



Educating the leaders of tomorrow



SPELLING & VOCABULARY COMPLEMENT



GRADES 7 & 8 | 2025-26



UIL Spelling Complement 2025-26

For 7th & 8th Grades

Written by Linda Tarrant

Edited by Beth Bryant

Copyright © 2025 by Hexco Academic. All rights reserved. Reproduction or translation of any part of this work beyond that permitted by Section 107 or 108 of the 1976 *United States Copyright Act* without the permission of the copyright owner is unlawful. The purchaser of this product is responsible for adhering to this law which prohibits the sharing or reselling of copyrighted material with anyone. This precludes sharing with coaches or students from other schools via mail, fax, email, or simply “passing along.” Hexco materials may not be posted online. Exception/permission for photocopies granted by Hexco Academic is only applicable for *Practice Packets* which may be copied expressly for the purchaser’s group or classroom at the same physical location. Figure (cover): Image generated using Adobe Firefly from the prompt hand drawn bumble bee purple theme.

This work complements the alphabetic UIL word list for elementary and junior high students and is in the same alphabetic order to serve as a time-saving dictionary plus sentencea *Merriam-Webster’s Intermediate Dictionary* for 3rd-and 4th grades and Merriam Webster’s Online Dictionary for the 5th through 8th grades

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 the following 14 primary vowel sounds; only a few 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 since 1983 by spellers, first in The National Spelling Bee, and a short time later by those in UIL competitions. This pronunciation scheme also forms the basis of our unique spelling software.

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

HEXCO ACADEMIC www.hexco.com
P.O. Box 199 Hunt, Texas 78024
Phone: 830.367.3825 Email: hexco@hexco.com

IF YOU LIKE THIS PRODUCT, WE ALSO RECOMMEND

UIL Spelling Practice Packets UIL Spelling eMentor

Spelling Rules Book Etyma eMentor & Etyma Notes

expedient <ik.SPEED.ee.uhnt>

adj, n / advantageous

*Since the flood waters are rising rapidly, it would be --- to evacuate low-lying areas immediately.***exploitation** <ek.splawi.TAY.shuhn>

n / act of turning to one's own use

*Carpetbaggers were known for --- of southerners after the Civil War as they preyed on the ravaged survivors.***extravagant** <ik.STRAV.i.guhnt>

adj / lavish, profuse; exceeding what is necessary

*The snake-oil salesman made --- claims, but those who bought his product were sorely disappointed.***facetious** <fuh.SEE.shuhs>

adj / given to crude jesting, characterized by levity

*Having a sarcastic wit, Mark sometimes let fly a --- remark, and these barbs often hurt someone's feelings.***face-to-face** <fays.tuh.FAYS>

adj, adv / in close proximity, in sight of one another

*Ed asked for a --- interview with the Mayor for a article in the paper, but he only got a telephone interview.***facilitate** <fuh.SIL.uh.tayt>

v / make it easier to do a function

*"To --- my grading your papers," advised Mrs. Edwin, "please write carefully and use ink."***factorial** <fak.TOHR.ee.uhl> or <fak.TAWR.ee.uhl>

n, adj / product of numbers when multiplied

*In mathematics five --- is equal to the product of 5 X 4 X 3 X 2 X 1 or 120.***Fahrenheit** <FEHR.uhn.hiit>

adj / relating to the scale that measures temperature; thermometer

*"It's frigid outside with the thermometer reading only 26 degrees --- !" exclaimed Jessica.***fallible** <FAL.uh.buhl>

adj / capable of making a mistake

*The knowledge that all men are --- allows us to maintain a certain humility in our interactions with others.***farsightedness** <FAHR.siiit.uhd.nuhs>

n / state of being able to see at a long distance or of planning well for the future

*The --- of the city fathers in the '50's enabled the freeway system to be built before it was a necessity.***feign** <FAYN>

v / pretend; disguise

*When frightened, our hognose snake would quiver, flip over as if in agony, and lie still to --- death.~~Hom: fain***felicity** <fi.LIS.uht.ee>

n / state of being happy, that which promotes happiness, good fortune

*Exuberant with the brilliant morning, Nora's usually glum nature exuded a --- unique to young girls in love.***feral** <FIR.uhl> or <FEHR.uhl>

adj / having left a domesticated situation and returned to the wilds; uncultivated

*Although it had once been a family pet, the abandoned cat became a --- beast when left to its own devices.~~Hom: ferrule***feudalism** <FYOOD.uhl.iz.uhm>

n / medieval political system in Europe based on tenants under landowners

*Peasants paid taxes to the king in the form of grain under the ancient system of --- .***figurine** <fig.uh.REEN> or <fig.yuh.REEN>

n / small statue

*Mrs. Lewis explained that the --- of a ballerina was an antique, and we all admired the artistry of the piece.***finality** <fii.NAL.uh.tee> or <fuh.NAL.uh.tee>

n / condition of being settled or finished

*There was a --- to Mr. Hicks' farewell speech, and we knew we would not see him again.***finesse** <fi.NES>

n, v / skillful handling of a situation

*The usher expelled the rowdy man with so much --- that no one else realized what was happening.***fissure** <FISH.uhr>

n / crack or fracture; pocket of space in the body

*Hot lava spewed forth from the --- in the volcano.***flamboyant** <flam.BAWI.uhnt>

adj / showy; relating to flame design; showy tree of tropics; architectural style

*The Spanish dancer was wearing a --- red and yellow dress trimmed with ruffles and ribbons.***flotation** <floh.TAY.shuhn>

n / act of staying buoyed up by water

*Sid questioned the --- of the concrete boat wondering why the heavy vessel didn't just sink.***flout** <FLOWT>

v / mock, scoff, insult

*In a most spiteful manner the boy started to --- the small child until a teacher stopped his insolent mocking.***fluky** <FLOO.kee>

adj / uncertain, resulting from chance happening; being infested with worms

The --- wind seemed to shift from one direction to another, and we feared bad weather was coming.

outmaneuver <owt.muh.NOO.vuhr> or

<owt.muh.NYOO.vuhr>

v / defeat by using greater skill or craftiness

*Dad would regularly --- Tim at chess, and Tim was determined to hone his own strategy to get the upper hand.***overactive** <oh.vuh.RAK.tiv>

adj / being excessively energetic

*The --- child was a constant disruption in the classroom, and the teacher couldn't keep him out of trouble.***overzealous** <oh.vuhr.ZEL.uhs> or <OH.vuhr.zel.uhs>

adj / too eager or passionate

*The --- football fan could not resist running out on the field when his team scored.***oxygenate** <AHK.si.juh.nayt> or <ahk.SIJ.uh.nayt>

v / combine with or supply a particular gaseous element

*The pump in the pond will --- the water so that it doesn't get stagnant and kill the fish.***pallbearer** <PAHL.behr.uhr>

n / attendant helping to carry the coffin at a funeral

*Ben was a --- at his cousin's funeral along with his brothers, and they carried the coffin out of the church.***palpable** <PAL.puh.buhl>

adj / tangible; perceptible; noticeable

*Fog was so thick and --- that I felt I could cut it with a knife; but reaching out, I could feel nothing.***pandemonium** <pan.duh.MOH.nee.uhm>

n / tumultuous uproar; evil place; living place of demons

*The upset in this Olympic event caused --- to break out as the crowd objected violently.***paprika** <puh.PREE.kuh>

n / spicy powder from ground sweet pepper pods

*Mother sprinkled --- on the boiled potatoes to enliven their taste and improve their appearance.***parabola** <puh.RAB.uh.luh>

n / curve shape related to or parallel to a section of a cone

*Rob solved the algebraic equation and graphed the points to show a --- as the result.***parallelism** <PEHR.uh.lel.iz.uhm>

n / likeness; state of being equal distance apart at all points on two lines

*The critic took the two diverse writings and showed instances of --- throughout the two texts.***paralyzed** <PEHR.uh.liizd>

v / caused to be immobile; caused to lose functionality

*When Ann saw the vase falling, she was --- and unable to move to try to catch it.***parliament** <PAHR.luh.muhnt> or

<PAHRL.yuh.muhnt>

n / legislative body in Great Britain

*The British houses of --- correspond to the houses of congress in the United States.***parochial** <puh.ROH.kee.uhl>

adj / relating to a church parish

*Notre Dame Catholic Church will hold a country fair to benefit their local --- school.***particularize** <puhr.TIK.yuh.luh.riiz> or

<puhr.TIK.luh.riiz> <puh.TIK.yuh.luh.riiz>

v / adapt, individualize

*The attorney tried to --- the charges against the defendant by isolating and describing each complaint.***pastrami** <puh.STRAH.mee>

n / smoked beef that is highly seasoned and prepared from shoulder cuts

*The corner delicatessen serves a delicious smoked --- on rye bread with spicy seasonings.***pathological** <path.uh.LAHJ.i.kuhl>

adj / changed or caused by a diseased condition

*A --- liar, the child needed some serious counseling to determine the root of her psychological imbalance.***patiently** <PAY.shuhnt.lee>

adv / in a steadfast manner despite opposition or difficulty

*Ed --- waited for Christmas, knowing that the day would ultimately come, but nothing could hurry it along.***patroon** <puh.TROON>

n / one holding land in Dutch colony by a grant in exchange for bringing 50 settlers

*The family place on the Hudson dated to an ancestor who'd been a --- and received land for bringing settlers.***pentathlon** <pen.TATH.luhn> or <pen.TATH.lahn>

n / athletic contest with participation in five events

*During the Olympics, participants in the --- must ride a horse, swim, run, fence, and shoot.***peppermint** <PEP.uhr.mint> or <PEP.uhr.muhnt>

n / hard, flavored candy; herb grown for its aromatic, pungent flavor

*The toddler squealed when the nurse handed her a ---, and she promptly popped the striped candy in her mouth.***peremptory** <puh.REM.tuh.ree>

adj / imperative; expressing urgency

*As the attackers galloped toward the circled wagon train, the leader bellowed his --- command, "Fire!"***perimeter** <puh.RIM.uht.uhr>

n / boundary; measure of all sides of a figure or area

In order to derive the --- of a geometric figure, you must measure and add all of the sides.