

SPELLING & VOCABULARY

COMPLEMENT



Texas UIL

High School 2021-22

Sequence: Difficulty



UIL Spelling Complement™ Difficulty Sequence

For

High School 2021-22

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We are a small company that listens! If you have any questions or if there is an area that you would like fully explored, let us hear from you. We hope you enjoy this product and stay in contact with us throughout your academic journey.

~ President Hexco Inc., Linda Tarrant

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UIL Spelling Complement Difficulty Sequence™

For the 2021-2022 UIL *WordPower* booklet of spelling
and vocabulary words for high school contests

This work complements the UIL word list for high schools and serves as a time-saving dictionary substitute so that students can spend more time studying and less time looking up each word. *UIL Spelling Complement* also provides a researched sentence illustrating usage for each word.

A special circular symbol • precedes words selected for vocabulary study in the *UIL Word Power* booklet, and the etymology is included for each of these words. Simple abbreviations have been used to compact this data, such as *L = Latin, Gk = Greek, Fr = French, G = German, E = English, I = Italian* and others as used in the *American Heritage Dictionary*. Used in combination with these language indicators are the following: *O = Old, M = Middle, L = Late, V = Vulgar, H = High, and No = North*. Connecting words abbreviated are *fr = from, prob=probably, dim=diminutive, alter=alteration, and orig = origin*. These should all become self-evident.

Our pronunciations follow those found in the *American Heritage Dictionary - Fourth Edition*, unabridged, and up to four pronunciations are shown. Also included for each word are the part(s) of speech, definition, and a carefully written sentence with context clues illustrating the word in use. If alternate spellings are indicated in the *American Heritage*, they are listed with the first spelling.

Our unique pronunciation scheme is very similar to that now used by many major dictionaries and newspapers to provide a simple, "keyless" scheme for difficult words. Our scheme recognizes only the 14 primary vowel sounds below: (only the first one or two should require your referencing our key at the bottom of each page).

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

Syllables are separated by periods. Those with primary emphasis are capitalized; those not emphasized are in lower case. Secondary emphasis is not indicated. Our simple system has been in use for 25+ years by schools using our UIL products and for over 35 years by schools using our line of companion products for the National Spelling Bee. This pronunciation scheme also forms the basis of our unique *eMentor* online spelling platform.

gauntlet, gantlet <GAWNT.lit> or <GAHNT.lit>

n / protective glove used with armor often thrown down as a challenge; ordeal

Removing his glove, the medieval knight threw down his --- to challenge his arch rival to a duel.

mandrel, mandril <MAN.druhl>

n / axle or spindle to hold tools being used or material being worked

The --- held the metal cylinder while the metal lathe accurately honed it down to the right size and shape.

assailant <uh.SAY.luhnt>

n / person who attacks by hitting or punching

Police pursued the --- who had attacked a Mr. Wilson in broad daylight, but they were unable to catch him.

galoshes <guh.LAHS.hzh>

n / overshoes

The little boy's mother made him put on his --- to keep his feet dry on rainy days.

catalpa (C) <kuh.TAL.puh> or <kuh.TAWL.puh>

n / tree with showy, white blooms and long bean pods
Granddad called the large shade tree an Indian bean tree, but mom identified it as a ---.
Note: Capitalized for genus

accrual <uh.KROO.uhl>

n / something that has increased during a specified time period

Over the past six months, Jim's --- of interest on his savings earned him forty-six dollars.

reputable <REP.yuh.tuh.buhl>

adj / held in good esteem, respected

As the most --- doctor in town, Dr. Jones was often called for consultation on difficult cases.

bassoon <buh.SOON> or <ba.SOON>

n / woodwind musical instrument with deep, low tones
Ben played the --- because he liked the deep, mellow tones of the double-reed instrument.

Biblicist <BIB.li.sist>

n / expert on the sacred book of Christians; one who interprets the book literally

A renowned ---, Dr. Bender held his audience spellbound as he analyzed passages from "Revelations."

concussive <kuhn.KUHS.iv>

adj / jarring, causing agitation

The tiny nation must avoid any further --- actions, or the neighboring country will be badgered into a war.

commissary <KAHM.i.sehr.ee>

n / supply store selling provisions and personal equipment

Because my father is in the Air Force, we often shop at the --- on the military base.

gastronome <GAS.truh.nohm>

n / one who is an expert judge of excellent food and drink

Priding himself on being a ---, Michael claimed that the new restaurant offered epicurean delicacies.

contrition <kuhn.TRISH.uhn>

n / state of being regretful

He lived in guilt and --- for the accident he had caused that had crippled his dog.

exuberant <ig.ZOO.buh.ruht>

adj / extremely enthusiastic

The laughter of children at the carnival exhibited an unrestrained and --- gaiety.

amateurish <am.uh.TUHR.ish> or <am.uh.TYOOR.ish>

<am.uh.CHOOR.ish>

adj / resembling a beginner who lacks in experience

Jeb's attempt at poetry was ---, but Ms. Sims nonetheless encouraged his budding efforts.

nematode <NEM.uh.tohd>

n / type of elongated cylindrical worm present in plants, soil and water

Looking at the gnarled root of a tomato plant, Mr. Day pointed to a nodule explaining it was caused by a ---.

harmonium <hahr.MOH.nee.uhm>

n / musical instrument using forced air across metal reeds to produce tones

The --- differs from the organ by the air being driven out across reeds rather than sucked inwardly.

privileged <PRIV.uh.lijd> or <PRIV.lijd>

adj, n / advantaged

Because neither parent had a college education, Eloise felt --- to be able to attend a college.

turmeric <TUHR.muhr.ik>

n / aromatic herb used as a coloring agent

The --- was cleaned, boiled, sun-dried and then pulverized to make a deep yellow dye.

expandable <ik.SPAN.duh.buhl>

adj / able to be enlarged, increased or stretched

Even after gaining ten pounds, Phil could wear the same pants since they had an --- waist, as did he.

anchovies <AN.choh.veez> or <an.CHOH.veez>

n / small, herring-like fishes used in foods, especially appetizers

"We don't want any --- on our pizza because those fish taste gross," the children squealed.

deviate <DEE.vee.ayt> or <DEE.vee.it>

v, n / stray or depart from a set course; person who varies from normal

Once she has made up her mind to do something, Susan will not --- from her chosen goal.

- **hydrophyte** <HII.druh.fii>
n / plant able to grow in water
Val watered her houseplants too much and killed them until she got a --- that thrived in water.
Ety: ME fr OFr fr MFr fr L fr Gk - hydor (water) + ISV fr Gk - phyton (plant)
- **marbleize** <MAHR.buhl.iiz>
v / streak with colors or veins
Jeff used a glaze that would --- and cause veins in the finish of his pitcher when it was fired.
- **Miocene** <MII.uh.seen>
adj / relating to the 4th epoch of the Tertiary Period
Apes first evolved during the early ---, and ancestors of humans had evolved.
- **innuendoes** <in.yoo.EN.dohz>
n / insinuations, hints
The politician undermined his opponent by ---, slyly insinuating he might have been involved in many misdeeds.
- **huarache** <wuh.RAH.chee> or <huh.RAH.chee>
n / sandal made with woven leather strapping
Ed complained that one --- was easy to put on, but the straps on the others tangled in his toes.
Ety: MexSp prob fr Jap - warschi (sandal made of straw)
- **isohyet** <ii.soh.HII.it>
n / map line that connects points with equivalent rainfall
Analyzing the --- that crossed his town, Mel found that the entire coastline seemed to have the same rainfall.
Ety: Gk - iso (equal) + hyetos (rain)
- **proviso** <pruh.VII.zoh>
n / clause found in a contract that suggests a condition
A --- in the contract stated that the terms would be null and void in the event of the death of either party.
- **squeteague** <skwi.TEEG>
n / type of fish
A --- is also called a weakfish due to the weakness of mouth muscles when often allow a fish hook to tear free.
- **platypus** <PLAT.i.puhs>
n / small aquatic mammal with webbed feet and a broad tail
The small child remarked that the --- resembled both a beaver and a duck.
Ety: NL fr Gk - platypous (flat - footed) fr platus (flat) + pous (foot)
- **opuscule** <oh.PUHS.kyool>
n / insignificant work in literature or music
In an --- by Thackeray, Dr. Key found a theory so profound that he searched for longer writings on the topic.
Ety: L - opus/-eris (work/labor/business)
- **ophthalmia** <ahf.THAL.mee.uh> or <ahp.THAL.mee.uh>
n / inflammation of the eye
The specialist diagnosed Chad's eye problem as --- and prescribed drops for the disorder.
- **Junoesque** <joo.noh.ESK>
adj / marked by having buxom beauty
Though slightly plump, Madge's full-figured appearance and remarkable beauty was defined as --- stateliness.
Note: Always capitalized
- **subaqueous** <suhb.AY.kwee.uhs> or <suhb.AK.wee.uhs>
adj / existing under water
Riding the glass-bottomed boat around the small lake, Ronald counted a large variety of --- plants.
Ety: ME fr L - sub (under/below) + aqua/-ae (water)
- **timbale** <TIM.buhl> or <tim.BAHL> <tam.BAHL>
n / mixture cooked in a mold that includes fish, cheese or chicken or pastry of such
The main dish was a --- in a fish-shaped mold, and the creamy, lobster dish was delicious.
- **amblyopia** <am.blee.OH.pee.uh>
n / impaired vision due to toxic effects of dietary deficiencies
The ophthalmologist determined alcohol poisoning to be the cause of Egan's --- and resultant color blindness.
- **theorbo** <thee.AWR.boh>
n / stringed instrument that is similar to a lute but larger
Slow to play, the --- had five extra bass strings, and was used as an accompaniment instrument in the 1600s.
Ety: It fr Slav fr Turk - torba (bag)
- **canoeing** <kuh.NOO.ing>
v / traveling in a long slender boat with pointed ends propelled by paddles
While --- down the river, we tipped over many times, but we knew how to right the boat.
- **requiem (R)** <REK.wee.uhm> or <REE.kwee.uhm>
n / solemn chant for the dead, time of repose, quiet, rest; mass for the dead
Commissioned to compose a --- six months before his own death, Mozart professed to be writing his own dirge.
Note: Capitalized for Catholic church mass
- **R-value** <AHR.val.yoo>
n / measure of a material's ability to retard heat flow
Mr. Ames chose an insulation with a high --- to be as energy-efficient as possible in his new home.
Note: Always capitalized for R
- **Uruguay** <YUR.uh.gwii> or <YUR.uh.gway> <QOR.OO.gwii>
n / country in South America
Visited by Spanish explorers in 1516, --- had few settlers due to lack of gold and contentious natives.
Ety: SoAmer geog name - Uruguay (country)
Note: Always capitalized
- **Penobscot** <puh.NAHB.skuht> or <puh.NAHB.skaht>
n / Native American tribe; member of this Indian tribe; language spoken by this tribe
The --- joined the Abenaki confederacy in the 1700s, and Native American delegates went to the Maine legislature.
Note: Always capitalized

scorched-earth policy <SKAWRCHT.URTH.pah.li.see> or

<skawrcht.urth.PAH.li.see>

n / practice of troops destroying lands and buildings to leave them unusable

*The invading army practiced a ---, and immense destruction lay in their wake as they advanced.***Faulknerian** <fawk.NIR.see.uhn>

adj / relating to a famous author and his writings

*Lonnie based his story in a fictitious community within the southeastern U.S., giving it a --- mood.**Note: Always capitalized*• **thanatology** <than.uh.TAHL.uh.jee>

n / study of the phenomenon of death

*The scientific study of old age and death are two related branches of science called gerontology and ---.**Ety: Gk - thanatos (death) + ME fr OFr fr L fr Gk - logos (word/reason)***supersedure** <soo.puhr.SEE.juhr>

n / act of replacing an old queen bee with a younger one; act of going before

*The beekeeper cautiously performed the --- and successfully put the vigorous queen in the old hive.***tobogganing** <tuh.BAHG.uhn.ing>

v / sliding rapidly on a flat-bottomed sled

*--- down the snow-packed chute, Andy felt the speed and excitement increase as well as the risk of disaster.***conchiferous** <kahng.KIF.uhr.uhs>

adj / possessing or yielding shells

*The --- mollusks crawl out of their shells only when searching for larger ones.***spina bifida** <spii.nuh.BIF.i.duh>

n / congenital disorder where tissues protrude from the vertebral column

*The test for --- showed that Sam had no malformations along his backbone.***superfluity** <soo.puhr.FLOO.i.tee>

n / oversupply; overabundance

*The supply room has a --- of erasers and a shortage of pencils.***Adélie penguin** <uh.DAY.lee.pen.guin>

<uh.day.lee.PENG.gwin> <uh.day.lee.PEN.gwin>

n / type of flightless bird of the Antarctic

*The Antarctic continent coast is the only habitat for the ---, and their diet is primarily krill and fish.**Note: Acute accent reqd on 1st 'e'***scrumptious** <SKRUHMP.shuhs>

adj / delightful, excellent

The French pastry looked absolutely ---, but Nancy thought it tasted rather ordinary.• **aiguillette** <ay.gwuh.LET>

n / cord worn on the shoulder of a high-ranking officer; strip of food

*On the distinguished officer's shoulder was an ---, and the gold braided cord marked him as high-ranking.**Ety: Fr fr MFr - dim of aiguille (needle) fr LL - acucula (decorative pin) fr L - acus/-i (needle)***coup de théâtre** <koo.duh.tay.AH.truh>

n / quick turn of events that changes an existing situation

*The --- occurred when the husband, who was assumed dead, returned after eight years on his wife's wedding day.**Note: Acute accent reqd on 2nd 'e' and circumflex on 'a'***wheelwright** <HWEEL.riit> or <WEEL.riit>

n / man who builds and repairs circular frames that turn with axles

*Prior to the invention of the automobile, a --- had a thriving business repairing buggies.***situs inversus** <sii.tuhs.in.VUR.suhs> or <SII.tuhs.in.vur.suhs>

n / congenital condition in which a major organ is mirrored from normal position

The child's heart was on his right, rather than left side, and the physician called it an incidence of ---.• **thrombophlebitis** <thrahm.boh.fli.BII.tis>

n / inflammation of a vein producing a blood clot

*Requiring surgery, the patient had developed a painful --- in a vein in her leg.**Ety: Gk - thrombos (clot of blood/lump) + Gk - phleps (blood vessel/vein)***neat's-foot oil** <NEETS.foot.awil> or <neets.foot.AWIL>

n / substance obtained from cattle that is used to dress leather

Tim's father handed him a tin of --- and suggested that he work it into his saddle to keep the leather supple.• **anemophilous** <an.uh.MAHF.uh.luhs>

n / referring to wind-pollination

*Dandelions depend on wind to scatter their --- seeds which are light and feathery and can travel long distances.**Ety: Gk - anemos (wind) + philos (loving)***in aeternum** <in.ee.TUR.nuhm>

adv / forever

Her old wedding band was inscribed "Love, ---," and Gran explained it was a contract lasting for eternity.• **tardive dyskinesia** <tahr.div.dis.kuh.NEE.zhuh> or

<TAHR.div.dis.kuh.nee.zhuh> <tahr.div.dis.kii.NEE.zhuh>

<TAHR.div.dis.kii.nee.zhuh>

n / neurological disorder in which face and jaws move jerkily

*Mr. Tims blamed his --- on having taken antipsychotic drugs for years to control his schizophrenia.**Ety: Fr - tardif (slow) + L - dys (bad) fr Gk - dus (bad) + Gk - kinesis (movement)*