  - A. rocks
  - B. clouds
  - C. submarines

14. *Where are you most likely to find **hair**?*
- A. beneath the soil
  - B. on a tree
  - C. on a human head
15. *What is a **spark**?*
- A. a short sharp tone of speech
  - B. land owned by a city or town
  - C. a small piece of a burning substance
16. *What is another word for **heap**?*
- A. apartment
  - B. pile
  - C. bowl
17. *A **ladder** is used for:*
- A. telling time
  - B. healing a wound
  - C. climbing
18. *If something is **near** you, it is:*
- A. likely to hurt you
  - B. close to you
  - C. hard to see
19. *If you **wake** someone, you:*
- A. rouse them from sleep
  - B. drive them somewhere
  - C. shake their hand
20. *People usually say “**Wow**” when feeling:*
- A. sad or unhappy
  - B. happy or surprised
  - C. sick or unwell
21. *If something is described as **rude**, it:*
- A. is deep red in color
  - B. lacks good manners
  - C. causes amusement
22. *What is a **nest**?*
- A. a meal made for you
  - B. a person with a bad temper
  - C. a place a bird builds to lay its eggs
23. *When would someone most likely use a **spoon**?*
- A. when skiing down a hill
  - B. when eating some soup
  - C. when hanging a picture
24. *What does it mean to **find** something?*
- A. to come upon it by looking
  - B. to ask it to pay you money
  - C. to crush it into small pieces
25. *What is a **tune**?*
- A. a musical composition
  - B. a tool used to sweep the floor
  - C. a bird that eats fish





Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test  
First Grade  
**Answer Key**

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  - C. to crush it into small pieces
25. *What is a **tune**?*
- ✓ A. a musical composition
  - B. a tool used to sweep the floor
  - C. a bird that eats fish



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test Second Grade

1. *How would one make **cloth**?*
  - A. by weaving fibers together
  - B. by melting and molding wax
  - C. by baking clay in an oven
2. *Which of these is an example of a **doctor**?*
  - A. a dentist
  - B. a fish
  - C. a castle
3. *What is a **snack**?*
  - A. a small amount of food eaten between meals
  - B. a loose garment worn over clothes
  - C. a poorly built and often run-down house
4. *If something is described as **other**, it is:*
  - A. an aquatic mammal
  - B. not the same
  - C. large in number
5. *What is another word for **gross**?*
  - A. disgusting
  - B. shiny
  - C. confused
6. *What is a **branch**?*
  - A. a stem growing from the trunk of a tree
  - B. a place for raising horses, cattle, or sheep
  - C. a large bowl for serving food
7. *What is a **mound**?*
  - A. a small, rounded mass
  - B. an upward leap or jump
  - C. a large spoon for stirring
8. *What does it mean to **join** something?*
  - A. give it away as a gift
  - B. earn money from it
  - C. become a member of it
9. *What of the following are you most likely to get out of **tubes**?*
  - A. toothpaste
  - B. video games
  - C. oatmeal
10. *Another word for **little** is:*
  - A. glorious
  - B. stinky
  - C. tiny
11. *What is a **pole**?*
  - A. a burrowing animal that lives in Europe and Asia
  - B. a piece of burnt or charred wood used to start fires
  - C. an upright column something is attached to
12. *What would you most likely find inside a **notebook**?*
  - A. coins and paper money
  - B. cleaning supplies
  - C. blank sheets of paper
13. *What is a **river**?*
  - A. a tub of food
  - B. a foolish remark
  - C. a large stream of water

14. *A **dear** is:*
- A. a water droplet that forms in an eye
  - B. a beloved person
  - C. a rip in a piece of clothing
15. *What is a **letter**?*
- A. a type of large dog used to hunt birds
  - B. a device in which objects are held
  - C. a written or printed message intended to be read by the person it's addressed to
16. *A **bride** is:*
- A. an unusually long step in a series of steps
  - B. a woman newly married or about to be married
  - C. a large group of lions, especially when hunting
17. *What does a **wedding** ceremony celebrate?*
- A. a retirement
  - B. a new baby
  - C. a marriage
18. *If you **nagged** someone, you:*
- A. annoyed them by persistent scolding or urging
  - B. grasped their hand and shook it
  - C. gave them assistance or support
19. *If you **gazed** at something, you:*
- A. caused it to shine like glass
  - B. fixed your eyes on it steadily and intently
  - C. fed on it in the manner of an animal
20. *What does it mean to **point** at something?*
- A. indicate its position with a finger
  - B. dab at it with a small bit of water
  - C. remove it entirely from one's sight
21. *What is **spring**?*
- A. a light rain
  - B. one of the four seasons
  - C. one of many choices
22. *If you **give** something, you:*
- A. dance with it
  - B. plunge it into water
  - C. make a present of it
23. *A person would most likely use a **stove** to:*
- A. assemble a puzzle
  - B. cook something
  - C. water a plant
24. *What does it mean to **state** something?*
- A. to cook it over a flame
  - B. to put it into words
  - C. to attach it to something else
25. *What does it mean to **scan**?*
- A. to forbid something from happening
  - B. to cheat someone out of money
  - C. to make a close examination of a small area



Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test  
Second Grade  
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25. What does it mean to **scan**?
- A. to forbid something from happening
  - B. to cheat someone out of money
  - ✓ C. to make a close examination of a small area



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test Third Grade

1. *Someone described as **able**:*
  - A. has many brothers and sisters
  - B. gets angry and frustrated quickly
  - C. has the power needed to do something
2. ***Anybody** is:*
  - A. a person out of an indefinite number
  - B. a lower part on an animal's body
  - C. a boat with a squared-off end
3. *A **present** is:*
  - A. a gift
  - B. a shoe
  - C. a frown
4. *What does it mean to **whisper**?*
  - A. to growl deeply
  - B. to speak softly
  - C. to yell loudly
5. *What does **together** mean?*
  - A. constantly moving
  - B. in one place or group
  - C. covered completely
6. *What is the **ground**?*
  - A. the surface of the earth
  - B. the flesh of a cow used as food
  - C. a type of punishment
7. ***Shutters** are designed to:*
  - A. hold a hairdo in place
  - B. keep out light or shut out the view
  - C. help skiers keep their balance
8. *Another word for **endless** is:*
  - A. special
  - B. infinite
  - C. expensive
9. *What is a **plunger**?*
  - A. a device thrust quickly and forcibly into liquid
  - B. someone who installs and maintains piping
  - C. a tool for removing small weeds from soil
10. *A **subway** is a type of:*
  - A. underground train
  - B. military boat
  - C. high-speed plane
11. *If you **overcome** something, you:*
  - A. get the better of it
  - B. consider it seriously
  - C. give up on it
12. *If something is **worth** a certain amount, it:*
  - A. doesn't work without it
  - B. has that much value
  - C. looks just like it
13. *What is a **corner**?*
  - A. a yellow muffin made with a ground grain
  - B. the place where two streets or roads meet
  - C. a tasty but generally small fish
14. *The word **wears** most closely means:*
  - A. divides into portions
  - B. fastens or brings together
  - C. uses for clothing

15. If something is **broken**, it:
- A. was made for a specific person
  - B. is not working properly
  - C. has a weird smell
16. **Fireworks** are:
- A. a combination of individual dance steps featuring high kicks and claps
  - B. a group of ornamental or decorative materials on the outside of a building
  - C. a display of devices that produce a striking display by burning explosive materials
17. Something done **barely** is done:
- A. without regard to the rules
  - B. by the narrowest margin
  - C. in a harsh or cruel manner
18. If you **drooped**, you:
- A. dug up some earth
  - B. walked quickly and with purpose
  - C. took up a slouched posture
19. Something described as **cluttered** is:
- A. covered with things in disorder
  - B. closed to keep our light
  - C. folded away neatly in a drawer
20. Who would most likely wear a **crown**?
- A. a construction worker
  - B. a writer
  - C. a queen
21. If you **climb** something, you:
- A. get to the top of it with some effort
  - B. remove the tangles from it
  - C. pin it down so it can no longer move
22. What does it mean to **sketch**?
- A. to draw roughly
  - B. to complain constantly
  - C. to throw with force
23. The word **solve** means:
- A. to keep for later
  - B. to find an answer for
  - C. to pronounce not guilty
24. What is a **shower**?
- A. a short period of rainfall
  - B. a minor injury in sports
  - C. an angry or unfriendly look
25. **Credit** is:
- A. sadness or despair
  - B. recognition or acknowledgment
  - C. happy playfulness





Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test  
Third Grade  
**Answer Key**

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  - A. has many brothers and sisters
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  - C. happy playfulness



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test Fourth Grade

1. *What would you most likely do with a **razor**?*
  - A. decorate clothing
  - B. shave hair
  - C. rub off pencil marks
2. *What is another word for **fury**?*
  - A. watery
  - B. humor
  - C. rage
3. *The word “**howdy**” is used to express:*
  - A. disappointment
  - B. greeting
  - C. confusion
4. *If someone does something **hungrily**, they do it:*
  - A. in a manner marked by desire or craving
  - B. with extreme reluctance
  - C. rapidly with little attention to detail
5. *How much is a **thousand**?*
  - A. 100
  - B. 1,000
  - C. 10,000
6. ***Putty** is a type of:*
  - A. cooling lava
  - B. dough-like cement
  - C. sweet syrup
7. *What is a **drawl**?*
  - A. a manner of speaking in slow tones
  - B. a loud, angry fight
  - C. a scoop-shaped gardening tool
8. *If something is done **glumly**, it is done:*
  - A. in a dreary or gloomy manner
  - B. with contempt for the restrictions of the law
  - C. without forethought or preparation
9. *If someone is **sewing** something, they are:*
  - A. propelling it through the air
  - B. fastening it with stitches
  - C. causing it to bend
10. *What would you most likely do with **cereal**?*
  - A. play music on it
  - B. eat it for breakfast
  - C. drive it to school
11. ***Outfits** are:*
  - A. clever strategic moves in a game of chess
  - B. silly annoying peevish people
  - C. clothing designed to be worn in particular situations
12. *What does it mean to **improve** something?*
  - A. to make it more excellent or desirable
  - B. to beg or urgently ask it for something
  - C. to accuse or implicate it without proof
13. *If something is done **roughly**, it is done:*
  - A. in a friendly way
  - B. with harshness or violence
  - C. in a slow manner
14. *Another word for **peaceful** is:*
  - A. smelly
  - B. nervous
  - C. calm

15. Which would most likely be made of **bronze**?
- A. a cake
  - B. a sock
  - C. a bell
16. **Marble** is a type of:
- A. basket weave
  - B. limestone
  - C. window polish
17. An **oddity** is:
- A. a spot on something you can normally see through
  - B. a journey marked by many changes of fortune
  - C. something unique or curiously unusual
18. What does it mean to **gather**?
- A. bring together in a group
  - B. plant flowers
  - C. annoy persistently
19. **Silence** is best described as:
- A. a branch of knowledge
  - B. the absence of sound
  - C. intense or furious action
20. What is another word for **important**?
- A. mischievous
  - B. chilly
  - C. significant
21. What is another word for **rotten**?
- A. repeated
  - B. decayed
  - C. silky
22. If something is **sudsy**, it is:
- A. smeared and hard to see
  - B. full of froth or bubbles
  - C. smooth or plain
23. **Flitting** means:
- A. moving briskly from place to place
  - B. whisking egg whites into stiff peaks
  - C. setting ambitious goals
24. A **bestie** is:
- A. a poem that rhymes
  - B. a spicy food
  - C. a person's greatest friend
25. What is an **insult**?
- A. an outdoor celebration with many people
  - B. someone who signals with a trumpet
  - C. an act or speech of disrespect or scorn



Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test  
Fourth Grade  
**Answer Key**

1. *What would you most likely do with a **razor**?*
  - A. decorate clothing
  - ✓ B. shave hair
  - C. rub off pencil marks
  
2. *What is another word for **fury**?*
  - A. watery
  - B. humor
  - ✓ C. rage
  
3. *The word "**howdy**" is used to express:*
  - A. disappointment
  - ✓ B. greeting
  - C. confusion
  
4. *If someone does something **hungrily**, they do it:*
  - ✓ A. in a manner marked by desire or craving
  - B. with extreme reluctance
  - C. rapidly with little attention to detail
  
5. *How much is a **thousand**?*
  - A. 100
  - ✓ B. 1,000
  - C. 10,000
  
6. ***Putty** is a type of:*
  - A. cooling lava
  - ✓ B. dough-like cement
  - C. sweet syrup
  
7. *What is a **drawl**?*
  - ✓ A. a manner of speaking in slow tones
  - B. a loud, angry fight
  - C. a scoop-shaped gardening tool
  
8. *If something is done **glumly**, it is done:*
  - ✓ A. in a dreary or gloomy manner
  - B. with contempt for the restrictions of the law
  - C. without forethought or preparation
  
9. *If someone is **sewing** something, they are:*
  - A. propelling it through the air
  - ✓ B. fastening it with stitches
  - C. causing it to bend
  
10. *What would you most likely do with **cereal**?*
  - A. play music on it
  - ✓ B. eat it for breakfast
  - C. drive it to school
  
11. ***Outfits** are:*
  - A. clever strategic moves in a game of chess
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24. A **bestie** is:

- A. a poem that rhymes
- B. a spicy food
- ✓ C. a person's greatest friend

25. What is an **insult**?

- A. an outdoor celebration with many people
- B. someone who signals with a trumpet
- ✓ C. an act or speech of disrespect or scorn



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test

### Fifth Grade

1. *What is **insulation**?*
  - A. knowledge communicated by others or obtained from investigation
  - B. material that slows the passage of heat, electricity, or sound
  - C. a custom that contributes to group welfare
2. *A **squire** works for:*
  - A. a lawyer
  - B. a knight
  - C. a matador
3. *Something described as **invisible** is:*
  - A. impossible to ignore
  - B. looking for a paying job
  - C. incapable of being seen
4. ***Crookedly** means:*
  - A. in a courageous manner
  - B. in a warm or friendly manner
  - C. in a bent or twisted manner
5. *If someone is **wheezy**, they:*
  - A. are inclined to breathe with difficulty
  - B. face danger without fear or hesitation
  - C. act in a brisk or informal manner
6. *A **vision** is:*
  - A. a projecting brim on a cap or hat for shading the eyes
  - B. a crystal form whose faces are parallel to the vertical axis
  - C. something seen otherwise than by ordinary sight
7. *Something described as **fragrant** has:*
  - A. an offensive taste
  - B. a sweet smell
  - C. a gooey texture
8. ***Stitchery** is best described as:*
  - A. a type of needlework
  - B. a type of pottery
  - C. a painting technique
9. *How is something described as **manual** operated?*
  - A. by mind control
  - B. on its own, automatically
  - C. with the hands
10. *What does it mean to **engulf** something?*
  - A. to learn to hit it into a hole
  - B. to overwhelm it
  - C. to anchor it securely in rough waters
11. ***Afrobeat** is a type of:*
  - A. root vegetable
  - B. popular music
  - C. broad-brimmed hat
12. *What does it mean to **occupy**?*
  - A. to make as functional as possible
  - B. to reside in as an owner or tenant
  - C. to look at with greedy intention
13. *A **graduate** is a person who has:*
  - A. received an academic degree
  - B. become an owner of land
  - C. gotten a bonus for exceptional performance

14. Something done **deliberately** is done:
- A. in a threatening or aggressive manner
  - B. in a dishonest or misleading manner
  - C. in a slow, unhurried, and steady manner
15. What does it mean to be **responsible** for something?
- A. physically attached to it
  - B. answerable as its primary cause
  - C. totally dependent on it for survival
16. An **inscription** is a type of:
- A. liquid medicine
  - B. written text
  - C. military command
17. When would you most likely use the word "**ourselves**"?
- A. when talking about yourself and another person
  - B. when you wear mismatched clothing
  - C. when you are leaving town alone
18. The **forearms** are found:
- A. between the elbow and the wrist
  - B. between the ears
  - C. between the neck and lower back
19. What is a **recital**?
- A. a flag on a ship declaring its country of origin
  - B. an exhibition concert given by music pupils.
  - C. a bill given for goods or services received
20. What is a **fowl**?
- A. a chicken
  - B. a cheek
  - C. a garden tool
21. What is **wisdom**?
- A. information gained over time
  - B. a shallow drinking bowl
  - C. conduct that is absurd
22. An **ambush** is the act of:
- A. shaping and polishing a fossil resin for use in jewelry
  - B. attacking by surprise from a concealed position
  - C. clearing mixed plant growth typical of an uncultivated area
23. **Devotion** is:
- A. strong attachment, zeal, or enthusiasm
  - B. passage through a series of stages in development
  - C. operatic music sung by one female performer
24. **Disdain** is:
- A. a formal or orderly treatment of a topic in speech or writing
  - B. a feeling of contempt for something regarded as unworthy
  - C. a spot of color different from the surrounding area
25. What does it mean to **replace** something?
- A. to transport it from one place to another
  - B. to provide a substitute for it
  - C. to restore it to working condition





Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test  
Fifth Grade  
**Answer Key**

1. *What is **insulation**?*
  - A. knowledge communicated by others or obtained from investigation
  - ✓ B. material that slows the passage of heat, electricity, or sound
  - C. a custom that contributes to group welfare
  
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  - C. clearing mixed plant growth typical of an uncultivated area
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  - C. operatic music sung by one female performer
24. **Disdain** is:
- A. a formal or orderly treatment of a topic in speech or writing
  - ✓ B. a feeling of contempt for something regarded as unworthy
  - C. a spot of color different from the surrounding area
25. What does it mean to **replace** something?
- A. to transport it from one place to another
  - ✓ B. to provide a substitute for it
  - C. to restore it to working condition



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test Sixth Grade

1. If you **bamboozled** someone, you:
  - A. traded items of equal value with them
  - B. tricked or hoodwinked them
  - C. rewarded them generously
2. The word **superior** most closely means:
  - A. densely foggy
  - B. notably excellent
  - C. heavily seasoned
3. A **sentinel** is:
  - A. one who indulges in romanticism
  - B. a French unit of currency
  - C. one that watches or guards
4. Something described as **Arctic** relates to:
  - A. the region around the north pole
  - B. a distinctive sweet-smelling odor
  - C. a dead or antiquated language
5. What would you most likely do with **sausage**?
  - A. eat it
  - B. step on it
  - C. drive it
6. The word **serenity** most closely means:
  - A. speed
  - B. silliness
  - C. peacefulness
7. If someone was **disgruntled**, they:
  - A. were put in bad humor
  - B. made the natural noise of a hog
  - C. revealed information under pressure
8. Where would you find a **reindeer**?
  - A. the Antarctic regions around the South Pole
  - B. the northern parts of Europe, Asia, and America
  - C. the southern parts of Africa
9. The word **terrify** means:
  - A. to clean thoroughly
  - B. to rip in half
  - C. to fill with fear
10. What is a **delegation**?
  - A. one or more persons appointed or chosen to represent others
  - B. a passage of music performed in a smooth and connected manner
  - C. a statement unsupported and by implication regarded as false
11. Which of the following is best described as a **provision**?
  - A. a surgery for correcting cataracts
  - B. an extraordinary athletic gift
  - C. a clause in a statute or contract
12. A **diode** is a type of:
  - A. electron tube
  - B. musical composition
  - C. exercise apparatus
13. **Brooklyn** is:
  - A. a borough of New York City
  - B. a custard-filled dessert
  - C. an advanced move in chess

14. *What is a **reference**?*
- A. a coupon entitling the holder to a free service
  - B. a book or passage to which a reader is directed
  - C. a decision handed down by an umpire after review
15. *What do **vultures** mainly eat?*
- A. floating plankton
  - B. flying insects
  - C. the dead flesh of animals
16. *A **fluke** is:*
- A. an extraordinary stroke of good or bad luck
  - B. a coin or currency note representing one dollar
  - C. an acid fruit with a yellow and bumpy rind
17. *What is a **quotation**?*
- A. a situation that cannot be easily altered or amended
  - B. a passage that is referred to as evidence or illustration
  - C. a cold non-alcoholic beverage made from fruit
18. *What does it mean to **salute**?*
- A. to step on something
  - B. to bury beneath the earth
  - C. to give a sign of respect
19. *Something described as **droll**:*
- A. has a whimsical or humorous character
  - B. curves at all four edges
  - C. supplies funds for large corporations
20. *What is a **congregation**?*
- A. an assembly of persons meeting for worship
  - B. a northward summer migration of birds
  - C. a large fire involving numerous buildings
21. *Where would you find an **incubator**?*
- A. at a hospital
  - B. in an orthodox church
  - C. at a pen factory
22. *Another word for **flummox** is:*
- A. confound
  - B. salute
  - C. amuse
23. *What is another word for **verve**?*
- A. violet
  - B. energy
  - C. summer
24. *A **platypus** is:*
- A. a theoretical hominid thought to precede humans
  - B. a large extinct tusked mastodon
  - C. a small egg-laying aquatic mammal
25. *On which part of the body is a **turban** worn?*
- A. the shoulders
  - B. the feet
  - C. the head



Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test  
Sixth Grade  
**Answer Key**

1. If you **bamboozled** someone, you:
  - A. traded items of equal value with them
  - ✓ B. tricked or hoodwinked them
  - C. rewarded them generously
  
2. The word **superior** most closely means:
  - A. densely foggy
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24. *A **platypus** is:*
- A. a theoretical hominid thought to precede humans
  - B. a large extinct tusked mastodon
  - ✓ C. a small egg-laying aquatic mammal
25. *On which part of the body is a **turban** worn?*
- A. the shoulders
  - B. the feet
  - ✓ C. the head



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test Seventh Grade

1. If you **dilute** something, you:
  - A. transfer it to another person
  - B. make it less concentrated
  - C. divide it into equal parts
  
2. What is another word for **categorically**?
  - A. gracefully
  - B. irregularly
  - C. absolutely
  
3. **Destitution** is:
  - A. removal of shame
  - B. deprivation of the necessities of life
  - C. predetermined end, object, or use
  
4. Something done **punctually** is done:
  - A. in exact adherence to an appointed time
  - B. without proper or adequate supplies
  - C. in an arrogant or rude manner
  
5. Something described as **nondescript** is:
  - A. falling into disrepair due to neglect
  - B. lacking distinguishing characteristics
  - C. hidden behind a false disguise
  
6. What is a **dynasty**?
  - A. an opening and closing of flowers based on the intensity of light
  - B. a family in a position of power for generations
  - C. a person or thing regarded as bad, villainous, or harmful
  
7. Something described as **extravagant**:
  - A. can be easily seen or understood
  - B. is exaggerated to the point of absurdity
  - C. requires immediate attention or repair
  
8. A **gorilla** is a type of:
  - A. snake
  - B. ape
  - C. fish
  
9. **Expulsion** is:
  - A. a feeling of aversion or strong dislike
  - B. the act of atoning for one's sins or transgressions
  - C. summary removal from membership or association
  
10. Where can you find **Illinois**?
  - A. in the southwestern part of Canada
  - B. in the western part of the U.S.
  - C. in the central part of the U.S.
  
11. What causes **malnutrition**?
  - A. inadequate intake of substances that provide energy
  - B. allergic reactions to windborne particles
  - C. too much time spent in the sun
  
12. A **koi** is a type of:
  - A. fish
  - B. hat
  - C. flower

13. What is a **quarry**?
- A. an open excavation for obtaining building stone
  - B. a term when a person carrying a contagious disease is isolated
  - C. a British liquid or dry unit of measure
14. If you are **communing** with something, you are:
- A. traveling with it on a regular path and on a fixed schedule
  - B. changing it into another form that is typically more useful
  - C. gaining an earnest or deep feeling of unity and appreciation for it
15. What are **magistrates**?
- A. local officials exercising administrative and judicial functions
  - B. wizards called upon to tell the future in certain ancient kingdoms
  - C. books of common phrases translated into several languages
16. Something described as **malicious** is:
- A. based on pretense or insincerity
  - B. marked by evil intention
  - C. appealing to the senses
17. What is a **sprocket**?
- A. an opening that forms a holder for something
  - B. a small bag carried by a person
  - C. a tooth or projection shaped to engage with a chain
18. Someone described as **demure**:
- A. is marked by quiet modesty or restraint
  - B. wears out-of-date or unstylish clothing
  - C. expresses their feelings openly and often
19. What does it mean to **deadpan**?
- A. to kill the land by removing the trees and underbrush
  - B. to speak poorly of someone or insult them
  - C. to act in a manner marked by complete absence of expression
20. What is a **chasm**?
- A. a deep and narrow opening in something
  - B. an acerbic remark intended to express contempt
  - C. an involuntary muscular contraction
21. What are **innards**?
- A. small poles used to mark boundary lines
  - B. the internal parts of a structure or mechanism
  - C. blessings given to pilgrims in the Orthodox church
22. A **petticoat** is a type of:
- A. scarf
  - B. skirt
  - C. sweater
23. When are you most likely to use a **wok**?
- A. when cooking a stir-fry
  - B. when smoothing a garment
  - C. when painting a canvas
24. What would one do at a **Laundromat**?
- A. play a collection of video games
  - B. wash and dry one's clothes
  - C. get a car cleaned and detailed
25. If a person **incited** something, they:
- A. identified its author and publication information
  - B. read it quietly to themselves
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Scripps National Spelling Bee Vocabulary Test  
Seventh Grade  
**Answer Key**

1. If you *dilute* something, you:
  - A. transfer it to another person
  - ✓ B. make it less concentrated
  - C. divide it into equal parts
  
2. What is another word for *categorically*?
  - A. gracefully
  - B. irregularly
  - ✓ C. absolutely
  
3. *Destitution* is:
  - A. removal of shame
  - ✓ B. deprivation of the necessities of life
  - C. predetermined end, object, or use
  
4. Something done *punctually* is done:
  - ✓ A. in exact adherence to an appointed time
  - B. without proper or adequate supplies
  - C. in an arrogant or rude manner
  
5. Something described as *nondescript* is:
  - A. falling into disrepair due to neglect
  - ✓ B. lacking distinguishing characteristics
  - C. hidden behind a false disguise
  
6. What is a *dynasty*?
  - A. an opening and closing of flowers based on the intensity of light
  - ✓ B. a family in a position of power for generations
  - C. a person or thing regarded as bad, villainous, or harmful
  
7. Something described as *extravagant*:
  - A. can be easily seen or understood
  - ✓ B. is exaggerated to the point of absurdity
  - C. requires immediate attention or repair
  
8. A *gorilla* is a type of:
  - A. snake
  - ✓ B. ape
  - C. fish
  
9. *Expulsion* is:
  - A. a feeling of aversion or strong dislike
  - B. the act of atoning for one's sins or transgressions
  - ✓ C. summary removal from membership or association
  
10. Where can you find *Illinois*?
  - A. in the southwestern part of Canada
  - B. in the western part of the U.S.
  - ✓ C. in the central part of the U.S.
  
11. What causes *malnutrition*?
  - ✓ A. inadequate intake of substances that provide energy
  - B. allergic reactions to windborne particles
  - C. too much time spent in the sun
  
12. A *koi* is a type of:
  - ✓ A. fish
  - B. hat
  - C. flower

13. What is a **quarry**?
- ✓ A. an open excavation for obtaining building stone
  - B. a term when a person carrying a contagious disease is isolated
  - C. a British liquid or dry unit of measure
14. If you are **communing** with something, you are:
- A. traveling with it on a regular path and on a fixed schedule
  - B. changing it into another form that is typically more useful
  - ✓ C. gaining an earnest or deep feeling of unity and appreciation for it
15. What are **magistrates**?
- ✓ A. local officials exercising administrative and judicial functions
  - B. wizards called upon to tell the future in certain ancient kingdoms
  - C. books of common phrases translated into several languages
16. Something described as **malicious** is:
- A. based on pretense or insincerity
  - ✓ B. marked by evil intention
  - C. appealing to the senses
17. What is a **sprocket**?
- A. an opening that forms a holder for something
  - B. a small bag carried by a person
  - ✓ C. a tooth or projection shaped to engage with a chain
18. Someone described as **demure**:
- ✓ A. is marked by quiet modesty or restraint
  - B. wears out-of-date or unstylish clothing
  - C. expresses their feelings openly and often
19. What does it mean to **deadpan**?
- A. to kill the land by removing the trees and underbrush
  - B. to speak poorly of someone or insult them
  - ✓ C. to act in a manner marked by complete absence of expression
20. What is a **chasm**?
- ✓ A. a deep and narrow opening in something
  - B. an acerbic remark intended to express contempt
  - C. an involuntary muscular contraction
21. What are **innards**?
- A. small poles used to mark boundary lines
  - ✓ B. the internal parts of a structure or mechanism
  - C. blessings given to pilgrims in the Orthodox church
22. A **petticoat** is a type of:
- A. scarf
  - ✓ B. skirt
  - C. sweater
23. When are you most likely to use a **wok**?
- ✓ A. when cooking a stir-fry
  - B. when smoothing a garment
  - C. when painting a canvas
24. What would one do at a **Laundromat**?
- A. play a collection of video games
  - ✓ B. wash and dry one's clothes
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  - C. own a lot of valuable artwork
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