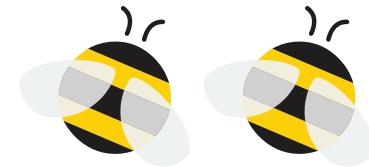


difficulty level: two bee



school spelling bee study list

The fourth, fifth and sixth-grade words from the 2024 School Spelling Bee Study List. Words with a single asterisk (*) indicate a primarily British spelling. Words with a double asterisk (**) are the preferred spelling.

bronze	pouch	ambush
flea	outfits	squire
buckeye	sewing	submerged
sudsy	transform	saucer
antlers	marble	gloaming
dapper	gallon	— noun — twilight : dusk.
stroll	flitting	engulf
cress	plaza	graduate
bestie	yesterday	fascinated
cereal	nighttime	composition
silence	putty	wisdom
fury	glumly	ourselves
howdy	ignore	invisible
important	improve	completely
popovers	Internet	poisonous
thousand	pantry	intimidate
razor	hungrily	drawers
roughly	confident	disdain
drawl	vision	deliberately
oddity	diamond	spacious
insult	stitchery	forearms
valley	fiddlehead	gratitude
gather	hobbit	appreciation
dessert	doughnut	devotion
stagecoach	OR donut	inscription
peaceful	precious	inventory
ailment	wafting	wheezy
combat	occupy	possible
rotten	Afrobeat	replace
expressway	termite	crookedly
practice**	insulation	fragrant
OR practise	intertwine	fowl
squash	recital	responsible
amused	furniture	awfully
		manual

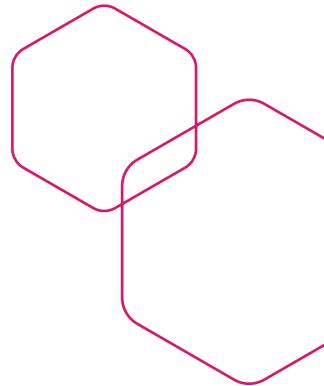


who knew?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational program.

thorax	bionic
tostones	syllables
bunions	sultanate
bamboozled	turban
Oman	sausage
flummox**	disgruntled
OR flummix	terrify
OR flummux	quip
inscrutable	information
serenity	incubator
congregation	droll
sentinel	vultures
Arctic	Arabic
fluke	Brooklyn
captain	sacred
delegation	reindeer
verve	disclaimer
Vaseline	quotation
gastritis	superior
platypus	privilege
salute	fallow
mantel	replica
OR mantle	provision
amphitheater	reference
desecration	havens
diode	voracious
mischievous	

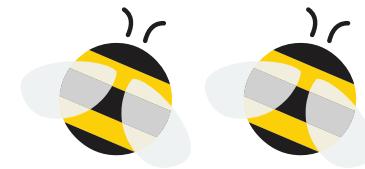
noun – a headdress consisting of a long cloth that is wrapped around a cap or directly around the head.



from around the world

Most spellers at the Scripps National Spelling Bee are from the United States, but spellers also come from Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Bahamas, Canada, Ghana and Department of Defense Schools in Europe.

difficulty level: two bee



Words of the Champions

Organized alphabetically, these words are a great place to continue your journey to mastering *Words of the Champions!* Words with a single asterisk (*) indicate a primarily British spelling. Words with a double asterisk (**) are the preferred spelling. A complete list of the words that were added to this year's study list can be found on page 40.

A

aardvark	affluent	analgesia
aberration	affogato	anchorage
ablation	afghan	ancillary
ablaut	aficionado**	anemic**
abnegation	OR aficionado	OR anaemic
abominable	agalma	anent
abrogate	agate	anglophile
absolution	agave	anhinga
abstemious	agelicism	anicca
academese	aggrandizement	anionic
Acadians	aglossal	anise
accentuate	agnail	ankh
accrual	agonistic	anneal
accumulate	agoraphobia	annuity
acerbity	aioli	annulment
achromatic	akimbo	anodyne
acoustic	albeit	anonymity
acquiesce	alimentation	anorak
acral	allergenic	anserine
acuity	allocable	antacid
acumen	allonym	antagonistic
acupuncture	alluvial	anticipatory
adjudicate	alma mater	antipathy
adjure	alpestrine	antiquarian
adolescence	althorn	antithesis
adulation	amalgam	anxiety
advocatory	ambrosial	aperture
aerobics	ammonite	apiary
affable	ammunition	aporia
affeer	amygdala	apotheary
affenpinscher	anabolic	apotheosis
affianced	anaglyphy	apparatus
affiliate	analects	approbatory
	analepsis	aqueduct

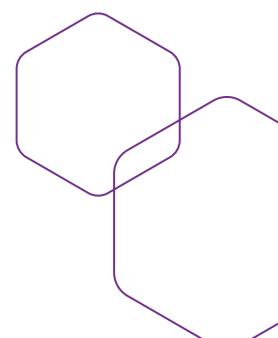
aioli — noun – garlic mayonnaise.



did you know?

Vocabulary questions were first introduced as part of the Bee on the written test in 2013. Oral vocabulary questions were given at the National Competition for the first time in 2021.

aqueous	augment	biomimicry
aquiclude	auklet	bittern
arbitrary	aureole	blastema
arboretum	auricular	blastogenesis
archaism	aurora	blatant
archetype	auspices	bloviate
arduous	austere	bodega
argot	avarice	bodkin
arietta	avifauna	boffin
armaments	avuncular	bona fide
armature		bonobo
armistice	B	bonsai
arpeggio	bacteriolytic	boomslang
arraign	ballyhooed	boondoggle
arrearage	balsamic	borough
art brut	bandicoot	bouffant
artesian	bango	— adjective – voluminous.
artifice	bariatrics	bowsprit
asado	baronetcy	braille
ascension	basilica	Brandywine
ascetic	bastion	bravado
Asgard	Bavarian cream	breviloquence
Asiago	beatific	bric-a-brac
aspish	beguile	Brigadoon
assailant	Belgravia	Broccolini
assiduous	Bellatrix	brockage
assumption	bellwether	brogue
assure	beneficent	bromide
asthmatic	benison	brontophobia
astral	bereavement	bruja
astringent	beret	bruxism
astrobleme	bermudas	bubonic
astronaut	beseech	bucatini
Astur	besieged	buffa
asylum	besmirch	bulgogi
ataxia	bethesda	bulgur**
Aten	bibliopegist	OR bulghur
atlatl	bicameral	bulwark
atrabilious	bifurcate	bumptious
atresia	bilaterian	Bundt
attaché	bilbo	buoyancy
attributive	billabong	bureau
attrition	billiards	burglarious
aubergine	billingsgate	burgoo
auburn	biltong	busby
aughts	binomial	



C

cabaret	cattalo	circumflex
cadge	OR catalo	civet
caducity	caudex	cladistics
caffeine	causal	clairvoyance
caftan	caustic	clandestine
OR kaftan	cauterize	clavichord
calcify	cavalcade	clemency
callow	cayenne	closure
calumet	cellophane	coalescence
cambio	Celsius	coaxation
cameist	cenotaph	codswallop
campanology	centenary	coercive
cancion	cerebellum	coeval
candelabrum	cetology	cogently
cannoli	chamberlain	cogitation
cantankerous	chancellor	cognizant
— adjective – grumpy and argumentative.	chaperonage	OR cognisant*
capillary	charcuterie	cohesive
capnometer	charismatic	cohosh
capstan	château	coiffure
capsule	chemise	colic
carbohydrates	Cheshire cat	collectanea
carcinogenic	chevalier	collegiality
cardoon	chide	colocate
caricature	Chihuahua	comanchero
carnage	chimera	comminatory
carnitas	OR chimaera*	commiserative
carnitine	chinook	commissioner
cartilage	chintzy	commodious
Cassandra	cholera	compendium
cassock	cholesterol	con forza
castellated	chrysalis	concision
castigate	chrysolite	conclave
Castilian	chupacabra	concordance
castor	churchianity	conduit
cataclysmic	churros	Conestoga
catalepsy	ciao	confabulation
catalina	cicada	congeniality
catalyst	Cincinnati	conglutinant
cathect	circadian	connivery
cathode	circuitous	consecrate



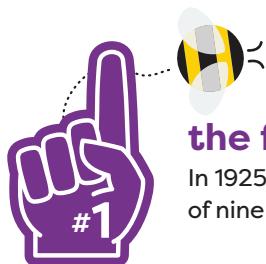
adjectives vs. nouns

“My word ends with an /us/ sound! How do I know which letters to use?”

Here’s a hint: Ask for the part of speech. If it’s a noun, try -us; if it’s an adjective, -ous is a safe bet.

consequent	cyanosis	derisive
constabulary	cybernetics	deserter
consternation	cygnet	desertification
constituent	cynicism	desolate
consul		desultorily
contemptuous	D	detritus
continuum	dactylic	deuterium
contrariwise	Dalmatian	diacritic
contrivance	dandle	diadem
contumelious	danseur	dialysis
Coptic	danta	Dianthus
cordillera	darnel	diaspora
corduroy	davenport	diathermy
coriander	deathin	diatonic
Corinthian	debilitate	dietetic
corm	debutante	dihedral
cornea	deceitful	dilapidated
cornel	deceleron	diligence
cornucopia	decennial	diluent
corollary	deciduous	dimorphism
coroner	decimation	dirigible
corpulent	declamatory	discombobulate
corral	declension	discomfiture
corrosive	declination	discountenance
corsage	decurion	discreetly
cortex	defiant	discretionary
cozen	deglaciation	disembogue
credence	déjà vu**	disjunct
credulity	déjà vue	Disneyfication
creel	delectable	disparate
crepuscular	deleterious	disproportionate
crescive	deliquesce	dissemble
cribbage	deltoidal	dissipate
cribble	dementia	dissonance
cribo	demerits	distraught
crinoline	demographics	divestiture
crit	demonstrative	dodecahedron
cruciferous	demulcent	dogana
crustaceans	denominator	doldrums
cryogenic	denticulate	dolma
cudgel	depose	dolmen
cum laude	depravity	domesticity
cumbersome	depreciate	domiciled
cumulus	depredation	domineering
curmudgeon	deprivation	dopamine
cutis	derelict	Dorking

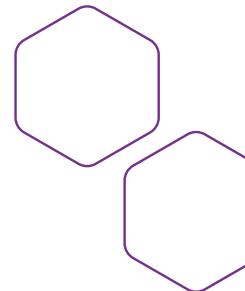
dowager	epidermis	exodus
dowdy	epidural	exogenous
dromic	episcopal	exorbitant
druid	epithet	expatriate
drumlin	epitome	expectorant
drupiferous	epoch	expostulate
du jour	equilibrium	expugnable
duchy	equinox	expunge
duplicitous	equivalent	exsect
durango	equivocate	extant
dysgraphia	eradicate	extemporaneous
dyspeptic	ermine	extrapolate
dystopia	errata	extravasate
	erroneous	extrorse
E		
ebullience	erstwhile	F
ectoplasm	erubescence	facile
eczema	eructation	factitious
Edenic	escarpment	facundity
educand	eschew	fajitas
efface	espousal	farcical
effervescent	estuary	fardel
efflux	ethanol	farina
effraction	étude	farkleberry
effusive	eucalyptus	Farsi
eggcorn	eucrasia	farthingale
egress	euphonious	fatuously
El Niño	europium	fealty
embolus	eustress	feckless
embryo	Evactor	fecund
emeritus	evacuees	feign
eminent	evanescent	fenestrated
emissary	evo-devo	fenster
emulsify	evzone	fervorous
en masse	ewer	festooned
ensconced	ex libris	feudalism
ensued	exaugural	fiat
entente	excelsior	fibula
environs	excision	fictile
epenthesis	execrable	Ficus
epicurean	exeunt	fiduciary



the first bee

In 1925, the first national spelling bee was organized by the Louisville Courier-Journal with a total of nine spellers. Frank Neuhauser won the championship title after correctly spelling “gladiolus.”

finial	Gallic	gubernatorial
fipple	galvanize	gudgeon
firkin	gambit	gules
fjeld	ganache	gullibility
flagellum	gasiform	gumption
flagon	gastronome	gustatory
flambé	gaudery	
flaneur	gaur	H
flavedo	gelatinous	habeas corpus
flèche	Gemini	habiliments
flittern	genealogical	hackneyed
Florentine	geniture	hagiographer
floribunda	genome	halibut
floruit	gentilitial	Halifax
flotsam	geocaching	hallucinate
FLOTUS	geriatric	haplography
fluoride	germane	harangue
focaccia	gibbous	harbinger
follicle	gingivitis	harrier
fontina	gladiatorial	harrumph
forbivorous	glareous	Hathor
fortissimo	glazier	hauberk
Franciscan	glissando	hauteur
fraternity	globular	Hawaiian
fraudulent	gluttonous	hawok
frazil	gnocchi	heinousness
freneticism	goji berry	heleoplankton
Freudian	golem	heliacal
frison	Goliath	henry
frittata	goosander	heptad
froufrou	gossamer	hermeneutics
froward	Gothamite	hermetically
fructiferous	grande dame	herringbone
frugivore	grandiloquent	heterochromia
fucoid	grandrelle	heterophony
fugue	graticule	hetman
fulgent	gratis	heuristic
fulminate	gravimetry	hibernaculum
funambulist	gravitas	hierurgical
fungible	greaves	hinoki
furcula	Gregorian	hipsterism
fusiform	grissino	histrionics
fussbudget	groats	Hitchcockian
	grobian	hoity-toity
G	grotesqueness	holmium
galapago	grouse	Holocaust



noun – ice crystals sometimes similar to slush that are formed in turbulent water.

noun – a group of seven people or things.

hologram	incinerate		jarl
Holstein	incisiform	adjective – having the form of a tooth adapted for cutting.	jaundiced
homeostasis	incitive		jeepney
homester	inclement		jettison
homiletics	incoherent		jicama
hubris	incompetent		jiggery-pokery
humerus	incubate		jimberjawed
humidistat	indemnity		jingoism
hummock	indicia		jitney
Hungary	indict		jocularity
hydrangea	indigent		jubilant
hydrocortisone	indistinguishable		adjective – expressing gladness or triumphant joy.
hydrophobia	indolent		judicious
hydroponic	inducement		julienne
hypochondria	indulgent		Jurassic
hypogeous	ineffable		justiciable
hypotenuse	ineluctable		juvenilia
hyrax	ineptitude		juxtapose
K			
ibex	ingenuous		kaiser
ibuprofen	ingratiate		kanban
Icarian	inimical		kanji
idiosyncratic	injurious		karst
ignominious	inoculate		kerchief
illative	insignia		kinesiology
illicitly	instigate		kleptocrat
illustrious	insufflator		koto
immolate	interred		noun – a long Japanese zither having 13 silk strings.
immortality	interrogative		krausen
impasto	intersperse		krypton
impeachable	intuitable		kufi
impecunious	inveterate		kugel
impediment	inviolable		kung pao
imperious	iridescent		L
impermeable	irrevocable		labroid
impetus	Isle Royale		labyrinthine
implacable			laceration
implicative	J		laconic
impoverish	jactance		lacustrine
impresario	jadeite		laity
impromptu	jalapeño		lambasted
	jambalaya		lambently



did you know?

The Scripps National Spelling Bee was featured in the 2002 Academy Award-nominated documentary *Spellbound*.

lambkin	luthier	millivolt
languorous	lutrine	minacious
lanolated	luxuriate	minestra
lantana		minette
lapidary	M	minuscule**
larceny	machination	OR minuscule
largesses	mackerel	Miranda
larnax	macropterous	misnomer
lassitude	macular	mitigative
latigo	malapropism	mitochondria
laudatory	malevolent	mochi
laureate	malfeasance	modiste
lavender	malingering	moissanite
legalese	mandrill	mollify
legato	mano a mano	monitory
legerity	manumit	monochrome
lemniscus	marimba	monture
leviathan	marionette	moratorium
liaise	marring	mordant
lidocaine	marsupial	Moroccan
limned	mastodon	morphological
limousine	matriculation	mortician
limpa	mawkish	Motrin
limpet	McCoy	movimento
limpid	Mecca	muchacha
limpkin	medusa	mulligan
lingua franca	megalomaniac	Munich
linnet	melamine	municipal
linstock	melee	musketeers
lithium	melismatic	Mylar
lithophone	menagerie	myocarditis
litmus	mendacious	myoglobin
lobotomy	mendicity	myopic
locavore	meningitis	adjective – lacking in foresight or keenness of insight.
loch	mephitic	
logarithmic	merganser	
logographic	meridian	
lolled	merino	
longitude	mesial	
lorikeet	Mesopotamian	
lossy	metaplasia	
lousicide	metastasize	
lovage	metatarsal	
luculent	MIDI	
ludicrous	millennial	
lugubrious	millet	
lumen	millisecond	

neuropathy

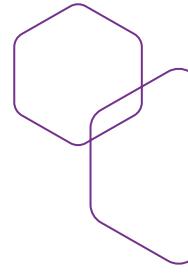
neuroticism	octuplicate	parameters
Newfoundland	odometer	paraplegic
nexus	officinal	parasol
nitrate	okapi	pariah
nocive	olfactory	parliamentary
noctambulist	olingo	parochial
no-goodnik	ombudsman	parodic
nomancy	omnilegent	parr
nomenciatu <small>r</small> e	omniscient	parsimony
nomophobia	onus	particulate
nonage	oompah	parturient
nonchalance	operose	parvo
nonnegotiable	opprobrious	pashmina
nonvolatile	oppugn	Patagonia
Norovirus	Orion	patella
Nostradamus	orthogonal	pathos
notoriety	oscitation	patronymic
novemdecillion	osculatory	paucity
noxious	Osloite	peacenik
nuance	osmosis	peculate
nubuck	osprey	pecuniary
nuciform	ossicle	pedantry
nucleated	ostensibly	pelagial
numerology	osteopath	pelerine
nutation	ottoman	pelf
nutria	oxalis	pendragon
nuzzer		pendulous
P		
obfuscate	pagoda	penitentiary
oblique	palatable	pepita
obloquy	Paleozoic	per se
obnebulate	palpebral	peradventure
obsecration	palpitant	perceptible
obsolete	panary	perilous
obstetrician	adjective – related to breadmaking.	periodontist
obstreperous	pancetta	peripheral
occipital	pancreas	periwinkle
occultation	panegyric	permutation
Oceanian	pantomime	perpetrator
octonocular	papyrus	perquisite
	par excellence	perseverance
	parabola	perspicacious

there's a first time for everything

Hugh Tosteson was the first winner from outside of the 50 U.S. states. He lived in Puerto Rico and won in 1975.



persuisable	pollutant	profligacy
pertinacity	polonium	profundity
pestilence	poltroon	proletarian
petroleum	Polyester	proliferate
phalanges	polygenous	prolix
phenotype	polypeptide	prolusory
philosophize	Polysemy	promontory
phishing	polysyllabic	propinquity
phlebotomy	pomato	proprietary
phoenix	pomegranate	proprioceptive
phonetician	Pomeranian	prorogue
phosphorescent	pomology	prosody
phraseology	pompeii	protectorate
phyiology	pomposity	protuberant
phylum	pongée	provenance
Pierre	pontiff	proviant
piety	populace	provincial
pilaster	porcelain	proviso
pilcrow	porosity	psychoanalysis
pileus	portentous	puchero
pilferer	portico	pugilist
pilosity	posada	pugnacious
pilotage	posse	pulchritude
pinnacle	possessive	purvey
pinnate	posternity	pyrite
pious	posthumous	pyrotechnics
pituitary	postural	
placoderm	potassium	
plagiarism	praxis	Q
plaintiff	prehensile	quadriceps
planetesimal	prelapsarian	quadrilateral
plangency	preponderance	quadrillion
planisphere	preposterous	qualms
planogram	preprandial	quid pro quo
plantain	presentient	quiddity — noun – the ultimate form or the essential nature of something.
plantigrade	prespinous	quinary
plaudits	prevenient	quince
plenipotentiary	prima donna	quintessential
plenitude	primeval**	quirt
plentiful	OR primaeval	quittance
Plumeria	primogeniture	quotidian
plutonomy	princeps	QWERTY
poblanos	privatum	
podsnappery	privet	R
Podunk	probative	rabato
pointelle	procurement	rabbinic
politick	prodigious	rambla
		rambunctious



noun – the ultimate form or the essential nature of something.

ramifications	repository	salience
ramson	reprieve	saltatory
rankles	reprisal	sapphire
rapscallion	Requiem	sardonic
raptatorial	requisition	sarmentum
rasorial	resilience	sartorial
raucous	resplendence	sashay
reagent	restitutory	saturnine
realgar	résumé	sauger
realm	resuscitate	scarab
Realtor	retinol	scarlatina
rebarbative	retinoscopy	scenographer
reboation	retrocedence	schism
recipient	retrodict	schnell
reciprocity	retrograde	schooner
reconcilable	revenant	scintillation
reconnoiter**	reverberant	sclerosis
OR reconnoitre	rhapsody	scrivener
recreant	rhizome	scrumptiously
recriminatory	rhythmically	scumble
recumbent	ricochet	scuppers
recusancy	rictus	scythe
redolent	rigatoni	secant
refrigerant	ritziness	secession
refugium	rollicking	sedentary
regalia	Romano	sedge
reggae	rosin	sedum
regicide	roustabout	seethe
regnal	Rubicon	senecio
regurgitate	rudiments	seneschal
reimbursable	rugose	senna
reminiscent	ruminate	sensei
remonstrance	rustication	septennial
remuda	S	sepulchral
remuneration	sabbatical	sequential
renegotiate	sabermetrics	seraphic
renitency	sabotage	serrated
reparations	sacrament	sesame
repartee	sacrosanct	settee
repentant	sailage	severance
repercussion		shaman

verb – to bring,
forcefully impel,
or pour back out
again.

archaic or obsolete? not here.

The Bee doesn't include words labeled obsolete or archaic in competition lists, and you won't find any in *2024 Words of the Champions* either. Why? Because they're just not used that often. Words labeled obsolete are found in literature but have not been part of standard English since 1755; words labeled archaic are only used rarely or in special contexts such as prayers or poetry since 1755. Why 1755? That was the year that the first really large and comprehensive dictionary was published in London by Samuel Johnson.

shar-pei	statusy	syndicate
shazam	stegosaur	syntonize
shebang	steinkirk	syntrophism
sheldrake	OR steenkirk	syringe
shenanigans	stellar	
Shetland	steppe	T
shirk	stevia	tabernacle
shoji	stigmata	tableau
sieve	stimuli	tabulate
simpatico	stipulate	taciturn
simultaneity	stratification	tae kwon do
singultus	stratocracy	tai chi
sirenian	stratosphere	talisman
Sirius	striation	tamworth
slalom	stricture	tangerine
slumgullion	stridency	tantrum
smellfungus	Styrofoam	tapioca
smithereens	subliminal	tappet
snell	subluxated	tarantula
sobersides	submersible	tarlatan**
sobriety	subrident	OR tarleton
solon	subsequent	Tasmanian
somatotype	subsistence	taverna
somniloquy	subterranean	taxonomic
soothsayer	subtlety	tectonic
sophomoric	subversive	teemed
soppiness	succumb	telepathic
sousaphone	succussion	telmatology
Spaniel	suet	temblor
spathe	suffrage	temerity
speciation	Sumatran	tempestuous
spectrometer	summoned	tempura
spinosity	superficiality	tenaciously
spiracle	superstitious	tenement
spirulina	supine	tensile
splenetic	supplicate	tentacled
sponsalia	supremacy	tepidity
spontaneity	surcease	tercentenary
sprightliness	surety	terminus
sprue	surmountable	terra-cotta
spurious	surrealist	terrarium
stagflation	suture	tetanus
staid	sycophant	Thailand
stalwart	syllabus	theomachy
stanchion	sylph	theorem
statistician	symmetrical	theosophy
statuesque	symposium	theriatics

noun – someone
who tends to find
fault in others.

thoracic	trepanation	unchristened
thoroughbred	trepidation	unctuous
thrasonical	triage	ungetatable
thwartwise	tributary	unilaterally
thyme	trice	univocal
tibia	tricenary	unmoored
tiffany	triceratops	unremitting
tiffin	triforium	unscathed
Tinseltown	trigeminal	untenable
titian	triglycerides	upbraid
titration	trillium	upsilon
tomfoolery	triste	ursine
tommyrot	trituration	usurper
tomography	trophic	utilitarian
tongue	Truckee	uveal
toorie	truncheon	uvula
topgallant	tsk-tsked	
topiary	tubular	V
toploftical	tumpline	vaccination
toponymic	tungsten	vacillate
torsion	turbinado	vagabonds
tortoise	turduchen	vague
tosh	turgor	vainglorious
toties quoties	turken	valedictorian
toxicosis	turophile	valerian
tractability	turpentine	valiant
traiteur	tussock	valuator
transcend	tutelage	vandalize
transducer	tutti-frutti	vanguard
transhumance	twain	vanquish
transience	twang	vantage
transmissibility	tympanum	varicose
transmontane	typhlogy	variegated
transpiration		Vatican
transposable		vaudeville
trapezoid	U ufology	veganism
travails	Ukrainian	vegetarian
treadle	ulna	vehemence
trefoil	umbilical	vehicular
trellis	umbrage	vendage
tremulous	una corda	veneer



older than sliced bread

The first national spelling bee was held in 1925. That makes us older than sliced bread, bubble gum and even trampolines.

venerable	vincible	Y
vengeance	virga	yabbies — plural noun – small burrowing crayfish that live in most Australian creeks and water holes.
venial	virulence	yardang
venomous	vis-à-vis	yawmeter
ventail	viscidity	Yorkshire
ventricle	vitriolic	
ventriloquy	volary	Z
veracity	OR volery	zazen
verbena	volatile	zeitgeist
verism	volition	zeppelin
veritable	volucrine	zirconium
vermicide	volumetric	zocalo
vernal	Vulcan — noun – a worker in metals; especially: a blacksmith.	zoetic
vertigo		zoolatry
vespertine	W	zowie
vestibule	wallaby	zurna — noun – a traditional Middle Eastern woodwind instrument.
vetiver	Walter Mitty	zydeco
vetoed	widdershins — adverb – counterclockwise.	zygote
vicarious	wilco	
vice versa	wobbulator	
vicenary	woebegone	
viceroy	wolfsbane	
victimology	wootz	
vigil		



The Bee's Bookshelf

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