

Valerie's

2016-17 Spelling Bee Supplement

COLLECTORS' EDITION - Topical List: Botanical

Study for 2016-17!

- Vocabulary study has been inserted at all levels of bees for this year again
- The Scripps' 450 word Class and School List by grade level is new again this year
- Scripps has precluded posting or otherwise publishing the Class/School Lists
- Scripps' Spell It! is unchanged for the 8th year in a row

Changing alongside Scripps, this year's *Supplement* is again a *Collectors' Edition* with special focus on preparing for district, county, state, regional and the National Spelling Bee. In addition to words from Spell It, this volume includes a topical list primarily comprised of **Botanical Words** categorized by difficulty level. Note, however, that Scripps has discontinued the printed Webster's Third New International Dictionary for their online subscription version of their Merriam-Webster Unabridged. About 30% of the words have some difference in pronunciation, part of speech, and/or capitalization, and such. Coaching tips and suggestions for preparation for bees from classroom bees through all levels, and up to the pinnacle in Washington are included. This collection is ideal for preparing for the off-list words at higher level bees and can serve to enhance personal studies and/or school assignments. Previous years' Supplements have featured food words, musical terms, and medical terminology, and all are worth studying!

Use this *Supplement* to help learn, re-learn, and master the words in Spell It, which have remained the same since 2009. If you would like the Spell It and/or the Botanical Word list with audio and in a digital format to practice your spelling and to master words, Hexco's **eMentor** versions of these products are highly recommended.

Each word in this book includes a simple, phonetic pronunciation, part(s) of speech, definition(s) and a simple designation for the general language of origin using the following abbreviations: Latin (L), Arabic (Ar), Asian languages (As), French (Fr), German (Ge), Slavic languages (Sl), Dutch (Du), English (E), New World languages (NW), Japanese (J), Greek (Gk), Italian (It), Spanish (Sp), Welsh (W), eponyms (Ep), unknown (Un), and imitative (Im). Our **eMentor** version of Spell It also includes etymology and a sentence for each word, plus up to 3 alternate pronunciations. Our *Organizers* offer this expanded information in a printed format to use in conducting more competitive bees that use *Spell It* words.

Spelling Bee Study Recommendations

- Learn all 450 words on the Scripps' 2016-17 Class and School Bee Word Lists
- Start with 1st grade words and work thru 8th grade words
- Center on the vocabulary along with the spelling of words
- Learn all the words in Spell It!
- Expand your studies to include etymology and other lists of words

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Valerie participated in the 1987 National Spelling Bee

Now in our 34th year, we have produced study materials for spellers at all levels of the National Bee, from the newest novice to the most advanced competitor. My two sisters and I were spellers like you, and we have all spelled at the National Spelling Bee.

Our products grew from the 1982 study notes that I compiled (with my parents' help). The variety of products and knowledge of your needs have expanded along the way.

This year, over half of all the participating spellers at the National Bee had used one or more of our products on their way to the top. The year 2016 also marked the 19th National Spelling Bee Champion in a row who used Hexco products along the way. Thirty-one of the 45 semifinalists at the Bee were customers and 18 contestants had been in our Personal Coaching Program. By the finals, our customers held all the seats except one, and two spellers had been in Hexco's coaching program, including one of the winners.

I earned my MBA in 2001 from the University of Texas Red McCombs School of Business, married in 2003, and am living and working in Houston. My two children are son Taylor (5 years old) and daughter Claire (8 years old). Middle sister Natalie graduated from Baylor Medical School in Houston and has been a pediatrician in Austin for ten+ years. She has one daughter, Cora (5 years old). Huntley graduated from Rice, earned her MBA from Harvard Business School in 2006, and works in Austin.

We all still participate in many ways in Hexco Academic, and we appreciate your continued support. We wish you good spelling and good luck, with the latter often the determining factor!

~ Valerie Tarrant Browning

Valerie's Spelling Bee Supplement

Research & Editing by Linda Tarrant • Including topical list of Botanical Words

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START STUDYING TO WIN YOUR BEE

HOW TO MASTER THE SCRIPPS CLASSROOM & SCHOOL BEE LISTS

1. Study from the printed list

- Obtain a copy of the list from your teacher, school bee coordinator or principal
- Start with 1st grade words and work thru 8th grade words to learn all 450 words
- Make a spelling notebook or computer file of words that are difficult for you
- Look up any words for which you don't know the meaning and add to your notebook
- Ask someone to quiz you on spelling
- Study the vocabulary for all 450 words until you master every definition
- Ask someone to quiz you on meanings of all words
- Write multiple-choice questions for the difficult words
- Consider starting a spelling club and quiz each other

2. Study by subscribing to Scripps' Word Club

- Consider subscribing to Word Club on Scripps' website to study these 450 words
- Work through each set of spelling words and study definitions as you go
- Work through each set of vocabulary questions
- At the end of each set, print your results to obtain a list of missed words
- Ask someone to quiz you on the missed words, then on all words
- Continue until you have mastered the entire list for spelling and vocabulary

Don't forget to review the list and meanings just before your class and school bees!

HOW TO LEARN THE SPELL IT LIST

1. Study from Valerie's Supplement or Spell It! Spelling eMentor

- Learn all 1,156 words and their definitions -- a tall order!
- Ask someone to quiz you to double check your mastery of spelling
- Make a spelling notebook or computer file of words that are difficult for you
- Ask someone to quiz you on definitions to check mastery
- Continue until you have mastered the entire list for spelling and vocabulary.

2. Study by subscribing to Scripps' Word Club

- Work thru each set of spelling words learning vocabulary as you go
- At the end of each of the sets of words, print results to maintain a list of misses
- Work thru each set of vocabulary questions
- At the end of each of the sets of words, print results to maintain a list of misses
- Ask someone to quiz you on definitions to check mastery
- Make a vocabulary notebook or computer file of words that are difficult for you
- Continue until you have mastered the entire list for spelling and vocabulary

GO FOR THE GOLD!

WHAT ELSE CAN I STUDY TO PREPARE FOR HIGHER LEVEL SPELLING BEES?

County, district, state, regional and the National Bee use off-list words, and many class and school bees are decided on off-list words. We recommend that you study the following to build your word foundation to 8,000 to 10,000 words. If you are new to spelling, we also have take-along books, called *Spell Buddy* booklets and eMentors that can be purchased by grade level to help begin your journey.

- All *Spell Buddy* booklets and eMentors - 8,000 words used in prior class/school lists and off-list words
- *Verbomania* (or *Verbo eMentor*) - 13,000+ vocabulary enriching words
- *New Nat's Notes* (or *NewNats eMentor*) - 18,000+ esoteric type of words
- *Paideia* 2006 (4,118 words), *Paideia* 2001 (4,159 words), and *Paideia* 1995 (3,182 words)
These can be purchased in *Supplement* and *eMentor* format.
- *Blitz Lists* (3 volumes) - 3,000 very difficult words in each (also *Blitz eMentor*)
- Center on learning vocabulary along with the spellings

Expand your knowledge of etymology, spelling rules and language families. Consider *Etyma Notes* or *Etyma eMentor* to learn Latin and Greek elements. Learn spelling rules and study Latin and Greek roots, prefixes and suffixes. Use Hexco's *Spelling Rules Book* and learn to use a searchable dictionary to see examples of rules and Latin/Greek elements. Also, learn rules for spelling words from language families.

VOCABULARY STUDY & THE USE OF TOPICAL LISTS

Hexco products have always included definitions and usually sentences to enable students to understand the meaning of a word as well as its proper usage. When Scripps announced the new vocabulary element in 2013 (just six weeks before the National Spelling Bee), Hexco quickly incorporated elements of vocabulary into our *Personal Spelling Coaching* (PSC) program to better prepare students bound for National competition. Since that time, we have steadily reminded our customers that all spellers also need to become *vocabulary* champions in order to advance. In their Classroom Pronouncer Guide and School Pronouncer Guide, Scripps provides written and oral vocabulary tests for different class levels along with their spelling lists for conducting classroom and school bees. While all schools may not adopt the vocabulary element (since the vocabulary section is optional for schools), in the next rungs up the spelling ladder, i.e., at the district, county, regional bees, and the National Bee, some, if not all, will include the vocabulary element.

To help embed words and word meanings deeper into the long-term memory of our customers, Hexco began compiling many *topical* lists for study, and we recommend this approach. Through this method, student form relationships with words to help connect the 'dots' mentally. For instance, if a definition given is related to food terms, a speller can begin to recall the list of food terms that they once studied. The word could be an edible item, a utensil for cooking, the name of a dish, etc., but knowing a word has *something* to do with food will hopefully help field a multiple-choice question or the spelling of a word. There are limitless other possibilities for collections of words: animals, medical, nautical, positive adjectives, clothing, chemistry, geography, eponyms, shapes, and so forth. To concentrate more on the vocabulary aspect of your favorite Hexco word lists, we recommend our *Vocab Match* workbooks for *Verbomania* and *New Nat's Notes*. These allow students to match words to definitions to reinforce word meanings that students "should" know, but could have overlooked or missed due to the sheer massive quantity of information that spellers typically study.

While etymology has always been an integral part of our coaching program, our coaches began centering more on learning the meanings of Latin and Greek roots, prefixes, and suffixes. Knowing that the Greek suffix, *-itis*, means *disease, inflammation, or an obsession or fondness for something*, can help in a multiple-choice question by assuming that the word with that ending is related to a medical condition or disease. Knowing a large number of Latin and Greek elements aids with words from all the Romance languages: Spanish, Italian, French, Portuguese and Romanian. These elements won't help in German, African languages, Native American languages, Welsh, Hebrew, Russian, Chinese, Japanese, and on and on, but 60% of words in the English language are Latin and/or Greek based.

Again, this *Supplement* does not contain the Scripps class and school list. Registration to participate in bees requires each registrant to sign a contract that precludes reproducing, distributing, posting to websites, or using material from Scripps' website for any commercial purposes. Thus, we recommend that students study the 2016-17 Classroom and School Study List that your bee coordinator can download, or subscribe to their Word Club which allows Internet-based study for practicing spelling and vocabulary. The Spell It list has been available since 2009 and has remained unchanged.

BOTANICAL WORDS FROM VARIOUS LANGUAGES



For the third year in row, we are including a topical list of words in *Valerie's Supplement*. This year's Collectors' Edition features "Botanical Words." Studying sets of words with a similar theme is an excellent tool for learning large groupings of words, and our coaching staff uses this approach with many of their lists. The study of topical word lists can open doors for students to later become experts in specific fields of study.

After studying this collection, encourage your student to use a searchable version of *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (either the version that can be installed on your own computer or the Internet-based, subscription version). Search for all the words that have *plant, garden, vegetable, fruit, soil, grass, herb, perennial*, etc.

As you peruse these lists that are related to plants compare them to the rules in Hexco's *Spelling Rules Book* and look for patterns that will help you remember and figure out even more botanical words. Clearly, all the possible "botanical" words are not included, but we hand-picked words from various languages to present in an abbreviated collection.

MERRIAM WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED ONLINE

For the first time in history, Scripps' announced that the *Merriam Webster's Unabridged* online dictionary would be the final authority for class and school bees this year. The key differences between the online dictionary and the prior printed dictionary include the following. (1) The stopped "d." has been eliminated. This was used in the pronunciation of words spelled with a "t" and pronounced with a "d," such as in *petal* and *totem*. Last year, these would have been <PED.uhl> and <TOH.duhm> as their first pronunciation, and now these are pronounced <PET.uhl> and <TOH.tuhm>. (2) Many words that had a "ə" are now pronounced with a schwa. The "ə" is converted to the "i" sound in our phonetic scheme, and now they are going back to pronouncing it with a schwa. There are a large number of these words, such as *rabbit* <RAB.uht> which last year was <RAB.it>, and *pundit* <PUHN.duht> which last year was <PUHN.dit>, and there are many more. A large number of words show no pronunciation and many of these have an audio recording. However, many words in the online dictionary show no pronunciation and have no audio.

BOTANICAL WORDS BEGINNING LEVEL

- lily** <LIL.ee>
n, adj / plant with showy flowers [E fr L]
- kale, kail** <KAYL>
n / leafy plant similar to cabbage [E fr L]
- stem** <STEM>
n, v / main body of a plant, foremost position;
steer a straight course [E]
- bush** <BUSH>
n, v, adj / small shrub [E]
- limb** <LIM>
n, v / branch of a tree; appendage of the body;
cut off a branch [E]
- rosy** <ROH.zee>
adj, v / having the characteristic pink or red
color of a particular flower; blushing
[E fr L + Ecf]
- ape** <AH.pay>
n / ornamental type of plant with blades
shaped like hearts [Haw]
- pear** <PEHR>
n / fruit of a tree that is similar to an apple
[E fr L]
- pine** <PIIN>
n, v, adj / tall, usually straight tree used for
framing lumber [E fr L]
- bole** <BOHL>
n / lower part of a tree's trunk that is used for
lumber; roan color; clay [E fr Norse]
- tea** <TEE>
n, v, adj / drink made by steeping leaves of a
particular plant in hot water [Chin]
- crop** <KRAHP>
n, v / plant product to be harvested; trim off
unwanted parts; human stomach [E]
- ama** <AH.muH>
n / tropical tree; outrigger canoe flotation piece
[Haw/Tahitian/Marquesan/Samoan//Maori]
- yew** <YOO>
n / type of tree often used for landscaping or
for timber [E]
- rose** ROHZ>
n / plant or flower [E fr L prob fr Gk]
- ti** <TEE>
n / Asian shrub; note on the diatonic scale
[Maori]
- elm** <EHLM>
n / tall, stately tree with hard wood used for
furniture and barrel hoops [E]
- herb** <UHRB>
n / plant having value for medicine, cooking or
scents [E fr Fr fr L]
- leek** <LEEK>
n / herb from the lily family that is similar to an
onion [E]
- veld, veldt** <VELT>
n / grassy region with few trees in South Africa
[Afrik fr Du]
- wold** <WOHLD>
n / high, hilly plain without trees [E]
- weed** <WEED>
n, v / plant growing wild, wild grass; remove
noxious plants; garment [E]
- taro** <TAH.roh>
n / tropical plant with edible roots
[Tahitian and Maori]
- kiwi (K)** <KEE.wee>
n / flightless bird of New Zealand; vine that
bears fruit; native of New Zealand [Maori fr
imit]
- pepo** <PEEP.oh>
n / fruit with a hard rind like a pumpkin or
melon [L fr Gk]
- ansu** <AHN.soo>
n / apricot fruit [Jap fr Chin]
- vase** <VAYS>
n / round container that is fairly deep to hold
flowers [Fr fr L]
- sow** <SOH>
v / plant seeds; start something, foment [E]
- wood** <WOOD>
n, adj / lumber from trees; cut tree limbs [E]
- figs** <FIGZ>
n, v / edible fruits grown on trees in warm
regions [E fr Fr fr Prov fr L fr Non-Indo-Eur]
- burl** <BUHRL>
n, v / growth on a tree; knot in thread; to
inspect and repair cloth [E fr Fr fr L]
- pulp** <PUHLP>
n, v / soft mass of crushed animal or vegetable
material; interior part of fruit [Fr fr L]

- impatiens (I)** <im.PAY.shuhnz>
n / genus of a type of flowering herb;
jewelweed [L]
- heliotrope** <HEE.lee.uh.trohp>
n / plant with aromatic purple flowers;
bloodstone [E fr Fr fr L fr Gk]
- protoplasm** <PROHT.uh.plaz.uhm>
n / semifluid, essential living matter in all
animal and plant cells [Ger fr Gk]
- selenosis** <sel.uh.NOH.sis>
n / poisoning caused by eating plants with a
particular non-metallic element [L fr Gk]
- angelica** <an.JEL.ik.uh>
n / type of sweet dessert wine of California;
type of herb whose roots and seed yield oil [L]
- arboreal** <ahr.BAWR.ee.uhl>
adj / inhabiting trees; resembling or relating to
trees or forests [L]
- verjuice** <VUHR.joos>
n, v / sour juice of crab apples or unripe fruit
[E fr Fr]
- fleabane** <FLEE.bayn>
n / any of the Compositae plants that repel
insects that bother animals [E]
- marguerite** <mahr.guh.REET>
n / daisy, chrysanthemum having a single-
flower; frosted cookie [Fr]
- crocuses (C)** <KROH.kuhs.iz>
n / flowering corms having long slender leaves
or the genus [L fr Gk fr Sem]
- herbalist** <UHR.buh.list>
n / grower or dealer of plants for medicine or
cooking [E fr Fr fr L]
- pleasance** <PLE.suhns>
n / secluded area of a garden [E fr Fr]
- cannabis (C)** <KAN.uh.buhs>
n / plant also called hemp from which narcotic
is made; genus of plant [L fr Gk]
- sertulum** <SUHRCH.uh.luhm>
n / collection of plants used for scientific study
[L]
- arborean** <ahr.BAWR.ee.uhn>
adj / inhabiting trees; resembling or relating to
trees or forests [L]
- cernuous** <SUHRN.yuh.wuhs>
adj / drooping, in reference to a plant [L]
- wistaria, wisteria (W)** <wi.STIR.ee.uh>
n / vine with pale purple or white flowers;
purple color [Am physician]
- pomiferous** <poh.MIF.ruhs>
adj / bearing applelike fruit [L]
- narcissus (N)** <nahr.SIS.uhs>
n / genus of or a bulbous herb from genus
having showy, yellow or white flowers
[L fr Gk fr myth name]
- petitgrain** <PET.ee.grayn>
n / yellowish oil from leaves of citrus trees
[Fr + Fr fr L]
- immortelle** <im.awr.TEL>
n, adj / class of papery flower [Fr fr L]
- turpentine** <TUHR.puhn.tiin>
n, v / oil obtained from coniferous trees and
used as a solvent or thinner [E fr Fr fr L fr Gk]
- salsilla** <sal.SIL.uh>
n / tropical plant with edible roots often cooked
and used as a potato substitute [L fr Gk]
- nicotiana (N)** <ni.koh.shee.AN.uh>
n / plant species including tobacco and a
fragrant, flowering ornamental [Fr diplomat]
- pullulate** <PUHL.yuh.layt>
v / germinate, send out new shoots, as a plant;
multiply rapidly; teem [L]
- neoplasia** <nee.uh.PLAY.zhuh>
n / formation of abnormal new tissue in
animals or plants [Gk + L fr Gk]
- potatoes** <puh.TAYT.ohz>
n / edible, starchy underground tubers of
particular plants [Sp fr Taino]
- arboretum** <ahr.buh.REET.uhm>
n / place where trees are grown for educational
or scientific reasons [L fr L]
- botanist** <BAHT.uhn.ist>
n / specialist in the branch of biology dealing
with plants [Fr fr Gk]
- digitalis (D)** <dij.uh.TAL.is>
n / dried leaf of foxglove used as a cardiac
stimulant and diuretic; genus of herbs [L]
- tamarisk** <TAM.uh.risk>
n / shrub or tree having small narrow leaves
and lots of minute flowers [E fr L]
- miniascape** <MIN.ee.uh.skayp>
n / dish garden made with plants requiring little
water [L + Du]
- cinchona (C)** <sing.KOH.nuh>
n / tree of the Andes whose bark is used in
medicine; genus of these trees
[Peruvian vicereine]

earwig	E	<IR.wig>	n, v	insect with a pair of pincerlike appendages protruding from rear of the abdomen
screen	Du	<SKREEN>	n, v, adj	shielding partition used for protection or as an ornament
spritz	Ge	<SPRITZ>	v, n	squirt or spray
uproar	Du	<UHP.rohr>	n, v	noisy commotion; tumult, turmoil
errand	E	<EHR.uhnd>	n	task one is sent to accomplish
stripe	Du	<STRIIP>	n, v	long narrow line, streak; form different colored lines
strict	L	<STRIKT>	adj	severe
hurdle	E	<HURD.uhl>	n, v	artificial barrier, obstacle; leap over, get past
kuruma	J	<KUR.uh.mu>	n	two-wheeled vehicle that is pulled by one person in Japan, rickshaw
mascot	Fr	<MAS.kaht>	n	something adopted to bring good luck; type of emblem
cosmos	(C)	Gk <KAHZ.muhs>	n	entire universe treated as a system having order; herb genus
hustle	Du	<HUHS.uhl>	v, n	hurry something along
watery	E	<WAWT.uhr.ee>	adj	wet, boggy
fathom	E	<FATHH.uhm>	v, n	comprehend, understand a truth; depth measurement equaling 6 feet
patina	L	<puh.TEE.nuh>	n	green film on metals from wetness in the atmosphere; appearance from habit
catkin	Du	<KAT.kuhn>	n	dense, drooping cluster of unisexual, apetalous flowers, ament
tattle	Du	<TAT.uhl>	v, n	tell on someone else; chatter
nether	E	<NETHH.uhr>	adj	situated below, lying under, being below the surface of the earth
potash	Du	<PAHT.ash>	n, v	potassium carbonate especially an impure form from leeching ashes
cotton	Ar	<KAHT.uhn>	n, v	type of plant with soft, usually white fibers from which cloth is made
caucus	NW	<KAW.kuhs>	n, v	meeting of members of an organization to make important decisions
Crusoe	Ep	<KROO.soh>	n	shipwrecked person who survives on his own ingenuity
joyial	L	<IOH.vee.uhl>	adj	having a good disposition, merry
soviet	(S)	Sl <SOH.vee.et>	n, adj	council having socialist principles; relating to U.S.S.R; person of Russia
newton	Ep	<NOO.tuhn>	n	unit of measure of force
bowery	Du	<BOW.ree>	n, adj	city district known for homeless bums; Dutch farm of colonial times
powwow	NW	<POW.wow>	n, v	meeting or celebration; American Indian medicine man
hazard	Ar	<HAZ.uhrd>	n, v	condition of danger or peril; risk being captured or lost
mizzle	Du	<MIZ.uhl>	n, v	mist, very fine rain; rain lightly
academy	Gk	<uh.KAD.uh.mee>	n	high school; school for special instruction
adamant	Gk	<AD.uh.muht>	adj, n	unyielding; inflexible
learned	E	<LUHR.nuhd>	adj, v	ascertained, memorized; erudite
measure	L	<MEZH.uhr>	n, v	musical structure; size; portion; regulate; determine the size of something
chagrin	Fr	<shuh.GRIN>	n, adj, v	mental distress
chalupa	Sp	<chah.LOO.pah>	n	boat-shaped, fried corn tortilla filled with meat, cheese, lettuce and tomatoes
shampoo	As	<sham.POO>	n, v	kind of soap used to wash hair; to wash one's hair
Spartan	Gk	<SPAHR.tuhn>	adj, n	being frugal; being self-disciplined; of area of ancient Greece
grabble	Du	<GRAB.uhl>	v	grope around; sprawl
Dracula	Ep	<DRAK.yuh.luh>	n	one who saps another's physical or emotional energies
praline	Ep	<PRAH.leen>	n	pecan candy
prattle	Ge	<PRAT.uhl>	v, n	babble, make childish, nonsensical sounds
nebbish	Sl	<NEB.ish>	n	timid, meek or incapable person
library	L	<LIi.brehr.ee>	n	place for books or study
embargo	Sp	<im.BAHR.goh>	n, v	government order restricting movement of commercial ships or vehicles
package	Du	<PAK.ij>	n, v	wrapped parcel; enclose with a protective covering
hickory	NW	<HIK.ree>	adj, n, v	relating to a hard-wooded, North American, nut-bearing tree
orchard	E	<AWR.chuhrd>	n	planting of fruit trees
ductile	L	<DUHK.tuhl>	adj	flexible; capable of being shaped into new forms
paddock	E	<PAD.uhk>	n, v	enclosure for pasturing and exercising animals
endemic	Gk	<en.DEM.ik>	adj, n	native to a particular region; native plant