Errors Spell Checkers Do Not Correct and Style Sheet: 5 Years Later

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Abstract

This updated listing of words that are often confused by spell checkers is the most downloaded article among my works and those at my university. After 5 years, it has been frequently revised and added to with more than a thousand new words.

Spell checkers in writing programs and communication devices may change a written word to an unintended one and may provide auto completion as well. The writer or reader may note that a piece of work may be free from red (misspelling) or green (grammar/syntax error) underlining, but the wording may not be as intended. Likewise, the reverse may be true with the program flagging correctly written text. While dictionaries and lists of spelling demons, homonyms, and homophones exist, the following are a culling of words that spell checkers and auto completion programs may confuse. Each word is associated with a relevant related word to resolve ambiguity with eye toward both noun and verb usage, and unlike a dictionary is better regarded as a thesaurus. While yielding to the more common word, the pairings are usually alphabetically ordered by the word’s sound then by nouns then verbs. Because some spell checkers allow multiple generally acceptable spellings, the preferred spelling is presented herein. While casual misusage is understandable, many of the listings herein have been observed as errors in student work, colleague communications, and in the media. Generally not included are vulgar words as well as abbreviations including those used in chemistry, physics, commerce, and foreign exchange. American spellings are used herein which include endings of: -am, -ense, -ize, -or, and -ter instead of British endings of: -amme, -ence, -ise, -our, and -tre. Generally, a single consonant after a vowel or a terminal silent e makes the single vowel prior to the consonant long in pronunciation, and it is “i” before e except after c or before g.” Some proper and trade names and foreign words are shown if they are the same.

Generally adjectives ending in -ic are denotative (what it is), internally defined, or characteristic while words ending in -ical are connotative (what it is about), externally defined, or exceptional; nouns may end with -ic or -ics, adverbs with -ically or -ically. Consider: cleric -al, comic -al, cubic -al, economic -al, electric -al, ethic -al, heretic -al, historic -al, magic -al, mathematic -al, mystic -al, philosophic -al, psychoanalytic -al, rhetoric -al, statistic -al, theatric -al, topic -al, tropic -al, etc., where “the historical theatrical presentation” is a drama set in the past, but “the historic theatrical presentation” is a noteworthy florid oration. On the other hand, there are those that do not easily receive such treatment, e.g. acrobatic, artistic, athletic, caustic, democratic, dramatic, eclectic, ethnic, fantastic, ironie, magnetic, majestic, monotonic, public, political (political is either proper or a verb), realistic, sardonic, sarcastic, sonic, and toxic; there are also those which can be used as nouns: academic, cleric, comic, epidemic, esthetic, heretic, medic, mystic, psychic, psychotic, public, radical, relic, statistik, and topic.

Commonly mispronounced words include: accreditation ac-cre-di-ta-tion, amateur a-ma-teur, banal ba-nal, denunciation de-nun-ci-a-tion, epitome e-pi-to-me, etcetera et-ce-ter-a, harass har-ass, homogeneous ho-mo-ge-ne-ous, hyperbole hy-per-bo-le, integral in-te-gral, intelligentsia in-tel-li-Gen-tsi-a, interest in-te-rest, kiln kil(n), lackadaisical lac-ka-dai-si-cal, machinations ma-Ki-na-tions, medieval me-di-e-val, mischievous mis-chie-vous, naïveté na-iv(e)-té, nuclear nucl-e-ar, pronunciation pro-nun-ci-a-tion, regardless re-gard-less, renaissance re-nais-sance, unionized un-i-o-nized [chemistry] or un-ion-ized [work], and zoology zo-o-logy. There is a difference between as and like. Use as when followed by action (another verb or function); use like -s as a verb denoting a preference or otherwise for comparisons. The comparative usage is never followed by another verb (save gerund nouns—“There are things that always makes me happy, like walking the dog” versus “…as when I walk the dog.”).
Thereafter follows a style sheet noting that different versions exist among various fields and publications. It is offered here in recognition that writing programs often do little to correct notational styles.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a – [ind. article]/the [Port./to [Fr./Sp.],</th>
<th>an – [ind. article]—}}&gt;[vowel]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>abject – severe</td>
<td>object – contrary/thing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abode – residence</td>
<td>bode – expect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aboriginal – native</td>
<td>original – unique</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abroad – foreign</td>
<td>a broad – wide, a woman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abrogation – annulment</td>
<td>approbation – approval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>absent – not here</td>
<td>absinthe – liquor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>absentia – not present</td>
<td>abstention – avoid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>absolute – blameless</td>
<td>absolute – completely</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>abstract/ion – not tangible</td>
<td>obstruct/ion – block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accept – approve</td>
<td>except – exclude, excerpt – portion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accent – foreign dialect/add</td>
<td>ascent – rise, assent – agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>access – entrance</td>
<td>excess – extra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accrue/d – gain</td>
<td>ecru – yellow brown, a crew – team, crude – raw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>accuse – blame</td>
<td>excuse – absolve</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acquire – obtain</td>
<td>choir – chorus, quire – paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>action – movement</td>
<td>auction – bid sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acts – performs</td>
<td>ax(e)/-es – lumber tool/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>acute – sharp</td>
<td>cute – adorable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ad/s – marketing,</td>
<td>add/s – increase, aids – helps/disease, adz – ax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>addict – dependent</td>
<td>attic – roof</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>addiction – dependence</td>
<td>addition – increase</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>admiral – navy officer</td>
<td>admirable - worthy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>adverse – unfavorable</td>
<td>averse – opposed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>advice – suggestion [noun]</td>
<td>advise – suggest [verb]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>affinity – association</td>
<td>infinity – all, infinitely – unbounded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>afraid – scared</td>
<td>frazled – frazzled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aid/e – help/er</td>
<td>-ade – juice drink suffix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ail – ill</td>
<td>ale – drink</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ain’t – is not [incorrect]</td>
<td>isn’t – is not [correct]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>air/ed – gas/exposed,</td>
<td>arid – dry, err/ed – mistake/-n, +heir – inheritance, ear – listen, +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>airy – light</td>
<td>aerial – antenna, eerie – strange, Erie - lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aisle – passage</td>
<td>I’ll – I will, ill – sick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>align – straighten</td>
<td>a line – straight segment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>all – entire,</td>
<td>awl – tool, owl – bird, y’all – you all, al – to the [Spanish]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alliterative/on – same first sound</td>
<td>iterative/on – step by step</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allot – allocate</td>
<td>a lot – plenty [not allot]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allude – refer</td>
<td>elude – avoid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allusion – reference</td>
<td>illusion – unreal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ally – friend</td>
<td>alley – small street, alloy – metals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>allowed – permitted</td>
<td>aloud – vocalize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aloft – airborne</td>
<td>aloof – avoid, loft – warehouse apartment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>already – recently</td>
<td>all right – perfect [not alright]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>altar – pedestal</td>
<td>alter – change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alumnus – male graduate,</td>
<td>alumna – female graduate, alumni – graduates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amateur – devotee</td>
<td>armature – spindle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amaze – astound</td>
<td>amass – acquire, maze – labyrinth, maize – corn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ameliorate – improve,</td>
<td>amulet – charm [noun], emulate – surpass/copy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anachronism – outdated</td>
<td>aphorism – slogan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
anal – rectum, annals – history, anneal – temper, analysis – understanding
analog – modulation analogue – analogy
anathema – hated object asthma – difficult breathing
anatomic – body atomic – atom
anchor – steadied anger – infuriate
and – plus ant – insect, aunt – parent’s sister
anecdote – story antidote – poison remedy
anima – soul enema – colon cleansing, enemy – opponent
annoys – bothers noise – sound
anonymous – unknown unanimous – all
anus – rectum annus – year (Latin), onus – blame
ant – insect aunt – parent’s sister
antic/s – behavior antique/s – old
apiary – beehive aviary – bird cage
applicable – relevant appliqué – covering
appreciate – positive depreciate – insult, depreciate – decrease
apogee – farthest apology – sorry
approbation – approval probation – trial, appropriation – funding
arcane – complex archaic – old
are – be aria – music, arrears – past due, array – matrix
arise/arose – stand/stood [reflexive] arrive/s – become/s
art – esthetic Art/-hur – male name
artisan – stylish artesian – pressured well
artistic – stylish design autistic – impairment
as – per/the [plural Port.], ass/es – donkey/butt/s, asset/s – value, assess – measure
ascends – climbs [verb] ascents – climbs [noun]
ascetic – poor esthetic – art
ask – question ax(e) – tool
aspire – hope expire – end
assault – attack salt – seasoning
ascent – rise assent – agreement, accent – dialect/add
assay – analyze essay – writing, say – speak
assure – remove doubt, ensure – to be sure, insure – buy insurance
astringent – chemical stringent – strict
assuage – relieve usage – utilization
austere – sparse Austria/Australia – nation [Europe/Pacific]
at – eat [past] eight – 8
attach/ed – fasten/ed attaché – diplomat
attain – achieve obtain – get
attend/ed – be present intend/ed – desire/ed
auger – foretell augur – drill, A/-august – month/name/highly
aural – hearing oral – verbal
aviator – air pilot avatar – symbol
avocation – hobby vocation – career
awful – astound oval – round, offal – rubbish
awed – wowed odd – not even
awry – unplanned rye – grain, wry – thin/joke
axes – lumber tools axis – hub
aye – affirmative I – me/1, eye – vision
back – rear bake – cook
bad – not good, bid – offer, bade – desire, bud/-dy – young growth/friend
bag – sack
bagel – bread
bail – payment/scoop
bait – lure, ball – ed – sphere/dance/gathered
band – group/fastener
banister – raling
bar – rail
bard – writer
barrel – container/speed
barren – fallow
barrier – impediment,

bask – sun bathe
(ba)te – lessen
batch – portion
bath/e – immerse
bazaar – sales
be – to exist
bean – seed
beast – wild animal, breast – chest,
beat – drum/conquer
beatify – sanctify
beau – beauty
beauty – pretty thing
beer – beverage
believe – presume
berth – place
biretta – cleric hat
bladder – body organ
blade – grass/knife
blare – trumpet
blew – blow [past]
blotch – disfigurement
boater – rener
boat – ship,
B/bob – male name/ floating
body – main portion
bon mot – good word
booger – discharge
boos – jeers
booths – stands [noun]
born – birth
borrow – debt
bough – branch
bowl – container
boy – male child
brake – stop
bread – food
breach/s – breakthrough
bake – prepare
broach – commence
brow – view
buds – young
bullion – gold
bannershoot – umbrella [erroneously
but – however
bury – deeply
buy – purchase
caber – pole [Scottish]
cable – flexible
chace – flexible
kactus – plant
cadence – tempo
cadence – musical
cafe – restaurant
cake – dessert
calendar – days
calf – cow
call – speak
calorie – heat,
canon – artillery
canape – appetizer
cant – slope
canter – stroll
cap – cover
capable – able
capital – head
car – vehicle
carrot – gem
carry – transport
carrier – vehicle
cart – carry
carton – package
caress – container
cashmere – wool
cast – mold
caught – catch
+ catch – catch
cause – implement
cease – stop
+ size
+ cede – give
cell – enclosure
cement – glue
center – middle
centrifugal – outward
cents – pennies

cereal – grain

brave – wound, brood – offspring
brooch – ornament
brows – peruse
buzz – bee
bouillon – soup
bally – umbrella [Brit]
but – end, butte
Barry – male
by – method, bye
kaper – adventure
kabal – secret
cabal – secret group, Kabul – city,
hinder – hinder
cafeteria – food sieve, coriander – spice
cough – sputter, cuff
kale – plant, cool
kavalier – secret group, Calvary – church
calico – set
krafter – secret
kactus – plants
credibility – believable
cafeteria – cupboard
cap – jetty
kulpable – blame
capitol – government
kare – concern
karmel – vegetable
karnival – public
karry – transport
kurrier – messenger
court – square
karto – package
case – container
cash – money
Kashmir – region
caste – order
collected – catch
+ cut – separate
kitsch – banal
kost – value, ‘cause
kessels – measure
kessels – measure
seed – germin
closing – closure
celibi/ory – unmarried
sell – vend-
sell – vend
sell – animal
sell – animal
cinder – ash, sinter
sense – meaning
serial – sequenced

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| chalk – crayon | check – note, Czech, cheek – face |
| choke – squeeze | C/-chuck – male name/stop |
| chafe – scrape | chaff – discards |
| chair – seat | char – burn |
| chard – plant | charred – burnt |
| chased – pursued | chaste – virgin, chasten – chastise |
| chat – talk | chit – receipt, Chad – name/nation |
| chatter – talk | shatter – break |
| cheap – inexpensive | cheap – bird sound |
| chef – cook | chief – leader |
| chess – game | cheese – dairy, chest – box/breast |
| chew/s – eat/s, | choose/chose – choice [infinitive]/[past] |
| chic – trendy | chick – bird, sheik/-h – Bedouin |
| chill – cool | chili – pepper/food, Chile – nation |
| chin – jaw, | shin – leg, shim – adjust, C/-china – nation/dishware |
| choir – chorus | quire – paper, acquire – obtain |
| chow – meal | ciao – hello/good bye [Italian] |
| christen – launch | chrysalis – insect, crystal – glass, Christian – religion, chrysanthemum – flower |
| chute – fall | shoot – fire gun |
| cite – quote | site – location, sight – see, scythe – cutter |
| clad – covered, | clawed – scratched, clod – dirt/dullard, cloud – obscure |
| clan – family | clean – unblemished, clear – visible |
| claques – hired audience | click – press, clique – group |
| clause – subsection | claws – scratch |
| climb – mount [verb] | clime – climate |
| cloudy – overcast | clowder – cats, chowder – soup |
| close – shutter/near | cloth/-e/-es – covering/cover/wardrobe |
| closer – ender | closure – ending, cloture – vote |
| cloth – material | clothe – human covering |
| coach – bus/teach/er | couch – sofa/place |
| coarse – unrefined | course – path |
| coaster – glider | costar – fellow actor |
| coat/-ing – cover/-ing | code/-ing – encrypt/-ion |
| cock – bird/penis, | C/-coke – Coca Cola/furnace byproduct/cocaine, coax – motivate |
| coca – cocaine | cocoa – chocolate, caca – feces [Spanish] |
| coffer – box | coifure – hair, cougher – dislodge [person] |
| college – paste | college – school |
| Colomba – nation [Spanish] | Colombia – of Columbus [English] |
| committee – group | comity – courtesy, comedy – funny |
| common – likewise | commune – group/visit |
| communicative – understandable | cumulative – all prior |
| complement/-ary – make whole | compliment/-ary – free gift |
| complex – compound/complicated | complexion – appearance |
| computer – computation device | commuter – short distance traveler |
| C/-cologne – city/perfume | colon – rectum, column – pillar |
| colonel – military rank | kernel – seed |
| compost – recycle organics | compote - jelly |
| concert – together | disconcerting – bothersome |
| consecrate – bless | incarcerate – imprison |
| contiguous – connected | continuous – uninterrupted |
| contraction – shrink | contraption – silly device |
| conga – music | Congo – nation |
| coo – bird sound, | coup – hit/change (Fr.), cuckoo-cuckoo – clock/peak |
cookie – dessert
coopration – together
cop – police/plea
coral – sea growth
cord – rope/wood
core – center
corner – edge point
cough – dislodge
council – group/advice [noun]
cranial – brain
crass – uncouth
creek – brook
crewed – staffed
crews – teams
criterion – standard [singular]
critic – analyzer person
crochet – knit,
crock – nonsense/pot
crop – plants/cut
crotch – pelvic
cue – stick/prompt
cur/s – scoundrel/s,
daft – silly
dailey – each day
dailey – each day
dairy – milk
daic – glen
dam/n – reservoir/curse
dare – challenge,
data – information [plural],
D/dawn – female name/shed light,
days – time periods
deal – distribute/bargain
dear – beloved
death – life cessation
decent – proper
deck – terrace
décor – design
defection – quit
defer – yield
defiant/ly – contrary
deforestation – cut trees
delude – deceive
den – residence/the pl.[Ger],
+
dense – thick
dependence – reliance
depose – testify
deprieved – degenerate
deprecate – insult
description – story
desert – dry place/depart
desperate – needy
deter – repel

desperate

desert

description

deprecate

depose

desert

desperate

deter
device – apparatus
dial – display
did – do [past]
die/s – cease/s life/the[German], +
dip – submerge
dim – less light
dine/r – eat/restaurant
ding – bell sound/dent/diminish
dire – extreme
discreet – trusty
discussed – conversation
do – perform/of the[Port.],
doe – deer
does – deer [plural]/performs, dose – portion, doze – sleep, dos – do [plural]/2 [Spanish]/of the[Port.]
doesn’t – does not
dole – donation
done – complete,
doom – foreboding
doorknob – door
dragon – mythical creature
dracons – dragon
draft – design/tug/induct
dramatic – theatric
drape – cover
dread – anxiety
ducked – lowered
dud – failure
duel – gun fight
dungeonous – medieval
earn – gain
earth – soil
eat – consume
ebulent – bubbly
ecliptic – diverse,
eclectic – diverse,
eecstatic – joyful
eddy – current flow
edginess – edgy
effeminate – womanly
e.g. – example
el – elevated/the [Spanish]
electoral – voting
elegant – stylish
elicit – obtain
eliminate – exclude
ellipse – oval
e – M/wide font
emigrate – exit
emollient – soothe
emphatic – emphatic
empire – kingdom
encryption – encode
engine – motor
enema – colon cleansing
enigmatic – unknowable
enigmatic – pigment
ensue – follow
entomology – insect study
eon – billion years
epic – historic
epitaph – tombstone
equate – equal
era – time
errand – small journey
escalate – increase
eschew – avoid
espouse – promote
estrange – separate
etch/-ing – draw/-ing
ether/-eal – chemical/insubstantial
ethnic/-al – moral
evacuate – empty
evade/evasive – hides
even – equal
ex – former
exacerbate – worsen
exact – precise/perform
exalt/-ation – raise esteem
exercise – implement
exit – out
expansive – broad
expect – anticipate
extant – existing
extrapolate – extend
extrude – pushed out
eye/d – vision/viewed
eyelet – small hole
face – front
facet – angle
fact/-s – datum/data
faction – sub group
fad – recent trend
fail – not succeed
fair – not near
farce – comedy
farther – distance
fat – large
fatal/-e – deadly, [fem. French]
feat – performance
feel (not) well – touches (not) well
felled – fallen
feud – fallen
issue – distribution
etymology – word origin
ion – molecule
epoch/-s – era/-s, epoxy – glue
epithet – curse
equilibrate – balance, equivocate – avoid answer
err/or – mistake, heir – inheritance
emasculate – castrate
issue – distribution
expose – uncover, spouse – mate
strange – different, strain – sift/pull
itch/-ing – need to scratch
either – one of
ethnic – racial
excavate – dig
invasive – intrudes
event – celebration, eventual – end
X – 10
exasperate – vex, extricate – withdraw
extract – remove
exult/-ation – joy
exemplar – prototype
exorcise – drive out
exist – to be
expensive – costly
expert – knowledgeable
sextant – measuring device
interpolate – estimate
exude – give off
aye – affirmative, id – psychology, I’d – me/I would, +
1D – identification, i – in [Swed.] and [Sp.]
Id – identification
I – in [Swed.] and [Sp.]
islet – small island
faze – bother, phase – cycle, fuss – bother
faucet – water spout
fax – facsimile, vex – bother
fiction – not true
fade – diminish, F/-fed – Federal/ate
fall – autumn/descent, fell – topple, fill – add, full – complete
ferry – boat
façade – front/cover
fellow – comrade, follow – after
frantic – urgent
faire – bazaar/just/pale, fare – price, fear – afraid
fire – tree, fire – flame
force – pressure
further – continue
fate – destiny, fit – size/ready, fought – fight [past]
fetal – unborn child
feet – foot [plural], fete – feast
feel good/bad – health/sensation
felt – hat material/feel [past]
feudal – fiefdom, futile – cannot win
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Word</th>
<th>American English Word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F/-fez - city/hat</td>
<td>fizz - bubbly, fuzz - police/wooly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fiancé - to be wed</td>
<td>faience - ceramic [French], finance - manage cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fig - fruit</td>
<td>fog - low cloud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filet - net [French],</td>
<td>fill - add, fillet - boneless, filly - horse, flay - skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>filing - application/scraping,</td>
<td>filling - insertion, fling - chance/hurl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>final - end</td>
<td>finale - terminal celebration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>find - locate</td>
<td>feigned - faked, fined - cash punishment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finish - end/shine</td>
<td>Finnish - Finland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fish - water animal</td>
<td>phish - fake email</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fisher - fish catcher</td>
<td>fissure - opening, phisher - fake emailer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fiscal - calendar</td>
<td>physical - movement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flaccid - deflated</td>
<td>flax - plant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flail - flop</td>
<td>flay - to skin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flair - style</td>
<td>flare - torch/extension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flap - cover/disagreement</td>
<td>flip - turn, flop - failure/slam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flat - apartment/smooth,</td>
<td>flat - flew, float - rise/launch, flout - disregard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flatter - smoother/charm [verb]</td>
<td>flatter - flit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flawed - imperfect</td>
<td>flowed - circulate, flood - inundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>floral - flower</td>
<td>flimsy - weak, phlegm - sputum, Flemish - Flemish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flea/s - insect/s</td>
<td>flea/s - depart/s, fleece - wool/rob</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flecks - spots</td>
<td>flex - bend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flier - aviator,</td>
<td>filer - file [person], flyer [Brit.] - leaflet/speculation [Am.]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>floe - floating ice</td>
<td>flow - proceed, movement, Flo - Florence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flour - food ingredient</td>
<td>flower - plant bloom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>flu - influenza</td>
<td>flue - furnace vent, flew - fly [past]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foe - enemy</td>
<td>faux - false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fold - crease</td>
<td>foaled - horse birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fond - residue/prefer,</td>
<td>found - discovered, fount/-ain - water, font - type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fool - dumb</td>
<td>fuel - energy, foal - horse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>founder - originator/sink</td>
<td>flounder - fish/clumsy flopping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for - intended</td>
<td>fore - before, four - 4, fur - hair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forced - overpowered</td>
<td>forest - trees, frost - ice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F-/ford - automobile/wade</td>
<td>fjord - water inlet, afford - budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foreword - introduction</td>
<td>forward - advance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>forth - proceeding</td>
<td>fourth - 4th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>form - style</td>
<td>forum - theater, from - origin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>formally - officially</td>
<td>formally - previously</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fort - fortification</td>
<td>forte - strength, forté - loud</td>
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<tr>
<td>found - discovered</td>
<td>fun/d - pleasure/monies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foul - error</td>
<td>fowl - bird, foal - horse</td>
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<tr>
<td>fractal - sub pattern</td>
<td>fractional - portion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fraction - portion</td>
<td>friction - abrasive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frank/-furter - honest/hot dog</td>
<td>Frank/-lin - male name/$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freight - shipment</td>
<td>fret - musical scale/worry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>friar - priest</td>
<td>fryer - cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fraud - deceit</td>
<td>fraught - filled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>freeze - solidify</td>
<td>frieze - decorative façade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frill - adornment,</td>
<td>shrill - high pitched, trill - sound flourish, thrill - excitement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fulsome - deceptive</td>
<td>Folsom - city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fungus - mushroom</td>
<td>fungi - mushrooms [plural]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gaff - error</td>
<td>golf - game, guff - backtalk, gulf - void</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gait - slow gallop</td>
<td>gate - low door, get - obtain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gal - woman</td>
<td>gale - wind, gall - nerve, gill - breathe, goal - purpose, +</td>
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<tr>
<td>Word</td>
<td>Synonym</td>
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<td>galaxy</td>
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<td>bet</td>
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<td>get</td>
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<td>$10^{100}$</td>
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<td>smile, groan</td>
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<td>Grant</td>
<td>name</td>
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<td>great</td>
<td>large, greet</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| hate | dislike, hit | strike, hot | warm, hut | shed, Haiti | nation, haute | high | [Fr.]
| hitch | halt, hutch | bin |
| hotty | sexy | [informal] |
have – possess
hay – plant/there is [Spanish]
head – top/toward
heal – recover
heard – listened
heart – blood pump/center
height – tall measure,
hen – chicken
her – possessive [feminine]
herd – animal group
hearse – funeral carriage
heroin – drug
hew – chop
higher – above
him – male [object]
hippopotamus – animal
his – possessive [masculine]
ho – greeting/whore/have [Italian]
hole – opening
hoard – gathering,
hoarse – voiceless
home – center/residence
horror – frightening
humidity – moist air
hungry – need food
hyper – more
idiom – language
idle – unengaged
ignominoius – shameful
ill/s – sick
imminent – soon
imply – intend
impotent – unable
impossible – not able
in – [prep.]
inalienable – permanent
incite – instigate
inferior – lesser
infinitely – unbounded
inscription – writing
insolent – rude
integration – meld
inter – burial
intrastate – inside state
intervene – intrude
irascible – anger prone
ire – anger,
iron – metal/press
its – possessive
J/-jack – male name/lift
jail/ed –
jar – container, ajar – open
jasmine – flower
have – possess
hay – plant/there is [Spanish]
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J/-jack – male name/lift
jail/ed –
jar – container, ajar – open
jasmine – flower
jejune – young
jet – speed
jewed – strict negotiation (racist)
jewel – gem
jocular – humorous
jute – plant
kill/ed – murder/ed
kitsch – not stylish
knave – rascal
knead – roll dough
knew – understood/acquainted,
knight – rank
know/s – understand/acquainted/ed
lack/s – miss/es,
ladder – steps
laid – lay [past],
lair – den
lamb – sheep
lap/s – seating/sip/round
largesse – charity
lash – fasten
late – tardy
later – future
lath – plaster
laude – award
laugh/ed – joke/ed
launch – inaugurate
law – rule,
+ la/LA/L.A. – music/the [Sp./Fr./It.]/Louisiana/Los Angeles
laze – relax,
led – [verb past] lead
leader – prime
leafs – flips through
leak – drip
leave – depart
least – minimal
left – port [side]
legislator – representative
lemma – choice
lends – loans
less – decrease
lesbian – female homosexual
lessee – renter
lessen – decrease,
letter – character/message
lieu – place,
ligament – connection
lightening – less heavy
limber – flexible
liquor – drink spirits
lisp – speech impediment
literal – verbatim
lived – live [past]
liver – body organ
loaf – bread/loiter
loan – lend
load – weight, fill
lock/s – security device
lodge – place
loon – bird
lott – money, pilfer
lose – misplace
louder – window slat
lumber – back
ma – mother
macro – large
made – make [past],
magma – lava
magnanimous – kindly
magnate – major business person
mail – postal
main – harm
main – central,
major – important
mall – courtyard,
mammary – female
manifest – list, produce
manner – method
many – numerous
manacle – handcuff
mar – sea [Spanish]/deface
marble – stone/varied coloration
M-/march – month/parade
marking – print
marquee – theater display
mars – make imperfect
marry – wed
martyr – victim
mash – crush
mass – body
mass – body
+ 
massage – rub
mat – rug,
mave – grayish purple
M-/may – month/permit,
maze – labyrinth,
meal – food,
meat – flesh
medal – award
medium – means/measure
media/um – communication
meld – join
melee – fight
M-/mercury – planet/quicksilver
mercy – forgiveness
meretricious – vulgar/money | meritorious – worthy
metal – chemical | mettle – spirit
mew – cat sound | moo – cow sound, mu – M/μ
mic – microphone | Mike/-cheal – male name
mind – consciousness, | mine/-d – my/dug, Mayan – former natives
miner – digger | minor – juvenile/lesser
minute – 60 seconds/small | minuet – dance
misery – suffering | miserly – stingy
miss – lack | Miss – maiden, Ms. – woman
missed – omitted | mist – water
missile – projectile | missive – message
mitt – glove | myth – legend, mit – with [German]
mmemonic–memory aid, | monotony/-ic repeats/rises, pneumatic – lungs
mobile – moveable | Mobil – former petroleum company
model – miniature | mottle – speckled
modern – new | moderne – art style
mahogany – wood | monogamy – single marriage
mold – fungus/form | molt – shed
mom/-my – mother | mum/my – flower/quiet/embalmed
moose – animal/-s | mouse/mice – foam/animal/-s, muss – mess
moot – past questioning | moat – ditch, mute – quiet, mutt – dog
more/-s – customs/additional | M/-moor – Arab/field/tie down
morn/-ing – daybreak | mourn/-ing – sad/-ness
motif – design | motive – desire
much – great, | mulch – soil, mush – ground cereal/march [Canadian]
muscle – flesh | mussel – shellfish
Muslim – Islam believer | muslin – cloth
muster – strength | mustard – seed
nacelle – cowling | nasal – nose
niggardly – stingy [Norwegian]
+ nail – fastener/claw | nil – nothing
narwhal – whale | gnarl – twisted
Nash – name/car | gnash – grind
natty – nicely | net – catch, newt – animal, gnat/nit – insect
naught/-y – nil/misbehave, | knot/-ty – tie/complex, node – branch, not – no,
+ | nut/-y – seed, nod – head down, note – music/jot
nauseous – makes sick | noxious – deadly gas
naval – maritime | navel – belly
nay –negative, | na–in the [Portuguese], née –born as, neigh –horse sound
near – close by | ne’er – never, nor – neither
neither – both [negative] | nether – low
negation – negative | negation – barter
net – catch | newt – animal
N/-nice – city/pleasant | niece – sibling daughter, gneiss – rock
nine – 9 | nein – no [German]
noble – regal/inert gas/lofty | Nobel – chemist/prize
none – negative | nun – cleric, noon – midday
nook – opening | nuke – nuclear
nose – smell, | noose – loop, knows – know [3rd], nos – in the [plural Port.]
oak – tree, | OK – approved, K – kilo/1000, cay/quai – island/wharf[Fr.]
oar – boat tool | or/e – instead/mineral, o’er – over
oat – grain | out – exit, ought – should, owed – indebted

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obstreperous – contrary
octopus – animal
of – from
ogre – beast
oh – exclamation,
ohm – electrical measure
omelet – egg meal
on – upon
one – 1
ordnance – military equipment
orient – locate/east
over – above/passed
overdo – excess
pa – father,
paced – followed
pack/s – load, pax – peace
paddle – swat,
paid – pay [past]
pail – bucket,
pair – couple, par – equal, pare – trim
pallet – mounting surface,
palm – tree
pan – shallow container/rate low
pang – pain
pant – trouser/breath heavy,
paparazzo – fish, photographer
parameter – variable
parity – equality
parish – area
parse – separate
part – piece
party – celebration,
passé – old
passed – overtook
pastiche – imitation
pastor – clergy
pat/pet – touch/animal
patch – covering
pathetic – sad
patient/ce – time tolerant
paunch – stomach
pause – stop
pawn – chess piece/hock
pea/s – vegetable/-s
peak – mountain top
pearl – jewelry
peal/–ed – unwrap/-ped
peculiar/–ity – uniqueness
pediatrician – baby doctor
pedigree – heritage
pen – enclose/write
penal – punishment
obstetrician – doctor
octopuses – animals [plural]
off – not on, oaf – dullard
orgy – love party
owe – due, O/o – the [Port.], au – to the [French]
om – chant
umblaut – +e [German]
own – possess
won – win [past]/Chinese food
ordinance – law
orientate – locate [British]
œuvre – work effort [French]
overdue – late
på - on [Danish/Swedish], paw – animal foot/touch
paste – glue
pale – foot lever, peddle – sell, petal – flower part
payed – slackened
pal – friend, pale – whitish, pill – medicine/shed[verb]
parody – imitation
palate – roof of mouth, palette – paint mixer, pellet – small ball
pom(-pom) – cheerleader device
paint – apply color, pint – quantity, punt – kick/defer
panini – sandwiches [plural]
paparazzi – photographers [plural]
periode – boundary
perish – die
pears – fruits, purse – bag/kiss
port – harbor/liquor/left
posse – group
past – former
pistachio – nut
pasture – field, pasteurize – boiled
pitch – tar/music
prophetic – foretold
patient/s – doctor client/s
punch – hit
paws – mammal feet, pa’s – dad’s, posse – group
prawn – shrimp
pee/s – urinate/-s/P, peace – tranquility, piece – portion
peek – furtive look, pique – bother/interest
peril – danger, puereill – childish, prowl – lurk
pel – ring, pelt – fur/strike
pecuniary – money, culinary – cooking
podiatrist – foot doctor
perige – closest
pin – pointed
penile – male sex
penchant – inclination  
penultimate – 2nd to last  
per – each/by  
pernicious – mean spirited  
perquisite/perk – benefit/alert  
personal – individual  
perturbation – agitation  
peasant – bird  
phenomenon – occurrence [singular]  
phone – telephone/-y  
picture – scene  
pie – dessert  
pienty – religious  
pile – heap  
pilot – guide  
pip – bud  
plaid – crisscross design  
plain – simple/field  
plague – disease  
plea/-s – request/-s  
plum – fruit  
plod – step  
P-pole – Polish/long stick,  
poignant – relevant  
pond – lake  
poodle – dog  
pool – lake/game/gather  
poor – not rich  
poplar – tree  
poppycock – nonsense  
portend – foretell  
pose – position  
push – nice/“Port Out Stern Home”  
postpone – delay  
pray/-s – ask/-s  
precede – prior  
precedence – rule  
precept – presumption  
precipitate – rain/cause  
precipitous – hasty  
prefer – like  
premier – chief  
preparation – readiness  
prepare – ready  
prerequisite – requirement  
presence – attendance  
prescribe – recommend  
P-/president – [with proper name]/[without],  
presume – believe  
pries – opens with effort  
prim – proper  
prince – king’s son  
principal – important  
pension – retirement  
ultimate – 1st/last, petulant – fretful  
purr – cat sound  
promiscuous – libertine  
prerequisite – requirement  
personnel – employees  
protuberance – protruding  
pleasant – comfortable  
phenomena – occurrences [plural]  
phony – insincere  
pitty – sorry, pithy – meaty  
pill – medicine/ bead  
Pontius Pilate – Roman governor  
pi – Π/π  
piety – religious  
pity – sorry, pithy – meaty  
plague – disease  
plaque – sign announcement  
please – favor  
plumb – align, aplomb – confidence  
potential – meaningful, pretend – not genuine  
pose – position  
push – shove  
priest – advance [Indian]  
praise – compliments, prey – food  
proceed – continue  
precedent – previous  
preset – default  
reciprocate – respond  
propitious – favorable  
preface – like  
premier – chief  
repair – correct  
prequisite/perk – reward/alert  
presents – gifts/gives  
proscribe – bounded  
resume – start again, résumé - summary  
prize – value  
prime – basic  
print/-s – impression/-s  
principle – rule
prior – previous  prier – opener, priory – church
prodigy – young genius  progeny – offspring
profit – gain  prophet – foretell
prone – reclined  prune – fruit\/trim
prostate – male organ  prostrate – reclined
province – region  provenance – origin, providence – gift
proximate – next  proxy – substitute
psychology\/-ist – mental\/analyst  psychiatry\/-ist – brain\/doctor
public – sexual privates  public – everyone
purse – kiss ready\/bag  purrs – cat sound
pylon – pole  python – snake
quack – false doctor\/duck sound  quake – earth tremble
quail – animal  quill – feather
quality\/-ative – better  quantity\/-ative – amount
quash – suppress  squash – plant\/crush
quit – cease  quite – more so, quiet – silence
rabbet – indentation  rabbit – animal
rabbits – clerics  rabies – animal disease
rack – display  rake – tool\/rascal
racket – noise\/deception  racquet – webbed paddle
racketeer – criminal  raconteur – story teller
rail – guide\/complain  rile – disturb
rain – precipitation,  ran – run [past], reign – governance, rein – leash, Rhein – river
raise – lift\/parent [verb],  race – competition\/origin, raze – destroy, rays – shine
rally – gathering  really – true
ranch – animal farm  raunchy – rude, wrench – tool
rap\/-ped – tap\/speak,  rape – violate, wrap – contain, rapt – engrossed
raptor – bird  rapture – joy, rupture – burst
rare – unusual  rear – back\/raise, roar – yell
rat – animal  rate – tariff\/evaluate, writ – legal
rational – logical  rationale – reason
read – view\/ed words,  red – color\/network [Spanish], reed – grass
real – true\/regal [Spanish]  reel – coil
realty – home sales  reality – truth, Realtor – group
reason – logic  resin – sap, raison – dried grape\/reason (Fr.)
reassurance – gain certainty  reinsurance – secondary insurance
rebound – come back  redound – accrue
recede – pull back  reside – inhabit, reseed – replant
recent – near past  resend\/-t – send again\/[past], rescind – cancel
reckless – without care  feckless – fearless
recreation – relaxation  re\/-creation – repeat
redaction – reviewed  reductive – simple
reek – smell bad  wreck – damage
refer\/-red – indicate\/-d,  reefer – refrigerator\/joint, refereed – juried
register – check in  registrar – office
relay\/-s – sequence\/-s  rely\/-ies – depend\/-s
remainder – leftover  reminder – recall
remand – send back  reprimand – scold
remuneration – payment  re\/-\(e\)numeration – recount
rescind – cancel  resend – send again
residence – home  residents – dwellers
resolution – decision  revolution – change\/cycle
respite – pause  respiration – breathe
resume – continue  résumé – personal summary
revile – ridicule  reveille – wake up
revise – change  revive – back to life
rhinoceros – animal  rhinoceroses – animals [plural]
rice – grain  rise/rise – lift/-ed/flower
rich – wealthy  wretch – horrid
rid/-s – dispose/-s,  ride – carried, writ/-s – warrant/-s, Ritz – 5 star
rife – full  riff/-raff – portion/commoner
right –correct/starboard,  rite –ceremony, wright –worker, write –print
rigor – difficult  de rigueur – proper, vigor – strength
risky – unsafe  risqué – sexually suggestive
roam – wander  Rome – city
rob/-bed – steal/stole,  robe/-d – clothe/-d, rub/-bed – massage/-d
roll – stir  royal – regal
role – character  roll – list/revolve
roof – building cover  rough – irregular
roomer – boarder  rumor – gossip
root – plant  rout – extract, route – plan
rose – flower/lifted  rows – lines/strokes
rot/-e – decay/memory,  rut – groove, wrought – work, wrote – printed
roughly – approximately  ruffled – loose folds
row – scuffle/boat  roué – cad, rho – P/p
ruin – relic/destroy  rune – letter character
rush/-es – thicket/hurry  Russ/-ia – name/nation
rustle – movement  Russell – male name, wrestle - grapple
rye – grain,  RAI – Radio Audizioni Italiane, raï – Arabic music, +
+  wry – thin/jest, awry – unplanned
sack – bag/discharge  sac – biologic container, sake – drink/interest
sacred – holy  scare/-d – frighten/-ed, scar/-red – wound/-ed
sad – unhappy  said – say [past], side – vertical, sod – soil, sighed – breathed, suds – soapy
sadden – make unhappy,  sodden – wet, sudden – quick, Sudan –nation
sadistic – cruel  statistic – data
sail – boat by wind  sale – vend, soil – dirty
sallow – sickly yellow  shallow – not deep, fallow – barren
salon – room  saloon – bar, selon – according [French], Ceylon/Sri Lanka – nation
salve – ointment  save – conserve, savvy – smart
sample – test  simple – not complex
sanguine – cheerful/bloody  sequin – ornament
sap – tree/drain,  sip – drink, soap – cleanser, soup – meal, sup – dine
sari – Asian dress  sorry – apology
sate/-ed – feed/fed fully  seat/-ed – chair/sat
sate – cloth  Satan – Devil
scald – burn  scold – reprimand, schooled – educated
scale – covering/weigh  skill – ability, school – learn
scam – deception  scheme – plot, skim – superficial
scamp – rascal  skimp – minimal
scar/-red – wound/-ed,  scare/-d – frighten/-ed, score/-d – gain/-ed
scene – locale  seen – had viewed
scent – smell  sent – send [past]
scepter – regal wand  specter – ghost
schooner – boat  sooner – recent
scoop – large spoon  skip – jump over
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>scotch</td>
<td>a drink</td>
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<td>scrap</td>
<td>discard</td>
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<td>mar</td>
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<td>fight</td>
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<td>ocean</td>
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<td>cook</td>
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<td>- bottom</td>
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<td>- chop</td>
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<td>shall</td>
<td>- will</td>
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<td>- fragment</td>
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<td>shoe</td>
<td>- foot/hoof,</td>
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<td>shoot</td>
<td>- young growth/fire,</td>
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<td>should</td>
<td>- obliged</td>
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<td>- high pitched</td>
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<td>- shiver</td>
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<td>sic</td>
<td>- verbatim/pursue</td>
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<td>sigh</td>
<td>-/s - wistful breath/-s,</td>
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<td>- indication</td>
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<td>- foolish</td>
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<td>- basin</td>
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<tr>
<td>sir/ - e</td>
<td>- male salutation</td>
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<td>slack/s</td>
<td>- gap/pants</td>
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<td>slat</td>
<td>- thin board</td>
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<td>- salad</td>
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<td>- kill</td>
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<td>- wipe</td>
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<td>- sensed odor</td>
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<td>- burn</td>
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<td>smoother</td>
<td>- more flat</td>
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<td>snip</td>
<td>- cut</td>
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<td>soar/ed</td>
<td>- fly/flew,</td>
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<td>sold</td>
<td>- sell [past]</td>
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<td>solder</td>
<td>- meld</td>
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<td>Scots</td>
<td>- people</td>
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<td>scrape</td>
<td>- scratch</td>
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<td>skiff</td>
<td>- boat</td>
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<td>shuffle</td>
<td>- rearrange</td>
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<tr>
<td>see -</td>
<td>province/view, C - 100, sí/sí - if/yes</td>
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<td>seem</td>
<td>- appear, same - identical</td>
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<td>semen</td>
<td>- seed</td>
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<td>seer</td>
<td>- foresee</td>
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<td>reproductive germ</td>
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<td>- sequence</td>
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<td>- procreation</td>
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<td>Sikh/s</td>
<td>- Punjabi/s, six - 6</td>
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<td>shellfish</td>
<td>- crustacean</td>
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<td>Seminole</td>
<td>- native American</td>
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<td>scent</td>
<td>- smell</td>
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<td>since</td>
<td>- from [time], cents - pennies</td>
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<td>separate</td>
<td>- dotted holes</td>
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<td>sequence</td>
<td>- cloth ornamentation</td>
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<td>surf</td>
<td>- skim</td>
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<tr>
<td>sheriff</td>
<td>- county police</td>
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<td>cereus</td>
<td>- cactus, Sirius/Ceres - stars/goddess</td>
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<tr>
<td>sever</td>
<td>- a few</td>
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<tr>
<td>soon</td>
<td>- near in time, sown - seeded</td>
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<td>shekel</td>
<td>- coin</td>
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<td>shell</td>
<td>- (un)cover, shill - cohort, shoal -</td>
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<td>shall</td>
<td>- coast, school - learn</td>
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<td>shared</td>
<td>- gave</td>
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<td>shoe</td>
<td>- scatter, show/-n - display/-ed, shun -</td>
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<td>shoot</td>
<td>- yell, shut - close, shot - fire [past]</td>
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<tr>
<td>should</td>
<td>- presented</td>
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<tr>
<td>shrill</td>
<td>- sound flourish, thrill - excitement</td>
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<tr>
<td>shutter</td>
<td>- closure/close, stutter/sputter -</td>
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<tr>
<td>sic</td>
<td>- ill</td>
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<tr>
<td>sigh</td>
<td>- quantity, psi - Ψ/φ, scythe/-s -</td>
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<tr>
<td>sign</td>
<td>- fault/trigonometry, sen - Japanese</td>
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<td>silly</td>
<td>- besmirch, sally - walk</td>
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<td>sink</td>
<td>- synchronize/-d</td>
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<td>sir/ - e</td>
<td>- birthed</td>
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<tr>
<td>slack/s</td>
<td>- quench</td>
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<tr>
<td>slat</td>
<td>- list/rock, slit - narrow opening/cut</td>
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<td>slaw</td>
<td>- killed, slow - not fast, slough -</td>
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<tr>
<td>slay</td>
<td>- sled</td>
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<td>sleight</td>
<td>- minimal</td>
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<td>- spread</td>
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<td>smelt</td>
<td>- fish/metal treatment</td>
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<td>smoke</td>
<td>- strike</td>
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<td>smother</td>
<td>- deny air</td>
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<tr>
<td>snipe</td>
<td>- bird/shoot</td>
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<td>so</td>
<td>- more,</td>
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<tr>
<td>soar/ed</td>
<td>- name/legal action</td>
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<tr>
<td>so/sue</td>
<td>- name/legal action</td>
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<tr>
<td>sold</td>
<td>- sold - sell [past]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>soldier</td>
<td>- military</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
sole – bottom/single
solace – comfort
some – partial
son/-ny – male child
sordid – immoral
sot–drunk,
sound – noise/depth
span – reach,
spar – boat item,
spat/spit – shoe/[past]/-discharge/rotisserie
specious – false argument
speak/spoke
spin/spirt
squad – group
staff – stick/assistants
staid – sober/established
stair – tread
stake – investment/spike
stationary – fixed in place
statue – model
steal/stole – rob/-bed/coat,
steep – sloped/linger
steer/-ed – animal/guide/-d
stick/s – branch/-es
stop – halt
straight – direct
strange – bizarre
strain – silt/stretch
sully – besmirch,
summary – outline
sundae – dessert
sublime – chemical/subtle
sudden – quick
sugary – sweet
suit – appropriate/clothing
superficial – skim
surpass – better
swap – exchange
swat/-h – swipe/cut
sweat – perspiration
swell/swoll – enlarge/[past]/great
swish – sashay
symbol – emblem
tabulation – tally
tack/s/-ed – fasten(er)/-s/-ed
tail – rear
talk – say
tambour – drum
tap–touch,
taper – attenuate

tar – petroleum,
tare – net weight, tear/tore – eye/rip/[past], tier – stage, +
tire – wheel/fatigue, tour – travel

soil – dirt/-y, soul – essence, Seoul – South Korea capital
solstice – sun cycle extreme
sum – total, psalm – prayer
sun/-ny – our star/daylight
sorted – arranged
soot–ash, suit – outfit/apropos, sued–law, sought–seek [past]
spun – tanned
spin/-un – rotate/-d, sprain – hurt, Spain – nation
spare – extra, spear – sword, spore – seed, spur – extension, sparse – few
spite – revenge, sprite – faerie/limber, spate – period
species – animal grouping
spook – ghost
spill – overturn, spool – wheel
spinster – single woman
squid – fish, squib – degrees, squab – bird
staphylococcus – bacteria
stayed – remained
star – sky/actor, stare – look at, starboard – right
steak – beef, stack – pile
stationery – writing paper
statute – law
steel – metal, stool – chair/feces, stale – old
step – advance, steppe – prairie
stir/-red – mix/-ed
shtick – act, Styx – river
stoop – stairs/bend
straits/narrow
strangle – squeeze
strewn – scattered
surly – rude, surely – positively, Shirley–female name
summery – warm
Sunday – Sabbath/day
supine – back
Sudan – nation
surgery – medical cutting
suite – room
superfluous – unnecessary, supercilious – arrogant
surprise – unexpected
sweep – clean, swipe – steal, swoop – fly
swarthy – dark
sweet – sugary
swill – spoiled
Swiss – Switzerland, swoosh – air sound
cymbal – drum instrument
titillation – tease, tintinnabulation – tinkling
tact – skill, take – receive, tax – fee
tale – story, tell – say
tock – clock sound (tick-)
tamper – disrupt
tape–fasten/record, tip–turnover/benefit, type–genre/print
tapir – animal
tare – net weight, tear/tore – eye/rip/[past], tier – stage, +
tire – wheel/fatigue, tour – travel
taro – vegetable
tarp – covering
tart – sweet

taught – instructed, taut – tight, tout – promote/all [French], tot – child, tote – carry, toot - whistle

tea/-s – a drink
teat – nipple

teepee – native tent

teethe – teat

tent – tentacle, tentacles

tend – growing pain
telepathy – mind reading
temblor – quake

temper – anger/anneal

temporal – time

temptation – desire
ten – 10

tentacle – extremity

tent/-s – cloth structure,
tern – bird

than – comparative

the – specific

their – possessive,

theirs – possessive [plural]

these – nearby

thirsty – dry

throw – throw [past]
tick/-tock – insect/twitch/time second,

tuck – place inside, toke – puff, toque – hat,+

+touque – warm hat [Canadian]
tie – knot, equal

till – cashbox/turn soil/to [Swedish], ‘til – until, til – to [Danish]
time – clock

tip – benefit/turn over
tire – wheel/fatigue

to – infinitive/direction,
toad – frog

toe – foot digit

told – said

ton/-ne – 2,000 pounds/[British],

+ tine – pitch, atone – undo harm, toon – cartoon,+
tune – song/adjust pitch

torrents – inundation
	turret/-s - revolving platform

towel – drying cloth

trail – path,

train – vehicle/exercise

translation – change language

trap – snare

tread/trod – sole/step/[past]

tray – agreement

treble – music/3 times [adj.],
treacherous – betraying.
trellis – support

trench – hole

tribulation – trial

tri – triple

try – attempt
trickle – drip
trumpet – bugle
trust – rely
turban – hat
tutor – instruct
tweet – chirp
twin – pair
udder – cow mammary
underling – subordinate
unique – one of a kind,
until – ’til, up to
vain – selfish
valet – servant
valor – courage
valuable – worthy
vary – change
vat – container
venal – abhorrent
veneer – appliqué
venous – vein
verbal – oral
verses – lyrics
vertex – angle
vial – container
vie – compete
victuals/vittles – food/[slang]
vigour – physical harm
virga – dry rain
virtual – realistic
waif–child,
wail/s – cry/-ies,
wail/wake/– funeral/wave/-s,
wake – proceed by foot,
wander – without goal
want – desire
ware – products
warehouse – depot
warrior – soldier
warship – military vehicle
wary – afraid
was/n’t – be[past]/-not,
we – us
weak – not strong
weather – climate
weave – intersperse
wed – marry
weird – different
weld – bond
treacle – molasses
strumpet – prostitute
tryst – meeting, triste – sad [French]
turbine – impeller
Tudor – style, two door – car
twit – simpleton
twine – string
utter – speak/entire
underlining – underscored
eunuch – castrated male, UNIX - computer
vane – propeller, vein – path/meaning, vine – plant
valley – depression
velour – velvet
viable – life
very – more so
vet – veteran/veterinarian/examine
venerable – persistent
vernier – adjustment device
Venus – planet/goddess
vernal – autumn
versus – counter/against
vortex – turbulence
vile – abhorrent
V – 5
vitals – life statistics
violets – flowers
virgin – chaste, verga – penis [Spanish]
virtuous – righteous
wave – salute, wave–sew [past], wife–woman, waive–excuse
wall/s – side, whale/s – sea mammal/s, Wales
waste – left over
wet–moisten, weight–proportion/measurement, wit–smart
wastrel – waster
WAAC – Women’s Army Corps, wax – bees
wok – cooking utensil, woke – wake [past]
wonder – question
wont – predisposed, won’t – will not
wear/wore – clothe/[past], wire – thread, weir – breakwater, +
were – be [past], we’re – we are, wary – cautious
Wherehouse – store name
warier – more cautious, worship – pray
weary – tired
way/s – path/s, weigh/s – measure/s, whey – milk product
wee – small
week – 7 days
whether – if
we’ve – we have
welded – would, weed – undesirable plant
wired – electrified
wield – manipulate
well – source/good [adverb]  we’ll – we will
wench – woman  wrench – tool, ranch – animal farm
wet – moist  whet – sharpen, wit – smarts
where’re – where are  whir – spin
which – choice  witch – supernatural woman
while – during  wile – skill/idle
whine – shrill complaint  wine – drink
whinge – complain  wing – flight
whirled – swung  world – environ
whistle – shrill sound  wistful - longing
who/’s – [subject]/who is  whom – [object], whose – possessive
why – question  Y, y – and [Spanish]
wiener – frankfurter  winner – best player
windy – gusty  Wendy – girl’s name [L. Carroll]
wood – tree material  would/-n’t – inclined/-not
wrath – dislike  wreath – laurel
wreck – destroyed  reek – smell, rake – rascal/tool
yacht – boat  yet – until
yank – pull sharply  Yank – Yankee
yarn – story/twine  yearn – desire
yawl – tool  y’all – you all
year – time  you’re – you are, your – [possessive], yore – past
you’d – you would  Yute – Indian
you’ll – you will,  Yule – Christmas, y’all – you all, Yale – university
yuck – disdain  yuk/-s – laugh/s
zoo – animal park  zu – to [German]
zoom – fast sound  zum – to the [German]

Style Preferences

Proper nouns (things that are unique) are capitalized including the names of days and months, but seasons (winter, spring, summer, fall/autumn) are not unless used as proper nouns (This year the Spring Festival will start in winter). This usage contrasts to German where all nouns are capitalized versus say French where adjectival proper nouns are not (une voiture américaine). Generally a title for a person’s position is not capitalized unless part of a proper name (president of the United States vs. President Lincoln). Title and heading conjunctions and prepositions are often not capitalized (and, or, but, in, on, of, against, under, …) unless it is the first word with a heading normally taking no punctuation, no underlining (unless secondary), nor italics (unless tertiary). A heading should start the next page if nothing would appear below it on the same page.

Subject noun and verb agreement regarding singular and plural is de rigueur in English; in the third person, non irregular forms have a terminal s on either the subject noun (plural) or the verb (singular) as in the car runs vs. the cars run. Superlatives should be unmodified, but consider from the U.S. Constitution: “In order to form a more perfect union.” Preferred spellings exist for: abridgment, acknowledgment and judgment (not -dgement), as well as for: collectible, compatible, convertible, and deductible (not -able). Consider the following past tense words with double terminal consonants: cancelled, conferred, deferred, inferred, preferred, occurred, and referred but offered and traveled.

Multiple adverbs and adjectives take a hyphen between related words (two-year multiple course disciplines), [verb]-[preposition] takes a hyphen when used as a noun (shake-down, strike-out, break-up), as well as the written numbers between twenty-one and ninety-nine. Writing programs often convert two hyphens to a dash (–) and is appropriate for an explanation. Common abbreviations include e.g. (examples), i.e. (namely), and NB (note well as in a footnote). Superscripts are used in mathematical expressions and as citations to footnotes or references (¹); subscripts are used for differentiated variables (A₁ vs. A₂).

Counted small integer numbers are properly spelled out as words; sizes are properly expressed as numerals (three 2 ounce packages). Pagination uses lower case Roman numerals for a preface and Arabic numerals thereafter. Use a decimal point (.) in numbers for proportions less than one and commas (,) between thousands, but not for
years; this differs from some European notation which may reverse these or use spaces for thousands; U.S. billion and trillion may be European milliard and billion respectively. Ordinal numbers (can be treated arithmetically) are written in Arabic characters (3, 1647, etc.); cardinal numbers (nominal or not subject to arithmetic treatment) are written in Roman numerals (III, MDCXLVII, etc.). Educational degree award dates and dates of publication take brackets [2011], employment periods take parentheses (from-to). Parenthesis usage is nested as ( {[ ... ]}) for written words and mathematical expressions. Non original parenthetical remarks within quotations take brackets; a common non original parenthetical remark is “[sic]” denoting an uncorrected literal quotation. If a quotation is preceded by a full sentence, place a colon (:) between them. If a quotation is preceded by a verb, place a comma (,) between them; if preceded by “that” for an indirect quotation then no quotation marks are used. While subject to variation, punctuation should end within the closing quotation mark ("’), (‘”) and (?”) if in the original; note that others including Jeopardy! place these marks (”’?) after for titles. Names of books and publications are italicized (formerly underlined) as are foreign and new words or for emphasis. Bold font may be used to denote important words.

The opening and closing quotation marks properly appear as inverted versions of each other (“…”) with single versions (‘…’) for quotations within a quotation (British practice is reversed). Double spacing is preferred between sentences (and avoids confusion regarding terminal abbreviations)—likewise two spaces precede post/zip codes and follow after colons (:) and before the start of a list. Commas (,) separate all listed items of three or more (…colleges of Baltimore, William and Mary, and Dover); semicolons (;) separate closely related sentences and they separate greater lists from lesser lists. Spacing between ellipses (…) and initials (U.S.) may be omitted. Symbols (% and $, €, or ₤) are used in tables, but in a sentence are properly spelled out (percent and dollar –s, or euro –s, or pound -s). The apostrophe (’) appears before the s for possessives and after for plural possessives (Jones’ vs. Joneses but St.James’s Place). Numbers receive similar treatment (the 40s or ‘40s) while notable decades are spelled out as proper names (the Twenties, the Sixties). References list citations; a bibliography may contain additional references. Styles vary significantly, but a generally accepted one is to present them alphabetically not indented, by author’s last then first name, coauthor’s first then last name(s), title in quotation marks, publication in italics, date of publication in brackets, then publisher and location or volume/edition number, date, and pages therein with unnecessary commas being generally omitted. Internet sources should provide similar information if available and the URL. Examples are:

Author, First and Second Author, Text [2012] Publisher, Place
Author, First, “Title” Journal Name Vol. 1, No. 2 [Month, 2012] pp. 1-10
Author, First, “Title” [Month, 2012] www.URL.com

See also:
http://www.aresearchguide.com/styleguides.html

Common Errors in English Usage,
http://public.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/errors.html#errors

Damn You Auto Correct,

Dictionary. Reference.com,
http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/search

Funk & Wagnall’s Standard College Dictionary, California State Department of Education
Garbage In, Garbage Out: Errors Caused by Over-Reliance on Spelling Checkers, by Sean Igo,
http://www.wsu.edu/~brians/errors/spellcheck.html


Spelling and Grammar Errors that Can Ruin Your Site; Common Spelling and Grammar Errors on Web Pages, Jennifer Kymin, http://webdesign.about.com/od/grammar/a/common-spelling-errors.htm

Turabian, Kate L., A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations [2007] University of Chicago Press