



## 2023 Classroom Competition List

# Word Meaning Supplement

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## About the Word Meaning Supplement

This supplement is intended to offer materials that allow you, if you choose, to implement the testing of word meaning at your bee. All words that are offered in this word meaning supplement were selected from the 2023 School Spelling Bee Study List.

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

### Oral Word Meaning

The Oral Word Meaning Rounds can be used to challenge spellers with word meaning questions during an oral spelling competition. The rounds in this supplement are broken out into two 25-question lists — One Bee and Two Bee — that are separated by levels of difficulty.

To include a word meaning 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 word meaning questions using the lists provided in this supplement.
- As you go, mark off each word meaning question you use in case you wish to incorporate future word meaning rounds.

Once every student has answered a word meaning 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 Word Meaning

The level-specific Written Word Meaning Tests can be given to your students as supplementary material either before or after an oral bee.

## Guidelines Regarding Pronunciation

For many words in Merriam-Webster Unabridged, copyright 2022, Merriam-Webster (<http://unabridged.merriam-webster.com>), more than one pronunciation is offered. In this Word Meaning 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 chief 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.

# Merriam-Webster Pronunciation Symbols

<b>ə</b> .....	banana, collect	<b>k</b> .....	kin, cook, ache
<b>ʻə, ə</b> .....	humdrum	<b>ƙ</b> .....	as in one pronunciation of <b>loch</b> (alternative \k\), as in German <b>ich-laut</b>
<b>ɝ</b> .....	as in one pronunciation used by <i>r</i> -droppers for <b>bird</b> (alternative \əɪ\)	<b>l</b> .....	<b>lily</b> , pool
<b>ə̃</b> .....	two-value symbol equivalent to the unstressed variants \ə\, \ɪ\, as in <b>habit</b> , <b>duchess</b> (\ˈhəbət\ = \ˈhəbət, -bit\)	<b>m</b> .....	<b>murmur</b> , <b>dim</b> , <b>nymph</b>
<b>•</b> .....	immediately preceding \l\, \n\, \m\, \ŋ\, as in <b>battle</b> , <b>mitten</b> , and in one pronunciation of <b>cap</b> <b>and</b> <b>bells</b> \-ˈm-/, <b>lock</b> <b>and</b> <b>key</b> \-ˈŋ-; immediately following \l\, \m\, \r\, as in one pronunciation of French <b>table</b> , <b>prisme</b> , <b>titre</b>	<b>n</b> .....	<b>no</b> , <b>own</b>
<b>əɪ</b> .....	as in one pronunciation used by <i>r</i> -droppers for <b>bird</b> (alternative \ə\)	<b>ⁿ</b> .....	indicates that a preceding vowel is pronounced with the nasal passages open, as in French <i>un bon vin blanc</i> \œˈbɔ̃ˈvaˈblɑ̃\
<b>ər</b> .....	<b>operation</b> ; stressed, as in <b>bird</b> as pronounced by speakers who do not drop <i>r</i> ; stressed and with centered period after the \r\, as in one pronunciation of <b>burry</b> (alternative \ər\ ) and in one pronunciation of <b>hurry</b> (alternative \əːr\); stressed and with centered period after \ər\ as in one pronunciation of <b>hurry</b> (alternative \ərː\)	<b>ŋ</b> .....	<b>sing</b> \ˈsɪŋ\, <b>singer</b> \ˈsɪŋə(r)\, <b>finger</b> \ˈfɪŋɡə(r)\, <b>ink</b> \ɪŋk\
<b>a</b> .....	<b>mat</b> , <b>map</b>	<b>ō</b> .....	<b>bone</b> , <b>snow</b> , <b>beau</b> ; one pronunciation of <b>glory</b>
<b>ā</b> .....	<b>day</b> , <b>fade</b> , <b>date</b> , <b>aorta</b>	<b>ó</b> .....	<b>saw</b> , <b>all</b> , <b>saurian</b> ; one pronunciation of <b>horrid</b>
<b>ă</b> .....	<b>bother</b> , <b>cot</b> ; most American speakers have the same vowel in <b>father</b> , <b>cart</b>	<b>œ</b> .....	French <b>bœuf</b> , German <b>Hölle</b>
<b>â</b> .....	<b>father</b> as pronounced by speakers who do not rhyme it with <b>bother</b> ; <b>farther</b> and <b>cart</b> as pronounced by <i>r</i> -droppers	<b>æ</b> .....	French <b>feu</b> , German <b>Hölle</b>
<b>aa</b> .....	<b>bad</b> , <b>bag</b> , <b>fan</b> 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\	<b>ôi</b> .....	<b>coin</b> , <b>destroy</b> , <b>strawy</b> , <b>sawing</b>
<b>ai</b> .....	as in some pronunciations of <b>bag</b> , <b>bang</b> , <b>pass</b>	<b>oo</b> .....	(in transcriptions of foreign words only) indicates a vowel with the quality of <i>o</i> in <b>bone</b> but longer, not the sound of <i>oo</i> in <b>food</b> : <i>comte</i> \kɔ̃ˈt\
<b>aú</b> .....	<b>now</b> , <b>loud</b> , some pronunciations of <b>talcum</b>	<b>p</b> .....	<b>pepper</b> , <b>lip</b>
<b>b</b> .....	<b>baby</b> , <b>rib</b>	<b>r</b> .....	<b>rarity</b> , one pronunciation of <b>tar</b>
<b>ch</b> .....	<b>chin</b> , nature \ˈnāchə(r)\ (actually, this sound is \t\ + \ʃh\)	<b>s</b> .....	<b>source</b> , <b>less</b>
<b>d</b> .....	<b>elder</b> , <b>undone</b>	<b>sh</b> .....	with nothing between, as in <b>shy</b> , <b>mission</b> , <b>machine</b> , <b>special</b> (actually, this is a single sound, not two); with a stress mark between, two sounds as in <b>death</b> <b>'s-head</b> \ˈdeths.hed\
<b>ɾ</b> .....	as in the usual American pronunciation of <b>latter</b> , <b>ladder</b>	<b>t</b> .....	<b>tie</b> , <b>attack</b> ; one pronunciation of <b>latter</b> (alternative \d\)
<b>e</b> .....	<b>bet</b> , <b>bed</b>	<b>th</b> .....	with nothing between, as in <b>thin</b> , <b>ether</b> (actually, this is a single sound, not two); with a stress mark between, two sounds as in <b>knighthood</b> \ˈnɪt.hʊd\
<b>ʻe, ē</b> .....	<b>beat</b> , <b>nosebleed</b> , <b>evenly</b> , <b>sleepy</b>	<b>th̥</b> .....	<b>then</b> , <b>either</b> (actually, this is a single sound, not two)
<b>ē</b> .....	as in one pronunciation of <b>evenly</b> , <b>sleepy</b> , <b>envious</b> , <b>igneous</b> (alternative \ɪ\)	<b>ü</b> .....	<b>rule</b> , <b>fool</b> , <b>youth</b> , union \ˈyünyən\, few \ˈfyü\
<b>ee</b> .....	(in transcriptions of foreign words only) indicates a vowel with the quality of <i>e</i> in <b>bet</b> but long, not the sound of <i>ee</i> in <b>sleep</b> : <i>en arrière</i> \äˈnɑ̃ˈyeər\	<b>û</b> .....	<b>pull</b> , <b>wood</b> , curable \ˈkyürəbəl\
<b>eû</b> .....	as in one pronunciation of <b>elk</b> , <b>helm</b>	<b>œ</b> .....	German <b>füllen</b> , <b>hübsch</b>
<b>f</b> .....	<b>fifty</b> , <b>cuff</b>	<b>œ̃</b> .....	French <b>rue</b> , German <b>fühlen</b>
<b>g</b> .....	<b>go</b> , <b>big</b>	<b>v</b> .....	<b>vivid</b> , <b>give</b>
<b>h</b> .....	<b>hat</b> , <b>ahead</b>	<b>w</b> .....	<b>we</b> , <b>away</b>
<b>hw</b> .....	<b>whale</b> as pronounced by those who do not have the same pronunciation for both <i>whale</i> and <i>wail</i>	<b>y</b> .....	<b>yard</b> , cue \ˈkyü\, union \ˈyünyən\
<b>î</b> .....	<b>tip</b> , one pronunciation of <b>banish</b> (alternative unstressed \ɛ\), one pronunciation of <b>habit</b> (alternative \ə\; see ə̃)	<b>ʏ</b> .....	(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 <b>yard</b> , as in French <i>digne</i> \dɛ̃n\
<b>ī</b> .....	<b>site</b> , <b>side</b> , <b>buy</b> (actually, this sound is \ä\ + \ɪ\, or \á\ + \ɪ\)	<b>yü</b> .....	<b>youth</b> , <b>union</b> , <b>cue</b> , <b>few</b>
<b>iü</b> .....	as in one pronunciation of <b>milk</b> , <b>film</b>	<b>yû</b> .....	curable
<b>j</b> .....	<b>job</b> , <b>gem</b> , <b>edge</b> , procedure \ˈprəˈsɛjə(r)\ (actually, this sound is \d\ + \zh\)	<b>z</b> .....	<b>zone</b> , <b>raise</b>
		<b>zh</b> .....	with nothing between, as in <b>vision</b> , <b>azure</b> \ˈazhə(r)\ (actually, this is a single sound, not two); with a stress mark between, two sounds as in <b>rosehill</b> \ˈrōzhil\
		<b>ˈ</b> .....	mark preceding a syllable with primary (strongest) stress: \ˈpenmən.ship\
		<b>ˌ</b> .....	mark preceding a syllable with secondary (next-strongest) stress: \ˈpenmən.ship\
		<b>( )</b> .....	indicate that what is symbolized between is present in some utterances but not in others: <b>factory</b> \ˈfakt(ə)rɛ\

## Oral Word Meaning Round: One Bee Level

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the word meaning question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct.

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. **map** \ 'map \

*What is a **map**?*

- ✓ A. a drawing of an area
- B. a breed of cat

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

2. **moo** \ 'mü \

*Which of these is most likely to **moo**?*

- A. a pig
- ✓ B. a cow

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

3. **toys** \ 'töiz \

*Which of these is most likely to use **toys**?*

- ✓ A. a child
- B. a tree

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

4. **ears** \ 'irz \

***Ears** are organs used for:*

- ✓ A. hearing and balance
- B. running and walking

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

5. **came** \ 'kām \

*If you **came** to something, you:*

- A. threw it away
- ✓ B. moved toward it

6. **cry** \ 'krī \

*A **cry** is:*

- ✓ A. an act of shedding tears
- B. a group of babies

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

7. **rice** \ 'rīs \

*What are you most likely to do with **rice**?*

- ✓ A. eat it
- B. keep it as a pet

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

8. **hot** \ 'hät \

*Something described as **hot** has:*

- A. an odd smell
- ✓ B. a high temperature

9. **smell** \ 'smel \

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

- ✓ A. to have an odor or scent
- B. to be soft to the touch

10. **crops** \ 'kräps \

*What are **crops**?*

- ✓ A. plants that are grown and harvested
- B. thick-skinned reptiles that live in water

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

11. **party** \ 'pärtē \

*A **party** is a type of:*

- ✓ A. social gathering
- B. business meeting

12. **table** \ 'tābəl \

*A **table** is a type of:*

- ✓ A. furniture
- B. contest

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

13. **pail** \ 'pāl \

*What is the purpose of a **pail**?*

- A. to move a boat using wind
- ✓ B. to carry liquids or solids

14. **shelf** \ 'shelf \

*What is the purpose of a **shelf**?*

- ✓ A. to hold objects
- B. to chop food

15. **chores** \ 'chōrz \

*What are **chores**?*

- A. organized groups of singers
- ✓ B. tasks performed at regular intervals

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

16. **scars** \ 'skärz \

*What are **scars**?*

- ✓ A. marks left in healed skin
- B. jokes or humorous stories that are told often

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

17. **feedback** \ 'fēd.bak \

***Feedback** is:*

- A. a second or additional audition for a role in a play
- ✓ B. evaluative information given about an event to the original source

18. **clash** \ 'klash \

*What does it mean to **clash**?*

- ✓ A. to be completely in disagreement or discord
- B. to attend without invitation or without paying

19. **rare** \ 'rer \

*What is another word for **rare**?*

- A. prepared
- ✓ B. uncommon

20. **fudge** \ 'fəj \

*What does it mean to **fudge**?*

- A. to furnish or adorn with a decorative border
- ✓ B. to cheat in a way that is usually not readily noticeable

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

21. **curly** \ 'kərlē \

*Something described as **curly**:*

- A. arrives before a required time
- ✓ B. twists into coils or curved shapes

22. **growling** \ 'graulīŋ \

*What is another word for **growling**?*

- ✓ A. rumbling
- B. suffering

23. **swoop** \ 'swüp \

*What does it mean to **swoop**?*

- ✓ A. to plunge suddenly or move in a sweeping curved path
- B. to look over in a sneaking or nosy manner

24. **damaged** \ 'damījd \

*What does **damaged** mean?*

- ✓ A. caused harm to : injured
- B. covered with decorations

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

25. **model**     \ 'mäd' l \

*What is a **model**?*

- A. an establishment which provides lodging and parking
- ✓ B. a miniature three-dimensional representation of something

## Oral Word Meaning Round: Two Bee Level

**Instructions:** Read aloud the word, the word meaning question and both options (A) and (B), but do not indicate which option is correct.

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."

- 
1. **awesome** \ 'ösəm \  
*Something described as **awesome** is:*  
A. painfully sore  
✓ B. amazingly good

2. **landline** \ 'land.līn \  
*What is a **landline** used for?*  
✓ A. communication  
B. gathering dust

3. **everlasting** \ 'evərlastiŋ \  
*Something that is **everlasting**:*  
A. has multiple layers  
✓ B. continues forever

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

4. **nimble** \ 'nimbəl \  
*What is another word for **nimble**?*  
✓ A. agile  
B. scary

5. **snooty** \ 'snütē \  
*Another word for **snooty** is:*  
✓ A. snobbish  
B. smiley

6. **gloomy** \ 'glümē \  
*Another word for **gloomy** is:*  
A. delighted  
✓ B. dejected

7. **spellbound** \ 'spel.baünd \  
*Another word for **spellbound** is:*  
A. studious  
✓ B. fascinated

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

8. **foster** \ 'föstər \  
*If someone is a **foster** parent, they:*  
A. are afraid of children  
✓ B. give parental care though not related

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

9. **overseas** \ .ōvər'sēz \  
*Another word for **overseas** is:*  
✓ A. abroad  
B. ahead

10. **traditional** \ trə'dishən'l \  
*Something described as **traditional** relates to:*  
A. elections held at regular intervals  
✓ B. cultural features preserved from the past

11. **spick-and-span** \ .spikən'span \  
*Something described as **spick-and-span** is:*  
A. highly complex  
✓ B. spotlessly clean

12. **actually** \ 'akchəwələ \  
*Actually most closely means:*

- ✓ A. in truth
- B. falsely

13. **floral** \ 'flōrəl \  
*Something described as **floral** relates to:*

- ✓ A. a flower
- B. a wedding

14. **slather** \ 'slathər \  
*What does it mean to **slather** something?*

- A. to grind it into paste
- ✓ B. to spread it on thickly

*Because the following word has a homonym, say the word then spell it aloud.*

15. **balm** \ 'bām \  
*A **balm** is:*

- A. a soft kind of stone
- ✓ B. a healing ointment

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

16. **orca** \ 'ōrkə \  
*What is an **orca**?*

- A. a tree
- ✓ B. a whale

17. **archers** \ 'ärchərz \  
***Archers** are those skilled in the use of:*

- ✓ A. the bow and arrow
- B. the printing press

18. **flybys** \ 'flībiz \  
***Flybys** are:*

- A. large-bodied, two-winged insects
- ✓ B. flights of a spacecraft past a celestial body

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

19. **poppet** \ 'päpät \  
*A **poppet** is:*

- ✓ A. a little one
- B. a small onion

20. **bovines** \ 'bō.vīnz \  
*Which of the following are **bovines**?*

- A. apes
- ✓ B. cows

21. **innocent** \ 'inəsənt \  
*Someone described as **innocent** is:*

- A. agreeable to the senses
- ✓ B. free from legal guilt

22. **reservation** \ .rezər'vāshən \  
*What is a **reservation**?*

- A. something that contains or serves to communicate information
- ✓ B. an arranging in advance of some accommodation or service

23. **evaded** \ ə'vādəd \  
*What does it mean to have **evaded** something?*

- A. entered or took possession of it
- ✓ B. avoided answering it directly

24. **pangs** \ 'paŋz \  
***Pangs** are:*

- A. short sentences each containing all 26 letters
- ✓ B. brief piercing bursts of pain

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

25. **wrestle** \ 'resəl \  
*What does it mean to **wrestle**?*

- A. to misinterpret or misapply a law intentionally
- ✓ B. to contend by grappling with and striving to throw down an opponent





## Scripps National Spelling Bee Word Meaning Test

### One Bee

1. *Another word for **bill** is:*
  - A. ruff
  - B. beak
  - C. wing
2. *Another word for **had** is:*
  - A. owned
  - B. thought
  - C. spent
3. *What are **nets**?*
  - A. devices made of meshed ropes knotted together
  - B. tiny biting flies
  - C. small lizards that live near water
4. ***Cups** are used for:*
  - A. drinking
  - B. building
  - C. seeing
5. *What is a **hint**?*
  - A. a dash
  - B. a variety
  - C. a collection
6. *What does it mean to **look**?*
  - A. to discover by using one's eyes
  - B. to prepare food using heat
  - C. to comfort with kind words
7. *A **doll** is:*
  - A. a famous author
  - B. a wild dog
  - C. a child's plaything
8. *What is a **nose**?*
  - A. a large, red flower that smells very good
  - B. the fixed position a person stands in while being painted
  - C. the part of the face that sticks out and has the nostrils
9. *What does it mean to **blame** someone?*
  - A. to find fault with them
  - B. to give them high praise
  - C. to hire them to do a job
10. ***Roots** are mostly likely part of:*
  - A. a car
  - B. a plant
  - C. a house
11. *Which of the following is most likely to have **barked**?*
  - A. a parrot
  - B. a dog
  - C. a horse
12. *What is the purpose of **stairs**?*
  - A. to get someone's attention
  - B. to heat up food quickly
  - C. to go up or down to a different level
13. *Something described as **only** is:*
  - A. above or over something
  - B. alone in a category
  - C. very noisy
14. *What is a **porch**?*
  - A. a covered entrance to a building
  - B. a yellowish pink fruit
  - C. a small fish with colorful scales

15. Another word for **trash** is:

- A. shirt
- B. fruit
- C. junk

16. What does it mean to **copy** someone?

- A. to keep bothering them
- B. to follow them around
- C. to try to be like them

17. Something described as **frantic** is:

- A. brittle or breakable
- B. marked by fast and nervous activity
- C. whimsically light-hearted

18. **Fasting** involves not:

- A. singing
- B. speaking
- C. eating

19. A **beetle** is a type of:

- A. vegetable
- B. flower
- C. insect

20. What is a **greeting**?

- A. a formal gesture of welcome
- B. a stash or hoard of material goods
- C. a partition, covering, or frame of crossbars

21. Something described as **funky** is:

- A. dazzlingly bright
- B. seeking or intended to amuse
- C. odd or quaint in appearance or feeling

22. If you **forget** something, you:

- A. can't remember it
- B. buy it for someone else
- C. make it yourself

23. Something described as **lousy** is:

- A. long and boring
- B. clownish
- C. miserably poor or inferior

24. Something described as **quiet**:

- A. is one in a series
- B. makes no noise
- C. leans to the side

25. **Everyone** is:

- A. each person
- B. constant movement
- C. a constellation



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Word Meaning Test

### One Bee Answer Key

1. *Another word for **bill** is:*
  - A. ruff
  - ✓ B. beak
  - C. wing
2. *Another word for **had** is:*
  - ✓ A. owned
  - B. thought
  - C. spent
3. *What are **nets**?*
  - ✓ A. devices made of meshed ropes knotted together
  - B. tiny biting flies
  - C. small lizards that live near water
4. ***Cups** are used for:*
  - ✓ A. drinking
  - B. building
  - C. seeing
5. *What is a **hint**?*
  - ✓ A. a dash
  - B. a variety
  - C. a collection
6. *What does it mean to **look**?*
  - ✓ A. to discover by using one's eyes
  - B. to prepare food using heat
  - C. to comfort with kind words
7. *A **doll** is:*
  - A. a famous author
  - B. a wild dog
  - ✓ C. a child's plaything
8. *What is a **nose**?*
  - A. a large, red flower that smells very good
  - B. the fixed position a person stands in while being painted
  - ✓ C. the part of the face that sticks out and has the nostrils
9. *What does it mean to **blame** someone?*
  - ✓ A. to find fault with them
  - B. to give them high praise
  - C. to hire them to do a job
10. ***Roots** are mostly likely part of:*
  - A. a car
  - ✓ B. a plant
  - C. a house
11. *Which of the following is most likely to have **barked**?*
  - A. a parrot
  - ✓ B. a dog
  - C. a horse
12. *What is the purpose of **stairs**?*
  - A. to get someone's attention
  - B. to heat up food quickly
  - ✓ C. to go up or down to a different level
13. *Something described as **only** is:*
  - A. above or over something
  - ✓ B. alone in a category
  - C. very noisy
14. *What is a **porch**?*
  - ✓ A. a covered entrance to a building
  - B. a yellowish pink fruit
  - C. a small fish with colorful scales

15. Another word for **trash** is:

- A. shirt
- B. fruit
- ✓ C. junk

16. What does it mean to **copy** someone?

- A. to keep bothering them
- B. to follow them around
- ✓ C. to try to be like them

17. Something described as **frantic** is:

- A. brittle or breakable
- ✓ B. marked by fast and nervous activity
- C. whimsically light-hearted

18. **Fasting** involves not:

- A. singing
- B. speaking
- ✓ C. eating

19. A **beetle** is a type of:

- A. vegetable
- B. flower
- ✓ C. insect

20. What is a **greeting**?

- ✓ A. a formal gesture of welcome
- B. a stash or hoard of material goods
- C. a partition, covering, or frame of crossbars

21. Something described as **funky** is:

- A. dazzlingly bright
- B. seeking or intended to amuse
- ✓ C. odd or quaint in appearance or feeling

22. If you **forget** something, you:

- ✓ A. can't remember it
- B. buy it for someone else
- C. make it yourself

23. Something described as **lousy** is:

- A. long and boring
- B. clownish
- ✓ C. miserably poor or inferior

24. Something described as **quiet**:

- A. is one in a series
- ✓ B. makes no noise
- C. leans to the side

25. **Everyone** is:

- ✓ A. each person
- B. constant movement
- C. a constellation



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Word Meaning Test

### Two Bee

1. *What is a **trout**?*
  - A. a bird
  - B. a pastry
  - C. a fish
2. *Another word for **upbeat** is:*
  - A. greedy
  - B. grumpy
  - C. cheerful
3. *If you **discarded** something, you:*
  - A. took it for a drive
  - B. got rid of it
  - C. wore it to school
4. *A **sparrow** is:*
  - A. a fish
  - B. a bird
  - C. a dog
5. *What is an **inkling**?*
  - A. a fold or pleat in fabric
  - B. an affectionate nickname for a child
  - C. a hint or a slight suggestion
6. *Another word for **joggled** is:*
  - A. jostled
  - B. scolded
  - C. tricked
7. *What does **sifting** mean?*
  - A. surveying the landscape
  - B. pouring water from a pitcher into a cup
  - C. studying carefully and selecting the best
8. *What does it mean to **tingle**?*
  - A. to tell a secret
  - B. to feel a prickling sensation
  - C. to let out a sigh
9. *If you are **hauling** something, you are:*
  - A. baking it until it is golden brown
  - B. handling it roughly or with lack of care
  - C. transporting it from one place to another
10. *What is **balance**?*
  - A. stability as a result of equally spreading your weight
  - B. the use of vehicles for transporting wounded persons
  - C. noticeable departure from accepted norms of behavior
11. *Someone who **squinted** has:*
  - A. lifted an object using a pulley
  - B. contorted their face
  - C. stolen something small
12. *A **constant** is something that:*
  - A. does not vary or change
  - B. limits one's range of motion
  - C. is built out of spare parts
13. *What is an **apartment**?*
  - A. a room or set of rooms used as a dwelling
  - B. a small receptacle or container for storage
  - C. a way of walking or carrying oneself
14. *A **bruise** is a type of:*
  - A. sandwich
  - B. injury
  - C. noise

15. What is a ***purchase***?

- A. something obtained for money
- B. a friendly rubbing from a cat
- C. a small freshwater fish

16. Something described as ***adorable*** is:

- A. somewhat annoying or irksome
- B. extremely charming or lovable
- C. totally hilarious

17. A ***python*** is a type of:

- A. venomous insect
- B. aquatic lizard
- C. constricting snake

18. If something is done ***overtly***, it is done:

- A. publicly
- B. quickly
- C. carelessly

19. If something has ***benefited*** someone, it has:

- A. been donated to a charity of their choice
- B. planned a lavish celebration for them
- C. been useful or helpful to them

20. ***Torment*** is:

- A. partial loss of function
- B. the act of thinking deeply
- C. severe distress

21. An ***economy*** is a system concerned with:

- A. the production, distribution, and consumption of goods
- B. the culinary customs of a particular region
- C. the classification of trees and shrubs

22. Another word for ***embrace*** is:

- A. spurn
- B. steady
- C. hug

23. Someone described as ***peevish*** is:

- A. dressed in flashy clothing
- B. very hungry
- C. marked by ill temper

24. What is a ***doorjamb***?

- A. a circular movement of the leg in ballet
- B. a hotel employee who helps people hail taxis
- C. an upright piece forming the side of an entranceway

25. Which of the following would you most likely call a ***container***?

- A. a brush for detangling matted hair
- B. a box for packing presents
- C. a wool sweater for wearing



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Word Meaning Test

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## Scripps National Spelling Bee Word Meaning Test Three Bee

1. *A **serum** is used:*
  - A. to treat disease
  - B. to fix an engine
  - C. to iron clothes
2. *If a person is **brooding**, they are:*
  - A. dwelling moodily
  - B. thinking happily
  - C. wishing hopefully
3. *What is another word for **defunct**?*
  - A. extinct
  - B. certain
  - C. common
4. *Another word for **retribution** is:*
  - A. punishment
  - B. supplement
  - C. blandishment
5. *Another word for **provocation** is:*
  - A. incitement
  - B. infringement
  - C. investment
6. *What does it mean to **batten**?*
  - A. to fasten by a reinforcing strip
  - B. to decorate with bunting
  - C. to communicate with signals
7. *What does **dissolute** mean?*
  - A. withdrawn from society
  - B. caring and generous in outlook
  - C. unrestrained or lawless in conduct
8. *What is **subsidence**?*
  - A. an instance of melting
  - B. the process of settling
  - C. the process of leaving
9. *If something is described as **acrid**, it is:*
  - A. unpleasantly bitter
  - B. deliciously sweet
  - C. smoky
10. *If something is **blasphemous**, it:*
  - A. has extreme explosive or destructive power
  - B. shows a lack of reverence toward something considered sacred
  - C. is capable of replacing or healing severely damaged tissue
11. *What are **conifers**?*
  - A. hats worn as symbols of ecclesiastical authority
  - B. chests containing gold or treasure
  - C. chiefly evergreen trees and shrubs
12. *If something happens **pell-mell**, it happens:*
  - A. with great enthusiasm and rejoicing
  - B. with much concern for rules of etiquette
  - C. in mingled confusion or disorder
13. *What are **parathas**?*
  - A. Indian wheat breads
  - B. symbols in musical notation
  - C. small venomous snakes
14. *To **deign** is to:*
  - A. rule a kingdom as a monarch
  - B. hold back from doing something
  - C. stoop to a less dignified level

15. What is the purpose of a *fumatorium*?

- A. relaxing human occupants using heat and steam
- B. destroying fungal or insect pests
- C. creating a lively atmosphere for dancing

16. *Starboard* is:

- A. the roof of an observatory
- B. an expensive coffee shop
- C. a direction on a ship

17. A *canid* is a:

- A. creature unwanted by humans that creeps, hisses, or stings
- B. tropical usually nocturnal lizard that has large eyes
- C. member of a family of carnivorous mammals including dogs

18. *Sackbuts* are:

- A. inept or ludicrous misfits
- B. German bagpipes
- C. medieval trombones

19. An *undine* is:

- A. a garnet gem
- B. a medieval coat of armor
- C. a water nymph

20. *Nares* are:

- A. the openings of the nose or nasal cavity of a vertebrate
- B. the Greek demigods who lived among the gods
- C. the rhizomes of any of several pharmaceutically useful plants

21. A *lustrum* is:

- A. a period of five years
- B. a somewhat lazy person
- C. a deviation from the normal

22. What is a *doppelgänger*?

- A. an old gold coin of Prussia representing the double of some unit
- B. a living person who closely resembles another living person
- C. a change in the frequency with which waves reach an observer

23. *Cirrhosis* is:

- A. chronic skin disease characterized by red patches
- B. widespread disruption of normal liver structure
- C. a medical procedure to remove toxins from the blood

24. What is a *carillon*?

- A. a set of fixed bells sounded by hammers controlled by a keyboard
- B. a small 13th-century silver coin of the kingdom of The Two Sicilies
- C. a very tall silk hat popular in 19th-century France

25. *Tilapia* is a type of:

- A. tropical plant
- B. freshwater fish
- C. magnesium-rich mineral



## Scripps National Spelling Bee Word Meaning Test

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