



Educating the leaders of tomorrow

SPELLING & VOCABULARY PRACTICE PACKET 1



High School 2025-26



UIL Spelling & Vocabulary 2025-26

High School Practice Packet 1

Written by Linda Tarrant

Edited by Beth Mader

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 beautiful watercolor parrot.

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 • Fax: 830.367.3824

Email: hexco@hexco.com

IF YOU LIKE THIS PRODUCT, WE ALSO RECOMMEND

UIL Spelling Complement • UIL Spelling eMentor • UIL Vocabulary eMentor & Tests • U-Notes

Spelling Invitationals • Spelling Rules Book • Etyma eMentor & Etyma Notes

**UIL SPELLING & VOCABULARY
PRACTICE PACKET 1
Academic Year: 2025-26**



CONTENTS

- **Instructions**
- **Blank Answer Sheets (4 sheets)**
- **Six Tests (each test contains the following sections):**
 - **Part I**
 - **A - Proofreading**
 - **B - Vocabulary (Multiple Choice)**
 - **Part II - Spelling Words**
 - **Part III - Tiebreaker Spelling Words**
 - **Answer Keys**

Spelling & Vocabulary Practice Packet 1

INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: This test has multiple parts, and each is separately timed. The time allotted for taking Part I is 15 minutes. Both sections should be completed within this time frame. Parts II and III will consist of words pronounced for the contestants. Only Parts I and II will be graded, unless there is a tie, in which case Part III will be graded only for the students that are involved in a tie.

Part IA. The Proofreading element tests a student's ability to recognize misspelled words. In each of the sets, one word is incorrect. Errors may be in capitalization, use of accent marks or hyphens, or in the actual spelling. Words have been taken from the lists in *Word Power*. Some words may come from other sources. Note that alternate spellings are considered correct spellings. Use capitals and accent marks as required in correctly writing the misspelled word for this element in the provided blank. Each correct answer is worth one point.

Part IB. The Vocabulary element tests the meanings and origins of words that are marked in the list for vocabulary study. There should be no misspelled words in this section. There is an Answer Sheet provided for contestants to write the letter for the **best** answer using capital letters. Each correct answer is worth one point.

For Parts II and III, there is an Answer Sheet for writing the spelling words. A pronouncer should speak each word twice. If a word has two or more acceptable pronunciations, at least two of the pronunciations should be given, and each may be given twice. No one may interrupt the pronouncer. If a word seems to offer unusual difficulties to the spellers, it should be briefly defined or used in a sentence. If a word is a homonym, a pronouncer should define the word to distinguish it.

Part II. The Spelling List should be pronounced at approximately five words per minute. This element contains a list of seventy words (80% from the published booklet). **Off-list words that are not from *Word Power* are marked with a symbol in front of the word.** Each correctly spelled word is worth one point. Please see the attached pronunciation guide and ensure the pronouncer is comfortable with saying the words.

Part III. The Tiebreaker element contains a list of 20 words, with 80% being from the published list. All students should take the Tiebreaker, but it should only be graded in the event of a tie, and then, only the spellers directly involved in the tie should have their papers graded.

Outside sources include the following types of words:

1. Words of common usage
2. Words and proper names currently in the news
3. Words which by their formation or origins build vocabulary and promote the study of English, including affixes, roots, and suffixes which appear in words on the printed list used in other forms

Pronunciation scheme. Our pronunciations follow those found in the *American Heritage Dictionary*, and up to four pronunciations are shown. Also included for each word are the part(s) of speech and definition. If alternate spellings are indicated in the American Heritage, they are listed with the first spelling or beneath 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 20 years by schools using our UIL products and for 30+ years by schools using our line of companion products for The National Spelling Bee.

UIL SPELLING & VOCABULARY - ANSWER SHEET - PART I

(30 questions, 15 minutes, 1 point each)

IA. Proofreading		Grader:			IB. Vocab		Grader:		
		1	2	3			1	2	3
1	_____				16	_____			
2	_____				17	_____			
3	_____				18	_____			
4	_____				19	_____			
5	_____				20	_____			
6	_____				21	_____			
7	_____				22	_____			
8	_____				23	_____			
9	_____				24	_____			
10	_____				25	_____			
11	_____				26	_____			
12	_____				27	_____			
13	_____				28	_____			
14	_____				29	_____			
15	_____				30	_____			
TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS		30	30	30			30	30	30
MINUS ERRORS		-	-	-			-	-	-
TOTAL SCORE - PART I									
		Grader					Grader		
		1	2	3			1	2	3
GRADERS' INITIALS									

UIL Spelling & Vocabulary Test
Part II - 70 points

Contestant Number _____

	Grdr1	Grdr2	Grdr3
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

SCORE _____/25

Number Correct _____
Graders' Initials _____

Spelling & Vocabulary Practice Test – A

Part II. Spelling Words		(◊ indicates off-list word)	70 items (70 points)
1.	simian <SIM.ee.uhn> adj, n / resembling monkeys or apes	16.	toxicity <tahk.SIS.i.tee> n / state or degree of being poisonous
2.	kineticism <kuh.NET.i.siz.uhm> n / art in which movement is the main element	17.	importunity <im.pawr.TOO.ni.tee> or <im.pawr.TYOO.ni.tee> n / pressing demand; unseasonableness
3.	mucilage <MYOO.slij> n / sticky solution used as glue	18.	journeyman <JUHR.nee.muhn> n / skilled worker who has learned a trade and worked to become certified in it
4.	titivate <TIT.uh.vayt> v / spruce up, make decorative alterations	19.	Paleolithic <pay.lee.uh.LITH.ik> adj, n / relating to the second half of the Stone Age
5.	chronicled <KRAHN.i.kuhld> v / recorded like an historical account	20.	apprise <uh.PRIIZ> v / inform a person, place a value on
6.	exosphere <EK.soh.sfir> n / outermost portion of the gaseous mass surrounding Earth or another planet	21. ◊	endorphin <en.DAWR.fin> n / any of a group of proteins occurring naturally in the brain
7.	rapprochement <rah.prohsh.MAHN> n / act of being drawn together, establishment of cordial relations	22.	absolutism <AB.suh.loo.tiz.uhm> n / idea that governmental power should be held by a single ruler or authority
8. ◊	anticatalyst <an.tee.KAT.uhl.ist> or <an.tii.KAT.uhl.ist> n / substance that lessens or slows a chemical reaction	23.	scholasticism (S) <skuh.LAS.ti.siz.uhm> n / use of traditional teaching ways; strict, unquestioning adherence to teachings of a particular sect
9.	fremitus <FREM.i.tuhs> n / body vibration felt by the hand during speech	24.	iatrogenic <ii.a.truh.JEN.ik> adj / caused by a doctor during treatment, usually unintentionally
10.	regardless <ri.GAHRD.lis> adj, adv / careless; neglectful	25.	Gordian knot <GAWR.dee.uhn.naht> or <gawr.dee.uhn.NAHT> n / very difficult problem; complex tie used by King Gordius and cut by Alexander
11.	equilibrate <i.KWIL.uh.brayt> v / keep in balance, come to be in balance	26.	languor <LANG.uhr> or <LANG.guhr> n / deficiency in mental and physical alertness and activity
12.	hypnophobia <hip.nuh.FOH.bee.uh> n / dread fear of falling asleep	27. ◊	syzygy <SIZ.uh.jee> n / almost a straight-line pattern of three celestial bodies
13.	retorsion, retortion <ri.TAWR.shuhn> n / act of retaliating	28.	émigré <EM.i.gray> n / person who has departed from a native country, often for political reasons
14.	stem christie <stem.KRIS.tee> n / skiing turn where the skis split apart to start then move to parallel to end		
15. ◊	ineffable <in.EF.uh.buhl> adj / unspeakable, indescribable; taboo		

Spelling & Vocabulary Practice Test – C - continued

25. **uncouth** <uhn.KOOTH>
adj / rugged, lacking grace and manners
26. **prelapsarian** <pree.lap.SEHR.ee.uhn>
adj / relating to the time prior to the fall of Adam and Eve
27. ♦ **mañana** <mah.NYAHN.uh>
adv / indefinite date or time in the future
28. **Jarlsberg** <YAHRLZ.buhrg>
n / type of Norwegian cheese
29. **knockdown-dragout**
<nahk.down.DRAG.owt> or
<NAHK.down.drag.owt>
n / argument marked by violence and roughness
30. **Maori** <MOWR.ee>
n / member of a Polynesian people that are native to New Zealand
31. **unstratified** <uhn.STRAT.uh.fiid>
adj / not having layers
32. **electability** <i.LEK.tuh.bil.i.tee>
n / quality of being able to win a public vote for office
33. **stellar** <STEL.uhr>
adj / of or relating to stars; outstanding
34. ♦ **Pamplona** <pam.PLOH.nuh>
n / city of Spain famous for the "running of the bulls"
35. **lebensraum** <LAY.buhns.rowm>
n / additional land deemed needed for a nation's continued existence
36. **schmatte** <SHMAH.tuh>
n / ragged piece of cloth or clothing
37. **parapet** <PAR.uh.pit> or <PAR.uh.pet>
n / wall for protecting soldiers from enemy fire
38. **acquittance** <uh.KWIT.ns>
n / settlement of an obligation or debt, receipt in full
39. **funereal** <fyoo.NIR.ee.uhl>
adj / relating to the ceremony surrounding a death and burial
40. ♦ **Percheron** <PUHR.chuh.rah> or <PUHR.shuh.rah>
n / breed of draft horse of gray or black or horse of this breed
41. **woofer** <WUF.uhr>
n / loudspeaker used to reproduce low-pitched sounds
42. **poetaster** <POH.it.as.tuhr>
n / writer of worthless verses
43. **paludal** <puh.LOOD.uhl> or <PAL.yuh.duhl>
adj / marshy, relating to boggy areas
44. **prophesier** <PRAHF.i.sii.uhr> or <PRAHF.i.see.uhr>
n / one who speaks as if divinely inspired, foreteller
45. **unwittingly** <uhn.WIT.ing.lee>
adj / unintentionally, unknowingly
46. ♦ **technocracy** <tek.NAHK.ruh.see>
n / government by management specialists
47. **speculator** <SPEK.yuh.lay.tuhr>
n / one who enters a business transaction and assumes risk
48. **restrictionism** <ri.STRIK.shuh.niz.uhm>
n / policy or opinion approving the imposition of limitations
49. **melatonin** <mel.uh.TOH.nin>
n / hormone that causes color change in epidermis of amphibians and reptiles
50. **webcam** <WEB.cam>
n / camera that can stream images to a computer to be sent to the Internet
51. **Midrash** <MID.rahsh>
n / one of commentaries on Hebrew Scriptures of 400-1200 CE.; ancient story for religious teaching