

## Spelling Bee Word Lists

## Grades 2-3

The list provided is a good place to start. Please be aware that this list will help you begin preparation. The test will consist of words not included in the lists provided. This is not a test of memorization, but of the skill these students are already strong in.

### 1. rehearsal- ri HUR suhl

A practice session preparatory to a public performance

This is the final rehearsal before tomorrow's performance.

### 2. persistent- pur SIS tuhnt

Continuing, existing, or acting for longer than usual

This has been a persistent cold spell.

### 3. hammer- HAM uhr

A tool used for pounding nails

Please bring a hammer to the work party tomorrow.

### 4. dynamite- DEYE nuh mite

An explosive

They had to dynamite the building in order to knock it down.

### 5. litter- 'li-ter

Scattered rubbish: disorder or untidiness

The litter of paper on the sidewalk was deplorable.

### 6. narrate- nar-rate

To tell in writing or speech

The teacher began to narrate the story.

7. cashier- ka-shir

An officer in a bank or company responsible for receipts and disbursements

The cashier collected the money for the items she bought.

8. raspberry- RAZ ber ee

Small round fleshy red or black berry

These raspberry preserves won blue ribbon at the country fair.

9. traffic- TRAF ik

The movement or number of automobiles along a street

There is a lot of traffic on the freeway now.

10. excuse- eks- kus

An explanation; that which is offered as a reason

What is your excuse for being late?

11. prying- prl-ing

Improperly curious or inquisitive

Someone was prying into her personal affairs.

12. facsimile- fak SIM uh lee

An exact copy; especially one transmitted electronically

I am sending you a facsimile of this report.

13. familiar- fa-'mil-yur

Well acquainted

I am very familiar with the rigors of studying for a spelling competition.

14. pattern- PAT uhrn

A regular, mainly unvarying way of acting or doing

I always follow the same pattern when getting ready for school.

15. orchid- OR kid

The flower of a tropical plant with three petals, the lowest of which is enlarged

When we stepped off the plane in Hawaii, we were each given a orchid lei.

16. refuge- re fyuj

A place of safety; shelter; safe retreat

The deer sought refuge from the hunters.

17. impress- im- 'pres

To leave pressure on something as to leave a mark

We will impress the leaf on paper to make a design.

18. giraffe- juh RAF

Large cud-chewing animal with a very long neck and legs

During our trip to the zoo we enjoyed watching he giraffe chew on the acacia leave.

19. inspire- in SPY- er OR in- SPYRE

To have an animating effect upon; influence or impel

The concert did inspire him to be a musician.

20. fiction- FIK shun

Anything made up or imagined, as a statement, story, etc.

The librarian directed us to the fiction section.

21. scary- SKAIR ee

Causing alarm, frightening

I did not like that scary movie.

22. Hawaii- huh WEYE ee

The island state in the Pacific

The climate of Hawaii attracts many visitors.

23. glossy- gla sE

Having a smooth, shiny appearance or finish

She selected the glossy rock from the pile.

24. vehicle- VEE-uh-kul

Something used to transport persons or goods

We will need a vehicle that holds six people.

25. career- kuh RIR

One's progress through life or in a particular vocation

I enjoy this as a hobby, but I would not want to make a career out of it.

26. sandal- SAN duhl

A shoe consisting of a sole strapped to the foot

I had to take my sandal to the shoe repair shop to have the strap fixed.

27. ruin- ROO in

destroy

Be careful that you do not ruin your good shoes by wearing them in the rain.

28. ransom- RAN suhm

Something paid or demanded for the freedom of a captured person

The kidnapper demanded \$500,000 in ransom for their child.

29. insurance- in SHUR uhn(t)s

A system of financial protection

I will have to pay for my own auto insurance after I get my driver's license

30. software- SAWFT wair

programs for directing the operation of a computer

This new software helps you trace your family tree.

31. sentence- SENT n(t)s

A decision or judgment, as of a court; esp. the determination by a court of the punishment

The sentence was in the defendant's favor.

32. people- PEE puhl

human beings

A large group of people gathered to watch the special event.

33. destroy- di STORY

to tear down

The demolition crew will destroy the whole building.

34. overwhelming- oh vuhr HWEL ming

crushed by reason of force, weight, or numbers

The prosecution presented overwhelming evidence against the accused.

35. neglect- nih- GLEKT

to give little attention or respect to

We must not neglect our homework.

36. carousel- kar uh SEL

a merry go round

I love riding the carousel at the park.

37. prescribe- pri SKRIBE

to order or direct the use of something as a remedy

The doctor will probably prescribe a painkiller for your recurring headaches.

38. active- AK tiv

lively, busy, agile

My dog was very active when it was a puppy.

39. harbor- har- ber

a place of refuge, safety, retreat; a protected inlet, branch of the sea, etc., used as a shelter and anchorage for ships

Many ships were docked at the harbor.

40. remote- ri- 'mOt

distant in connection

There is only a remote possibility of rain today.

41. office- AW fis

a place of business

I usually shop here for office supplies.

42. recruit- rih- KROOT

to secure the services of

Did they recruit you for the competitive team?

43. massive- MAS- iv

large or imposing or impressive; of considerable magnitude

The new bank was massive.

44. shield- SHEELD

something that protects or defends

The guide recommended that we all wear hats to shield ourselves from the sun.

45. retrieve- ri TREEV

to get back; regain

I hope I can retrieve the lost data.

46. recess- REE ses

to halt temporarily

The court will recess until this afternoon.

47. argue- AR gyooH

to dispute or quarrel

My friend and I often argue over trivial details.

48. unruly- un-rool-i

not submissive to rule or restraint

The natives are unruly tonight.

49. faucet- FAW-sit or FAH-sit

a fixture for drawing a liquid from a pipe

A dripping faucet wastes a lot of water.

50. submit- suhb MIT

to refer to others for decisions

We will submit our plan to the committee.

51. ninth- NIN(t)th

the ordinal number 9<sup>th</sup>

In many school districts, ninth grade is the first year of high school.

52. perfect- PUR fikt

complete in all respects; flawless

The blazing sunset made for a perfect ending to the day.

53. panic- PAN ik

sudden, unreasonable fear

They did not panic when the fire broke out

54. crisis- KREYE sis

decisive or actual time or stage of an event

We knew we had to deal with the crisis quickly and efficiently.

55. fasten- FAS uhn

to become fixed or joined

Let me help you fasten those buckles.

56. first- FURST

preceding all other

I hope I win first place in the spelling competition.

57. signal- SIG nal

a sign or event fixed or understood as the occasion for prearranged combined action.

Traffic was backed up because the signal was broken.

58. mindful- MIND ful

Having in mind; aware heedful, or careful

The children were mindful of the danger of playing in the street.

59. doctor- DOK tur

a person licensed to practice any of the healing arts

The doctor examined the patient.

60. equal- EE kwahl

of the same quantity or size

These two objects have equal value.

61. lecture- LEK (t)chur

an informative talk given for the purpose of teaching.

Today's history lecture was very interesting.

62. caption- KAP shun

a heading or title, as of a newspaper article

The caption at the top of the story attracted my attention.

63. foreign- FOR in

connected with another country

Their formal style of dress was very foreign to us.

64. safety- SAFE tee

freedom from danger; security

Today's presentation was on the safety issues we should employ in case of a disaster.

65. occur- uh KUR

to take place; happen

The celebration will occur next week.

66. wharf- HWORF

A structure built on the shore to enable ships to receive and discharge cargo and passengers

That restaurant on the wharf serves delicious seafood entrees

67. chief- CHEEF

a ruler, leader, head

The crew chief will give you your assignment.

68. retain- ri TANE (not ree tain)

to stay constant

I hope this T-shirt will retain its color after washing.

69. ambush- am-bush

an arrangement of persons in hiding to make a surprise attack

The sheriff did not suspect an ambush.

70. leisure- LEE-zher

freedom from work or duties

Many retirees find it difficult having so much leisure time.

71. harvest- har-vest

time of year when matured fruit, grain, vegetables, etc., are reaped; season's yield; gathering of a crop

We usually harvest our pumpkins and squash for Halloween.

72. grammar- GRAM uhr

the use of language according to proper rules

Your essay will be graded on content, grammar, punctuation and spelling.

73. scissors- SIZ urz

a cutting implement with handles and a pair of blades

Using sewing scissors for cutting paper makes them dull.

74. wrist- rist

the joint of the arm on which the hand turns

Fred sprained his wrist and could not play in the game.

75. enough- i- NUF

sufficient

Do you have enough clothes for your trip?

76. pigeon- PIJ uhn

any of numerous birds with a stout body and smooth plumage.

The fattest pigeon in the park grabbed the most food.

77. woman- WUM- en

a female human being; adult female; femininity

The term ' lady' was once restricted to a woman of the higher social class.

78. plaid- PLAD

a pattern of unevenly spaced repeated stripes crossing at right angles

That is a very nice looking plaid skirt.

79. depth- DEPTH

distance from the top

The pool goes down to a depth of ten feet.

80. puppet- PUP it

doll or figure used in plays

The children will put on a puppet show.

81. surround- suh ROUND

To enclose on all sided; encircle

When playing the game, the children would first surround themselves with all the toy cars.

82. ignore- ig NOR

to disregard deliberately

The students appeared to ignore the teacher's request for silence.

83. whistle- HWIS uhl

a device or manner by which a shrill sound is produced

The sound of a steam train whistle is music to a railroad buff's ears.

84. lonely- LOHN lee

alone; solitary

I was very lonely when I first moved to town.

85. journal- JUR nuhl

a brief account of daily events

We kept a journal of our trips.

86. weird- WIRD or WEERD

strange or bizarre

That is a weird color scheme.

87. powder- POW duhr

any dry substance in the form of very fine, dust like particles

The volcanic ash covered the car with a very fine powder.

88. English- (i)ng-glish OR i(ng)-lish

the language of the people of England, the official language of the British Commonwealth, the U.S., Liberia, etc.

We study English in school.

89. yellow- YEL oh

one of the three primary colors

If you combine blue and yellow, you will get green.

90. believe- be-lev'

to have faith or confidence

I believe this will be an interesting contest.

91. label- LAY buhl

identifying card or paper

We could no longer read the label on the jar.

92. fashion- fa-shun

to make it in a certain way; give a certain form to; shape; mold

The potter will fashion the clay to resemble a lion.

93. wisdom- WIZ dem

learning knowledge; good judgment; wise discourse or reaching

We cut or wisdom teeth at about age 15.

94. depress- de-PRESS

to press down; push or pull down; lower

If you depress this button, water comes out.

95. instant- in-stant

a moment of time

The lightning flashed and in the next instant there was thunder.

96. kayak- KI-'ak

an Eskimo canoe, or one similar

The ocean was too rough to take the kayak out today.

97. recommend- REK uh mend

to suggest favorably

I recommend this book to you.

98. wonderful- wun-der-ful

inspiring wonder; amazing

It was a wonderful sight to see the sun set behind the mountain.

99. stomach- STUHM uhk

pouch where food is digested after swallowing

My stomach always aches when I run after eating.

100. salmon- SAM uhn

any of various large fish that live in oceans and swim up streams to lay eggs

The fish ladder at the dam allows the salmon to reach their spawning grounds.

