

2012 Natalie's Spelling Bee Organizer - Spell It! List - Beginning Level

Spell It! List - Beginning Level - SET 1

taj	<p style="text-align: center;"><TAHZH> or <TAHJ></p> <p>n / cone-shaped cap worn by Muslim monks and beggars <i>We recognized the dervish by his distinct --- and his trance-like devotional state.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Arab fr Pers</p>	puma	<p style="text-align: center;"><POO.muh> or <PYOO.muh></p> <p>n / mountain lion, cougar <i>In the 1530s Pizarro learned what a --- was, and its name dates to the Incan word for this mountain lion.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Sp fr Quechua</p>
raj	<p style="text-align: center;"><RAHJ></p> <p>n / rule by royalty <i>The --- of the Indian prince began immediately after his father's death.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Hindi fr Skt</p>	geta	<p style="text-align: center;"><GEH.tah></p> <p>n / Japanese clog made of wood and used for outdoor wear <i>The Japanese gardener removed each --- before entering his apartment for the clogs were his outdoor shoes.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Jap</p>
guy	<p style="text-align: center;"><GII></p> <p>n / cable, rope or such used to brace or hoist a heavy item <i>Several cables were bracing the tower when one --- snapped, but the others held and nothing toppled.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Du</p>	guru	<p style="text-align: center;"><guh.ROO> or <GOO.roo> <GU.roo></p> <p>n / one serving as mentor; religious and spiritual teacher in Hinduism <i>Mr. Ames was something of a ---, and young felt him more a strong mentor than a teacher.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Hindi fr Skt</p>
hog	<p style="text-align: center;"><HAWG> or <HAHG></p> <p>n / pig; grasp in a selfish manner <i>Lisa's huge --- won first place in the swine division at the stock show.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> E</p>	loot	<p style="text-align: center;"><LOOT></p> <p>v, n / plunder; booty <i>Fearing invaders would --- the village, the people built fortification around the area and hid all valuables.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Hindi fr Skt</p>
hue	<p style="text-align: center;"><HYOO></p> <p>n, v / color; take on color <i>The nursery was painted with every --- of the color blue ranging from violet to bluish green.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> E Hom: hew</p>	kama	<p style="text-align: center;"><KAH.muh></p> <p>n / enjoyment of life through the senses in Hinduism <i>Among the religious goals of Hinduism are --- (pleasure), dharma (virtue), and artha (success).</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Haw</p>
sumo	<p style="text-align: center;"><SOO.moh></p> <p>n / Japanese form of wrestling; Japanese wrestler <i>Studying ---, Mari was intrigued with the huge physical size of the wrestlers and the respect they received.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Jap</p>	jiva	<p style="text-align: center;"><JEE.vuh></p> <p>n / life, soul, self <i>In Hinduism and Jainism, the ---, immortal essence of a person, survives physical death and is reincarnated.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Skt</p>
gnat	<p style="text-align: center;"><NAT></p> <p>n / fly that bites and has two wings; mosquito <i>Jill tried to sleep, but a bothersome --- kept flitting around her face.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> E</p>	scum	<p style="text-align: center;"><SKUHM></p> <p>n, v / layer with impurities that rise to the top of liquid; despicable person <i>Cooking poached eggs, Jan spooned the --- off the top of the boiling water, then removed the eggs.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> E fr Du</p>
fife	<p style="text-align: center;"><FIIF></p> <p>n / small, shrill-toned flute <i>One musician on his --- was accompanied by a drummer, and the two played music of early colonial days.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Ger</p>	nosh	<p style="text-align: center;"><NAHSH></p> <p>n, v / snack; to eat a snack or light meal <i>Nora always had a bagel for her morning --- between classes.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Yid fr Ger</p>
mesa	<p style="text-align: center;"><MAY.suh></p> <p>n / hill that has fairly steep sides and a flat top and is surrounded by flat land <i>The sides of the --- were steep, but Chip was determined to climb to the top to see the view.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Sp fr L</p>	trek	<p style="text-align: center;"><TREK></p> <p>v, n / journey in arduous manner; trip with complex organization <i>Jan found the --- through the jungle long, difficult, and exhausting.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Afrik fr Du</p>
dune	<p style="text-align: center;"><DOON> or <DYOON></p> <p>n / knoll, hill of sand <i>The tortoise swam to the beach from the ocean and disappeared behind a --- to lay its eggs.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Fr fr Du</p>	menu	<p style="text-align: center;"><MEN.yoo> or <MAYN.yoo></p> <p>n / list of dishes available for serving; list of options <i>The --- at the exclusive restaurant had no prices shown, and we knew the meal would be costly.</i> <i>Ety/Notes:</i> Fr</p>

Phonetic key: ii=sign eh=care uh=ago ay=wade ah=calm aw=paw a=cap oh=home oo=too ow=how ee=heat e=pet i=hit u=put

- protagonist** <proh.TAG.uh.nist>
n / leading character in a story around which the action centers; advocate; champion
John Steinbeck's novels often centered around a --- who was usually of a lower station in life.
Ety/Notes: Gk
- herpetology** <huhr.puh.TAHL.uh.jee>
n / study of reptiles
The professor of --- spoke to our zoology class and brought several snakes for us to see.
Ety/Notes: Gk
- chimichanga** <chi.mee.CHAHNG.guh> or <chi.mee.CHANG.uh> <chi.mi.CHANG.guh> <chi.mi.CHANG.uh>
n / tortilla that is stuffed with meat and then deep-fried
Ned ordered a --- because he knew it would be filling as well as have a spicy sauce.
Ety/Notes: Sp
- Fletcherism (f)** <FLECH.uhr.iz.uhm>
n / practice in eating which uses thorough chewing and eating small portions
An advocate of ---, the model ate very small portions, and these were consumed only when she was very hungry.
Ety/Notes: Ep fr E
- megalopolis** <meg.uh.LAHP.uh.lis>
n / metropolitan region
The Dallas-Fort Worth airport serves the --- of Dallas, Fort Worth, and the surrounding cities.
Ety/Notes: L fr Gk + L fr Gk
- bookkeeping** <BUK.kee.ping>
n / practice of recording debits and credits for a business
Linda is in charge of all the --- for the firm and works closely with the accountant.
Ety/Notes: E + E
- stethoscope** <STETH.uh.skohp> or <STETHH.uh.skohp>
n, v / instrument for listening to sounds within the body
The doctor warmed the --- in his hand before pressing it to the boy's chest to listen to his breathing.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr Gk
- homogeneous** <hoh.muh.JEE.nee.uhs> or <HOH.muh.jee.nee.uhs> <hoh.muh.JEEN.yuhs> <hoh.moh.JEE.nee.uhs>
adj / being of a similar nature, comparable; consistent
Analyzing the --- population on the island, anthropologists found no evidence of any foreign intermixture.
Ety/Notes: L fr Gk
- incriminate** <in.KRIM.uh.nayt>
v / accuse, charge another with a misdeed
One witness offered testimony that tended to clear the defendant, but it certainly served to --- another man.
Ety/Notes: L
- incredulous** <in.KREJ.uh.luhs> or <IN.krej.uh.luhs>
adj / skeptical
When her daughter won the spelling bee, Mrs. Aston was ---, and at first thought she was teasing.
Ety/Notes: L
- condolences** <kuhn.DOH.luhn.siz> or <kuhn.DOH.luhnt.siz> <KAHND.uh.luhn.siz> <KAHND.uh.luhnt.siz>
n / consolation; compassion
When Wen heard of Ed's accident, he offered his --- and immediately pitched in to help with his recovery.
Ety/Notes: L
- sauerbraten** <SOW.uhr.braht.uhn> or <ZOW.uhr.braht.uhn>
n / pot-roasted beef marinated in vinegar and seasonings before cooking
We all enjoy the --- at the German festival held every year during the month of October in New Braunfels.
Ety/Notes: Ger
- susceptible** <suh.SEP.tuh.buhl>
adj, n / impressionable
Young people are unduly --- to the criticism of their peers.
Ety/Notes: L
- philanthropy** <fi.LAN.thruh.pee> or <fi.LANT.thruh.pee>
n / act or organization intended to promote welfare; quality of being charitable
The foundation was established as a ---, and the board decided which charities to support financially.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L fr Gk
- pumpernickel** <PUHM.puhr.nik.uhl>
n / coarse, dark rye bread
Dark rye flour and fermented sourdough are used to make ---.
Ety/Notes: Ger
- Frankenstein** <FRANG.kuhn.stiin>
n / fictional character who creates a monster
Although --- was a normal man, his name has become synonymous with the monster he created.
Ety/Notes: Ep fr E
- extravaganza** <ek.stra.vuh.GAN.zuh> or <ik.stra.vuh.GAN.zuh>
n / lavish event; musical composition having freedom of form
The wedding of the prince was scheduled as the most elaborate --- that the court had ever sponsored.
Ety/Notes: It fr L
- androcentric** <an.droh.SEN.trik>
adj / centering on maleness or masculinity
The professor presented an --- view of everything, and Jane found his approach narrow and chauvinistic.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L fr Gk
- alliteration** <uh.lid.uh.RAY.shuhn> or <a.lit.uh.RAY.shuhn> <uh.lit.uh.RAY.shuhn> <a.lid.uh.RAY.shuhn>
n / repetition of consonant sounds in two or more neighboring words
"Round and round the rugged rocks, the ragged rascal ran" is an example of --- using words starting with "r."
Ety/Notes: L
- contrapuntal** <kahn.truh.PUHN.tuhl> or <KAHN.truh.puhn.tuhl>
adj / relating to complementing or contrasting items such as melodies
The composers --- skills were greatly admired, and the audience marveled at his combined melodies.
Ety/Notes: It fr L

- mynheer** <miin.HEHR> or <miin.HIR>
n / gentleman, sir or mister used as a form of respectful address
My Dutch aunt affectionately calls her brother the --- of Amsterdam, and he is indeed respected in his town.
Ety/Notes: Du
- rapport** <ra.POHR> or <ruh.POHR>
<ra.PAWR> <ruh.PAWR>
n / harmonious relationship
The teacher's great success was a result of her wonderful --- with her students and her gentle discipline.
Ety/Notes: Fr
- rasgado** <rahs.GAH.doh>
n / production of tones in succession by strumming guitar strings
Tony loved to hear his guitar's --- as he swept the strings with his thumb.
Ety/Notes: Sp fr L
- mukhtar** <muk.TAHR> or <MUK.tahr>
n / head of the local government of a town
The --- was well respected in the small mahal, and he spoke for the citizenry in governmental circles.
Ety/Notes: Arab
- dossier** <DAWS.yay> or <DAHS.yay>
<DAH.see.ay> <daws.YAY>
n, adj / file of records or documents on single person or subject
Mr. Bond perused the --- on the suspected double agent to learn all the known facts before confronting him.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L
- karaoke** <kehr.ee.OH.kee> or <kuh.ROH.kee>
<kah rah.OH.kay> <KAH rah.oh.kay>
n / device that plays music that one can sing along with using a microphone
Liza knew she couldn't carry a tune, but she loved using the -- and pretending to be Dolly Parton.
Ety/Notes: Jap
- beetewk (B)** <bee.TYOOK>
n / breed of draft horse found in Russia
In the world of horses, the --- is known for its great strength, which reportedly can pull over three tons.
Ety/Notes: Rus
- jacamar** <JAK.uh.mahr>
n / bird with brilliant plumage of Central and South America
The tropical-forest dwelling --- has metallic green or bronze plumage and feeds on insects while on the wing.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr Tupi
- vaquero** <vah.KEHR.oh>
n / cowboy, horseman
Amy felt a Mexican --- would be a fascinating cowboy but found him more dusty than dashing after riding herd.
Ety/Notes: Sp fr L
- witloof** <WIT.lohf>
n / perennial herb used in salad or coffee
Mother picked some --- from her herb garden to garnish the salad.
Ety/Notes: Du + Du
- mélange, melange** <may.LAHNZH> or <MAY.lahnzh>
<may.LAHNJ> <MAY.lahnj>
n / mixture
The convention attracted a --- of people, and the curious mixture of ages and backgrounds all interacted well.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L Acute accent optional on first 'e'
- détente** <day.tahnt> or <DAY.tahnt>
<day.TAHNT>
n / easing of tensions between nations
Seeking talks between Arabs and Israelis, the President hopes for a --- that will ease Middle East tensions.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L Acute accent required on first 'e'
- ocarina** <ahk.uh.REE.nuh>
n / oval-shaped wind instrument with a mouthpiece that projects out
A terra-cotta instrument with finger holes, Grandpa's --- seemed to sing when he played it.
Ety/Notes: It fr L
- foggara** <FAH.guh.ruh>
n / underground channel to irrigate water to a desert country
The Arab explained that there was a --- that fed the pool of water in the oasis in the middle of the Sahara.
Ety/Notes: Arab
- anomaly** <uh.NAHM.uh.lee>
n / irregularity
As the private investigator went back over the events prior to the crime, he noticed an --- in the sequence.
Ety/Notes: L fr Gk
- basmati** <bahz.MAHD.ee> or <bahz.MAHT.ee>
n / fragrant Asian long grain rice
A delicate --- was served without fish, and the yellow rice fairly melted in our mouths.
Ety/Notes: Hindi fr Skt
- virgule** <VUHR.gyool>
n / sloping line in medieval manuscripts used for punctuation
In the original works of Chaucer, a --- was often used in the same manner that we now use a comma.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L
- camphor** <KAM.fuhr> or <KAMP.fuhr>
n / gummy compound from an Asiatic tree used as insect repellent
We rubbed --- on our arms and legs to help repel insects on our trek through the marshes of Cambodia.
Ety/Notes: E fr Fr fr L fr Arab fr Malay
- scherzo** <SKEHRT.soh>
n / clever musical composition usually played in triple time
The second movement of the sonata was a ---, and the playful composition seemed to dance with sprightly vigor.
Ety/Notes: It
- chassis** <CHAS.ee> or <SHAS.ee>
n / frame on which a body is mounted; working parts
The auto thieves completely stripped the car of its parts, leaving only the --- behind, like a skeleton.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L
- debacle** <di.BAHK.uhl> or <day.BAHK.uhl>
<dee.BAHK.uhl> <duh.BAK.uhl>
n / disaster, failure; breakup of ice on a river
The project we had begun became such a --- we were ashamed to admit that we had started it.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L

convince <kuhn.VINTS> or <kuhn.VINS>
v / sway or prove with argument
Try as he might, Oscar could not --- Seth that his plan was the better one.
Ety/Notes: L

biennial <bii.EN.ee.uhl> or <bii.EN.yuhl>
<BII.en.ee.uhl> <BII.en.yuhl>
adj, n / lasting for a two-year period; occurring every 2 years; plant with 2-year cycle
Beets, carrots, and parsnips are --- vegetables that require a two-year period to produce seeds.
Ety/Notes: E fr L

biannual <bii.AN.yuhl> or <BII.an.yuhl>
<bii.AN.yuh.wuhl> <BII.an.yuh.wuhl>
adj / happening or occurring twice a year
The group found --- meetings insufficient to accomplish their goals, and they scheduled three meetings a year.
Ety/Notes: E fr L

climatic <klii.MAD.ik> or <KLII.mat.ik>
<klii.MAT.ik> <KLII.mad.ik>
adj / relating to the weather of a region
Scientists warn that the hole in the ozone layer may cause severe --- changes thus heating the entire globe.
Ety/Notes: E fr Fr fr L fr Gk

conscious <KAHN.chuhs>
adj, n / involving perception and awareness; being mentally active
After eating from the apple, Adam and Eve became --- of a change in their garden of Eden.
Ety/Notes: L

climactic <klii.MAK.tik> or <KLII.mak.tik>
adj / relating to or forming a point of highest dramatic tension
The author built suspense for ten chapters before reaching the final --- conclusion.
Ety/Notes: L fr Gk

nauseated <NAW.shee.ayt.id> or
<NAW.zee.ayt.id> <NAW.see.ayt.id> <NAW.zhee.ayt.id>
v / affected with an upset stomach
After eating the huge banana split, the child was a bit --- and wanted to go home.
Ety/Notes: L fr Gk

conscience <KAHN.chuhns> or <KAHN.chuhnts>
n / individual's sense of right or wrong, moral sense
Pinocchio's --- told him that spending the money on candy was the wrong thing to do.
Ety/Notes: E fr Fr fr L

collaborate <kuh.LAB.uh.rayt>
v / work jointly with others
The two universities --- on library services which gives each nearly twice the number of references.
Ety/Notes: L

corroborate <kuh.RAHB.uh.rayt> or
<kuh.RAHB.rit> <kuh.RAHB.uh.rit>
v, adj / establish firmly; confirm
The last witness did --- the defendant's story, but two other witnesses had not agreed with his testimony.
Ety/Notes: Fr fr L

prospective <pruh.SPEK.tiv>
adj, n / likely to become or occur
The --- client missed his first appointment, and we feared he'd found a different company to use.
Ety/Notes: L

Words You Need to Know - Homonyms - SET 16

led <LED>
v / show the way, bring someone or something along
Jill --- the new pony to the large pile of alfalfa, and they were fast friends forever after.
Ety/Notes: E Hom: lead

your <YUHR> or <YUR> <YOHR>
<YAWR>
adj / person being addressed
"Susan," warned her mother, "if we buy the puppy, he will be --- responsibility to feed and groom."
Ety/Notes: E Hom: yore

site <SIIT>
n, v / fixed position of a building, section of land; locate a position
The city council agreed to construct a new library, but an actual building --- has not yet been determined.
Ety/Notes: E fr Fr fr L Hom: cite/sight

rote <ROHT>
v, n / referring to memorization by repetition rather than by use of any intelligence
The gifted class used reasoning abilities, but the math class used --- memory to learn formulas and tables.
Ety/Notes: E fr Fr fr Gmc Hom: wrote

bare <BEHR>
adj, adv, v / unadorned, exposed
After the movers had loaded everything into their truck, the house looked quite --- without furniture.
Ety/Notes: E Hom: bear

ware <WEHR>
n, adj, v / product that is for sale
The peddler offered household --- and a few trinkets to the passersby.
Ety/Notes: E Hom: wear/where

wear <WEHR> or <WAYR> <WAY.uhr>
<WEH.uhr>
v, n / attach, put on
Becky tried on my yellow dress and asked if she could --- it to the party.
Ety/Notes: E Hom: ware/where

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