

The School Spelling Bee Study List is broken down into three levels of difficulty: One Bee, Two Bee and Three Bee. Three Bee words include words appropriate for seventh and eighth grade.

The list below includes 100 challenging **eighth** grade words. If you learn the spellings and meanings of these words, you will be well prepared for your eighth-grade classroom bee. To prepare for a school spelling bee, ask your teacher for the full 450-word School Spelling Bee Study List, which includes these words, the remainder of the Three Bee words, and the One Bee and Two Bee words.

1.	odorant OR odourant*	<i>adjective</i>	emitting a scent.
2.	palazzo	<i>noun</i>	a palace or other large imposing residence.
3.	finesse	<i>noun</i>	delicate skill : exquisite grace.
4.	foliage	<i>noun</i>	leafage.
5.	crocheted	<i>verb</i>	made of needlework consisting of the interlocking of looped stitches formed with a single thread and a hooked needle.
6.	irrelevant	<i>adjective</i>	not applicable or pertinent.
7.	curriculum	<i>noun</i>	the whole body of courses offered by an educational institution or one of its branches.
8.	quizzically	<i>adverb</i>	in a questioning, curious manner.
9.	apologetic	<i>adjective</i>	regretfully excusing or acknowledging.
10.	diplomatically	<i>adverb</i>	in a manner employing tact and the effort to establish harmony and goodwill.
11.	enigmatic	<i>adjective</i>	mysterious, puzzling.
12.	increments	<i>plural noun</i>	growths in size, number, or value.
13.	Delaware	<i>geographical entry</i>	state of the eastern U.S., capital Dover.
14.	calibrate	<i>verb</i>	to adjust precisely for a particular function.

*British spelling

15.	hypothesis	<i>noun</i>	a proposition tentatively assumed in order to draw out its logical or empirical consequences and so test its accord with facts that are known or may be determined.
16.	reassurance	<i>noun</i>	the action of inspiring anew with courage, spirit, or hope or the state of being so inspired.
17.	undulating	<i>adjective</i>	rising and falling in waves : fluctuating.
18.	credenza	<i>noun</i>	a sideboard, buffet, or bookcase patterned after an elaborate cupboard of the Renaissance period; especially : one without legs whose base rests flat on the floor.
19.	comprehensible	<i>adjective</i>	capable of being understood : intelligible, conceivable.
20.	protectorate	<i>noun</i>	a territory that is controlled politically by a larger, more powerful state especially for foreign relations and defense.
21.	brazier** OR brasier	<i>noun</i>	a cooking utensil in which the food to be cooked is exposed to the source of heat (as live coals or electricity) through a wire grill.
22.	phenomenon	<i>noun</i>	an exceptional, unusual, or abnormal thing or occurrence.
23.	trenchant	<i>adjective</i>	sharply perceptive : penetrating.
24.	pulmonary	<i>adjective</i>	of, relating to, or associated with the lungs.
25.	phantasmal	<i>adjective</i>	like a figment of the imagination : illusive, spectral, unreal.
26.	alleviate	<i>verb</i>	to lighten : to lessen : to relieve.
27.	despondent	<i>adjective</i>	feeling extreme discouragement, dejection, or depression.
28.	approximation	<i>noun</i>	an approach especially to a correct estimate or to a given quantity.
29.	arachnid	<i>noun</i>	one of a large class of arthropods including scorpions, spiders, and mites.
30.	legation	<i>noun</i>	a diplomatic mission in a foreign country headed by a minister.
31.	echolocation	<i>noun</i>	a process of animal orientation and navigation that involves emission of high-frequency sounds that are reflected back from envrioning surfaces.

**Preferred spelling

32.	censers	<i>plural noun</i>	vessels for burning material used to produce a fragrant odor ; especially : such vessels swung on chains in a religious ritual.
33.	affinities	<i>plural noun</i>	attractions to or likings for something.
34.	diffidence	<i>noun</i>	distrust of oneself or of one's own powers : modest reserve.
35.	conflagration	<i>noun</i>	a large disastrous fire involving many buildings.
36.	pathologically	<i>adverb</i>	in a diseased manner.
37.	embodiment	<i>noun</i>	a thing in which something (as a soul, idea, principle or type) is made concrete by expression in perceptible form : an incarnation.
38.	butane	<i>noun</i>	either of two flammable gaseous hydrocarbons obtained usually from petroleum or natural gas and occurring in gasoline and in liquefied petroleum gas.
39.	thermotaxis	<i>noun</i>	the regulation of body temperature.
40.	glycerin** OR glycerine	<i>noun</i>	a sweet syrupy alcohol that is formed by fermentation of sugars, and used chiefly as a solvent and plasticizer, as a moistening agent, emollient, and lubricant, and as an emulsifying agent.
41.	porpoises	<i>plural noun</i>	small toothed whales that tend to live in a community rather than alone.
42.	cataract	<i>noun</i>	a clouding of the lens of the eye varying in degree from slight to complete opacity and obstructing the passage of light.
43.	inaugurate	<i>verb</i>	to introduce or induct into an office with suitable ceremonies or solemnities : to invest with power or authority in a formal manner.
44.	alabaster	<i>adjective</i>	having a nearly white color and a surface that spreads out light.
45.	psychological	<i>adjective</i>	relating to, arising in, or acting through the mind especially in its affective or cognitive functions.
46.	quiche	<i>noun</i>	a baked custard pie usually having an added savory ingredient (as chopped ham, seafood, or vegetables).
47.	bioluminescence	<i>noun</i>	the emission of light from living organisms (such as fireflies, dinoflagellates, and bacteria).

**Preferred spelling



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spellingbee.com/word-club



Official Dictionary of the
Scripps National Spelling Bee
merriam-webster.com

48.	arugula	<i>noun</i>	a European annual herb with many leaves and whitish yellow flowers that is grown to use in salad.
49.	assemblage	<i>noun</i>	a collection of individuals or of particular things : an aggregation.
50.	euphemism	<i>noun</i>	a polite, tactful, or less explicit term used to avoid the direct naming of an unpleasant, painful, or frightening reality.
51.	chickadee	<i>noun</i>	any of several small, crestless American birds usually having the crown of the head darker than the body plumage.
52.	vibrometer	<i>noun</i>	an instrument to observe, measure, and record quivering or trembling motion.
53.	leprosy	<i>noun</i>	a chronic disease characterized by the formation of nodules on the surface of the body that are accompanied by loss of sensation followed sooner or later by involvement of nerves.
54.	acolyte	<i>noun</i>	one who attends or assists : a follower.
55.	asymmetric	<i>adjective</i>	not characterized by balanced proportions.
56.	mayonnaise	<i>noun</i>	a semisolid dressing made by emulsifying a mixture of raw eggs or egg yolks, vegetable oil, and vinegar or lemon juice usually together with salt and condiments.
57.	eureka	<i>interjection</i>	– used to express triumph concerning a discovery.
58.	innocuous	<i>adjective</i>	not likely to arouse hostility or give offense : inoffensive.
59.	shar-pei	<i>noun</i>	any of an ancient breed of dogs originating in China that have loose wrinkled skin especially when young, a short bristly coat, blue-black tongue, and wide blunt muzzle.
60.	sputum	<i>noun</i>	something spit out and usually consisting of saliva with or without mucus or other materials from the respiratory passages.
61.	annelids	<i>plural noun</i>	animals such as earthworms and leeches.
62.	Tripoli	<i>noun</i>	capital city and port on the Mediterranean Sea in northwestern Libya.
63.	endothermy	<i>noun</i>	physiological regulation of body temperature by metabolic means; especially : the property or state of being warm-blooded.
64.	cerulean	<i>adjective</i>	somewhat resembling the blue of the sky.

65.	kerosene** OR kerosine	<i>noun</i>	a flammable hydrocarbon oil usually obtained by distillation of petroleum and used as a fuel, solvent, and thinner.
66.	neurological	<i>adjective</i>	of or relating to the scientific study of the nervous system.
67.	éclair	<i>noun</i>	a usually chocolate-frosted oblong cream puff with whipped cream or custard filling.
68.	cul-de-sac	<i>noun</i>	a street or passage closed at one end.
69.	Pennsylvania	<i>geographical entry</i>	state in the northeastern U.S. that has the Delaware River as its eastern border and borders on Lake Erie in the northwest.
70.	mysticetes	<i>plural noun</i>	large whales typically of colder waters that lack teeth but have baleen plates in the upper jaw which are used to filter chiefly small crustaceans (such as krill) out of large quantities of seawater.
71.	irascibility	<i>noun</i>	the quality or state of having or showing a disposition to be easily enraged.
72.	electrolytes	<i>plural noun</i>	substances (as acids, bases, or salts) that when dissolved in a suitable solvent (as water) or when fused become ionic conductors.
73.	ampulla	<i>noun</i>	a vessel in which holy oil is kept.
74.	Eritrea	<i>geographical entry</i>	country of northeastern Africa; became part of Ethiopia in 1962 and then became independent in 1993.
75.	a cappella	<i>adverb</i>	in a style marked by the absence of instrumental accompaniment.
76.	ototoxic	<i>adjective</i>	producing, involving, or being adverse effects on organs or nerves involved in hearing or balance.
77.	sensilla	<i>plural noun</i>	simple epithelial sense organs composed of one or a few cells with a nerve connection and usually taking the form of a spine, plate, rod, cone, or peg.
78.	forsythia	<i>noun</i>	any plant of a small genus of ornamental shrubs with opposite leaves and bright yellow bell-shaped flowers which appear before the leaves in early spring.
79.	Amharic	<i>noun</i>	the Semitic language that is the official language of Ethiopia.
80.	Aphrodite	<i>noun</i>	the Greek goddess of love and beauty.

**Preferred spelling

81.	eponymous	<i>adjective</i>	bearing the name of, being, or relating to one for whom or which something is named.
82.	salicylic acid	<i>noun</i>	a crystalline phenolic acid found in many plants that is used especially in making pharmaceuticals and dyes, and as an antiseptic and disinfectant especially in treating skin diseases.
83.	Gloucester	<i>noun</i>	a hard cheese resembling derby.
84.	bogong moth	<i>noun</i>	an Australian moth that is made into a paste and eaten by the aborigines when the moths estivate in huge clusters in rocky mountains.
85.	Presbyterian	<i>adjective</i>	relating to a Protestant Christian church that is governed by a graded system of representative ecclesiastical bodies and is traditionally Calvinistic in doctrine.
86.	stomatopods	<i>plural noun</i>	crustaceans that burrow in mud or beneath stones in shallow water along the seashore.
87.	prosciutto	<i>noun</i>	dry-cured spiced ham.
88.	yakuza	<i>noun</i>	a Japanese member of a gang of criminals.
89.	Sierra Leone	<i>geographical entry</i>	country in western Africa on the Atlantic.
90.	frankincense	<i>noun</i>	a gum resin containing oil obtained from East African or Arabian trees, valued in ancient times in worship and for embalming and scenting, and still an important resin used to produce a fragrant odor when burned.
91.	chitinous	<i>adjective</i>	of or like a substance that forms part of the hard outer covering of insects, crustaceans, and some other invertebrates.
92.	Krio	<i>noun</i>	a pidgin English spoken in Sierra Leone.
93.	vibrissae	<i>plural noun</i>	the stiff hairs that grow about the nostrils or on other parts of the face in many mammals (as the whiskers of a cat or the hairs of the nostrils of humans).
94.	solenodon	<i>noun</i>	any mammal of a small genus of rare insectivorous mammals of Cuba and Haiti that are nearly two feet long and have a long snout, hard fur, and a long scaly tail.
95.	trichobothria	<i>plural noun</i>	sensory hairs on an arthropod or other invertebrate.
96.	Addis Ababa	<i>geographical entry</i>	city and national capital, central Ethiopia.

97.	Bildungsroman	<i>noun</i>	a novel about the usually early development or spiritual education of the main character.
98.	lactobacillus	<i>noun</i>	a bacterium of a genus of lactic-acid-forming bacteria.
99.	Cappadocia	<i>geographical entry</i>	ancient district of eastern Asia Minor chiefly in the valley of the upper Kızıl Irmak in modern Turkey.
100.	spes phthisica	<i>noun</i>	a state of euphoria believed to occur in patients with pulmonary tuberculosis.