

**abandonedly**

adv

/ ə'bandən(d)lɪ /

F &gt; E + Ecf

in a manner free from constraint.

*It is well to live abandonedly from time to time.***abduction**

n

/ ab'dækʃən /

L

the action of carrying (a person) off by force.

*The abduction of Helen by Paris led to the Trojan War.***abhorred**

v

/ əb'hɒ(ə)rɪd /

L

detested extremely : loathed.

*In the 60s many young people abhorred the thought of going to war.***abide**

v

/ ə'bid /

E

[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] atone for : pay for : suffer for.

*Dale fears he will have to abide last night's eating binge.***Abidjan**

adj

/ 'abəjɑːn /

Afr geog name

of or relating to Abidjan, capital of the Ivory Coast from 1934 until 1983.

*Nell tuned to CNN to get the latest on the Abidjan protest.***abience**

n

/ 'abɛən(t)s /

L

[has near homonym: adience] tendency to withdraw from a stimulus object or situation.

*Claudia's painfully shy brother gave a perfect illustration of abience at the school assembly.***ablation**

n

/ a'blæʃən /

L

[has near homonym: oblation] lowering of a land surface by wind erosion or weathering agents.

*Warming of polar seas leads to ablation of the ice caps.***ablaze**

adj

/ ə'blæz /

E + E

radiant with light or bright color.

*Soren's yard was ablaze with lighted Christmas trees.***ablutions**

n pl

/ ə'blʊʃənz /

L &gt; F &gt; E

the washing of one's body or part of it.

*Carl nodded to Ivar, who was making his morning ablutions at the pump.***abnegation**

n

/ ,abnē'gāʃən /

L

renunciation or denial.

*Monasticism involves the disciplining, limitation, or abnegation of the material aspects of human life.***abnormal**

adj

/ ab'nɔːrməl /

L

differing from the typical.

*In modern society, many people consider it abnormal to live without e-mail.***aboard**

adv

/ ə'bɔː(ə)rɪd /

E

on or within a ship, railway car, or passenger vehicle.

*Spotting dorsal fins in the distance, Jeff swam back to the sailboat and pulled himself aboard.***abolitionists**

n pl

/ ,abə'liʃənəsts /

L + Ecf

advocates of doing away with completely; specifically : advocates of doing away with slavery.

*African captives from the slave ship Amistad, aided by American abolitionists in a two-year legal battle, were eventually freed.*

**abbranchiate**

adj  
/ ǎ'brʌŋkēət /

Gk  
lacking gills.

*Salamanders develop into an abbranchiate form as they mature.*

**absentmindedly**

adv  
/ 'absənt.mɪndədlē /

L > F > E + E + Ecff  
in a manner preoccupied to the point of failure to respond to ordinary demands on the attention.  
*Sal absentmindedly dunked his doughnut in his orange juice.*

**absolutely**

adv  
/ ˌabsə'ljuːtlē /

L  
in a manner that is not dependent on anything else.  
*The tall, rectangular buildings were absolutely plain: Each window and each entrance were exactly like every other.*

**a****Abyssinian**

adj  
/ ˌabə'sɪniən /

E Afr geog name  
of or relating to Ethiopia.  
*Paul collects Abyssinian tapestry.*

**academe**

n  
/ 'akə.dēm /

Gk > L  
environment associated with a school especially of higher learning.  
*Joe is at ease with everyone but prefers the company of those who are familiar with the halls of academe.*

**academician**

n  
/ ˌakədə'mɪʃən /

Gk > L  
one (as a professor or student) that is associated with or a member of an institution of learning (as a university).  
*Dr. Holtzclaw is the oldest academician on campus.*

**acanthus**

n  
/ ə'kan(t)θəs /

Gk  
[Note: Could be confused with adjective acanthous.] any plant of a genus of prickly herbs of the Mediterranean region whose broad leaves are frequently represented in sculptured architectural ornaments.  
*The column's capital featured ornamentation representing the leaves of an acanthus.*

**acarian**

adj  
/ ə'ka(a)rēən /

Gk > L  
of, relating to, caused by, or having the characteristics of a mite or tick.  
*Acarian parasites have saclike bodies unbroken by segments.*

**acceded**

v  
/ ək'sēdəd /

L  
[has near homonym: exceeded]  
expressed approval or gave consent.  
*Jan was glad when Mrs. Taft readily acceded to the proposal that the two parties attend the event together.*

**accentuate**

v  
/ ək'senchə.wāt /

L  
give special attention to : emphasize.  
*The columns of the Egyptian temple accentuate its height.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**accompaniment**

n  
/ ə'kəmp(ə)nēmənt /  
L > F > E

an instrumental or vocal part subordinate to and designed to support, amplify, or complement a principal voice or instrument.  
*The chant followed a single melodic line with no instrumental accompaniment.*

**accompany**

**accomplish**

**accordance**

**accordion**

**accost**

**accostable**

**accosted**

v  
/ ə'kɒstəd /  
L

approached and spoke to.  
*Mr. Weston immediately accosted Emma with questions about her health.*

**accouchement**

n  
/ ,akʊʃ'mə /  
F  
lying-in; especially : parturition : a state attending and consequent to childbirth.  
*Many insurance companies require that hospitals limit the period of accouchement to 24 hours.*

**account**

**accountant**

n  
/ ə'kaʊntənt /  
F  
one skilled in the practice of classifying, recording, and summarizing business and financial transactions and analyzing, verifying, and reporting the results.  
*Every April Rhonda vows to hire an accountant to figure her next year's taxes.*

**accredited**

**accretion**

**accretionary**

adj  
/ ə'krēʃhənərē /  
L  
marked by or involving addition or accumulation.  
*The accretionary hypothesis states that Earth has gradually grown larger over time because of the influx of meteorites and dust particles from space.*

**acculturate**

**acculturation**

n  
/ ə,kəlchə'rāʃhən /  
L + L + Lcf  
a process of continuous transmission of traits and elements between diverse peoples, resulting in new and blended patterns.  
*The Spanish conquest of Mexico was followed by a period of acculturation.*

**accumbent**

adj  
/ ə'kəmbənt /  
L  
leaning or reclining especially at meals.  
*Harriet ridiculed her brother's accumbent posture as he ate a TV dinner.*

**accuracy**

**accustomed**

adj  
/ ə'kəstəmd /  
L > F > E  
in the habit or custom : established in the practice.  
*John was becoming quite accustomed to being called "Jack" by his friends.*

**acedia**

**acerbic**

**acetaldehyde**

n  
/ ,asəd'aldəhīd /  
ISV + [Ar > Sp > L + Gk > L > G]  
L + L + Gk)  
a colorless volatile water-soluble liquid aldehyde of pungent odor used chiefly in the production of organic compounds.  
*Acetaldehyde is often used in the manufacture of acetic acid.*

**acetaminophen**

n  
/ ə'sēdə'minəfən /  
ISV  
a crystalline compound used in medicine instead of aspirin to relieve pain and fever.  
*John took acetaminophen to relieve his headache.*

**acetic**

adj  
/ ə'sēdīk /  
L > F  
[Note: One of alternate pronunciations has homonym: ascetic.] relating to or producing a colorless liquid acid with a pungent odor constituting the chief acid of vinegar.  
*Morris enjoyed teasing his mom by accusing her of putting acetic acid in his food.*

**acetone**

n  
/ 'asətōn /  
L > G  
a volatile fragrant flammable liquid made by dehydrogenation of isopropyl alcohol or by bacterial fermentation and used chiefly as a solvent.  
*The simplest ketone is acetone, a pleasant-smelling liquid that is used mainly as a solvent for organic compounds.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**acharya**

n  
/ ä'chäryə /  
Skt  
a Hindu religious teacher : one versed in the sacred writings of the Hindus.  
*The acharya wrote a book in which he offered some innovative insights into the Bhagavad-Gita.*

**achieve**

**achievement**

**achievements**

**Achilleian**

adj  
/ .akə'lēən /  
Gk name  
[has homonym: achilleine] like Achilles, hero of Homer's Iliad (as in strength, invincibility, or moody and resentful wrath).  
*Troy's approach in games is so Achilleian that no one wants to play with him.*

**achromatic**

**achy**

**acid**

n  
/ 'asəd /  
L  
a compound capable of reacting with a base to form a salt, reddening litmus, and evolving hydrogen on reaction with certain metals (as iron, zinc, tin).  
*The formula for every inorganic acid contains one or more hydrogen atoms as well as an anionic group.*

**acidify**

**acidosis**

n  
/ .asə'dōsəs /  
L + Gk > L  
a condition of decreased alkalinity of the blood and tissues.  
*James was rushed to the emergency room, where he learned that he was suffering from acidosis.*

**acidulous**

**aciniform**

adj  
/ ə'sinə'förm /  
L + Ecf  
shaped like a cluster of grapes.  
*At the top of each column there was a crude, aciniform pattern.*

**acknowledged**

v  
/ ik'nälijd /  
E  
conceded to be real or true : admitted.  
*"That may be true," he acknowledged, "but it's completely accurate, and as long as the answer is right, who cares if the question is wrong?"*

**acinal**

**acne**

**acoelous**

adj  
/ ä'sēləs /  
Ecf + Gk + Ecf  
lacking a true stomach or digestive tract.  
*It is difficult to think of acoelous creatures like the sponge as being truly living creatures.*

**acolutic**

**acotyledon**

n  
/ .äkäd'lēd'n /  
Gk > L > F  
a plant without seed leaves.  
*The fern is a typical acotyledon.*

**acoustic**

**acoustical**

**acquaint**

**acquainted**

**acquiesced**

v  
/ .akwē'est /  
L > F  
accepted or complied tacitly or passively.  
*Until recently, Scott acquiesced in most situations involving conflict.*

**acquire**

**acrimony**

**acrobatic**

adj  
/ .akrə'badik /  
Gk > F  
performed with body contortions or tossing of one dancer by a partner.  
*Yasuko and Hiromi easily won the dance contest with their acrobatic version of the tango.*

**acrocyanosis**

n  
/ .akrō.sīə'nōsəs /  
Gk  
a disorder of the arterioles of the exposed parts of the hands and feet intensified by exposure to cold and resulting in bluish mottled skin.  
*Jane had acute acrocyanosis after being stranded on the snowy hiking trail for hours.*

**acrolect**

n  
/ 'akrə.lekt /  
Gk + Gk  
the most prestigious language variety of a community.  
*The British acrolect is defined by the speech of the royal family.*

**acrolectal**

**acrophobia**

n  
/ .akrə'fōbēə /  
Gk  
abnormal fear of being at a great height.  
*Because of his acrophobia, Murray stayed at the bottom while the rest of his class went to the top of the Empire State Building.*

**across**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**acrotarsium**

**acrylics**

n pl  
/ ə'kriliks /  
(L + Gk + Ecf) > ISV  
paints in which the vehicle is a glasslike thermoplastic.  
*Judy enjoys going to the art supply store and shopping for new tubes of acrylics.*

**actinium**

**actinotherapy**

n  
/ .aktə(,)nō'therəpē /  
Gk > L  
application for therapeutic purposes of the chemically active rays of the spectrum.  
*Actinotherapy was the treatment of choice for Aletta's malady.*

**activate**

**activator**

**actressy**

**actuality**

n  
/ .akchə'walədē /  
L  
the act or state of existing in fact or reality.  
*In actuality, the threatening shadows near the house were only trees and shrubs.*

**actuarial**

**acuity**

**acumination**

**acute**

adj  
/ ə'kyüt /  
L  
having a sudden onset, sharp rise, and short course.  
*Acute appendicitis can be deadly if not diagnosed and treated immediately.*

**acuteness**

**adamant**

**adaptability**

**adaptable**

**addax**

n  
/ 'adaks /  
L  
a large light-colored antelope of northern Africa, Arabia, and Syria that has long spiraling horns.  
*The addax has a remarkable ability to find patches of vegetation in desert areas.*

**addendum**

**additive**

**address**

**addressee**

**adduce**

**adductor**

**adeciduate**

**adenoiditis**

n  
/ .ad'n.oi'didəs /  
Gk  
inflammation of the enlarged masses of lymphoid tissue at the back of the pharynx.  
*The doctor hoped to treat Kyle's adenoiditis without resorting to surgery.*

**adenoids**

**adeptly**

**adherend**

n  
/ ad'hi.rend /  
L  
one of the bodies held to another by a bonding substance such as glue.  
*The instructions on the package said to spread a thin layer of cement on each adherend and clamp them together overnight.*

**adhesive**

**adiabatic**

adj  
/ .adēə'badik /  
Gk  
occurring without loss or gain of heat by the substance concerned.  
*Thermos bottles provide temporary adiabatic storage of hot or cold beverages.*

**adios**

interj  
/ .ädə'ōs /  
L > Sp  
—used to express farewell.  
*Amid cries of "adios" the happy couple departed for their honeymoon trip.*

**adiposity**

**adipsia**

**adjective**

**adjournment**

n  
/ ə'jərnmənt /  
L > F > E  
the act of putting off further proceedings either indefinitely or until a later stated time.  
*Judge Harcourt refused to grant the defendant's request for an adjournment and ordered the trial to continue.*

**adjudication**

n  
/ ə'jüdə'kāshən /  
L  
a judicial decision or sentence.  
*The lawyer explained that preventive detention is actually imprisonment without an adjudication of guilt.*

**adjustable**

**adjustment**

**adjutant**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**admeasurement**

n  
/ ad'meʒhə(r)mənt /  
L > F > E  
dimensions, size.  
*The canal could handle a ship of considerable admeasurement.*

**administer**

**administration**

**admirable**

**admiralty**

**admirer**

n  
/ ad'mirə(r) /  
L  
one that regards with wondering esteem accompanied by pleasure and delight.  
*Long an admirer of Picasso's art, Beth looked forward to attending an exhibition of his works.*

**admiringly**

adv  
/ əd'mi(ə)riŋl̩ /  
L > F + Ecff  
with an elevated feeling of pleasure.  
*Marcia gazed admiringly at her newly purchased oil painting.*

**admissible**

**admission**

**admissive**

**admittance**

**admonish**

v  
/ ad'məniʃ /  
L > F  
express warning or disapproval to about remissness or error.  
*Mayor Richards hastened to admonish the new clerk for her poor manners on the telephone.*

**adobe**

n  
/ ə'dəʊbē /  
Copt > Ar > Sp  
building material of sun-dried earth and straw.  
*The hut made of adobe sagged sideways in the middle of the field.*

**adolesce**

**adolescent**

n  
/ ,ad'les'nt /  
L  
one that is in the period of life from puberty to maturity terminating legally at the age of majority.  
*As an adolescent, Mike enjoyed outdoor activities with the Boy Scouts.*

**adoptable**

**adopted**

**adoration**

**adorment**

**adrenergic**

adj  
/ ,adrə'nɜːʃk /  
L + Gk  
activated by adrenaline.  
*When her child was threatened, Claire felt adrenergic strength surge through her body.*

**adroit**

**adscititious**

**adsorbent**

**adulation**

**adulteration**

**adust**

**adustiosis**

n  
/ ə,dəstē'ōsəs /  
L + Gk  
a physiological breakdown of the rind of citrus fruit causing a reddish discoloration—called also “red blotch.”  
*All the oranges in the crisper suffered from one stage or another of adustiosis.*

**advancement**

**advantageously**

adv  
/ ,ad.van'tāʃəsli /  
L > F > E  
in a manner that is favorable, profitable, beneficial.  
*The most advantageously located cities are often on the banks of rivers.*

**advection**

n  
/ ad'vekʃən /  
L  
the horizontal movement of a mass of air which causes changes in temperature or in other physical properties of air.  
*The advection of warm, moist air over a cold surface often causes fog.*

**advenient**

**adventitious**

adj  
/ ,ad(,)vən'tiʃəs /  
L  
coming from another source : added or appended extrinsically and not sharing original, essential, and intrinsic nature.  
*Researchers have been comparing the carcinogenic risks of naturally occurring and adventitious substances in food.*

**adverbial**

**adversarial**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**adversaries**

n pl  
/ 'advə(r).serēz /  
L > F > E

ones that contend with, oppose, or resist.

*Cynthia's adversaries in the tennis tournament were not easily defeated.*

**advisable**

**advising**

**aerator**

**aeroballistics**

**aerobatics**

**aerodynamics**

**aerophobia**

**aerophone**

n  
/ 'a(ə)rō.fōn /  
Gk

a wind instrument.

*A thin plate of birch bark used as an instrument is technically described as an aerophone with a tongue but without a soundboard.*

**aeroplankton**

n  
/ 'a(ə)rə.plaŋktən /  
Gk + Gk

small airborne organisms (as flying insects).

*The backyard barbecue was almost spoiled by pesky aeroplankton.*

**Aesculapian**

adj  
/ 'eskyə'lāpēən /  
Gk name

of or belonging to Aesculapius, the Greco-Roman god of medicine, or the healing art.

*The Aesculapian staff is the official insignia of the American Medical Association.*

**affection**

n  
/ 'afek'tāshən /  
L

manner of speech or behavior not natural to one's actual personality or capabilities.

*Stuart is the sort of man who cultivates his every affection with loving care.*

**affeer**

**affenpinscher**

n  
/ 'afən.pinchə(r) /  
G

a small dog having a stiff red, gray, or black coat; pointed ears; and bushy eyebrows, chin tuft, and mustache.

*Erica's affenpinscher escaped when she opened the door.*

**afferent**

**affination**

**affix**

v  
/ ə'fiks /  
L

attach physically, as with nails or glue.

*Joanne asked the janitor to affix the bulletin board to the wall of her new classroom.*

**affixed**

**affliction**

n  
/ ə'flikshən /  
L

a state of pain, distress, or grief.

*John Addison wrote that some virtues are seen only in affliction.*

**affrighted**

adj  
/ ə'frīdəd /  
E

seized with sudden and great fear approaching terror.

*The hair of the affrighted cat bristled.*

**afghan**

n  
/ 'af.gan /  
Pashto

a blanket or shawl of colored wool, knitted or crocheted in strips or squares which are joined by sewing or crocheting.

*Mrs. Campbell knitted a striped afghan as a housewarming present for her new neighbors.*

**afield**

**aforsaid**

**afoul**

**Afrikaans**

n  
/ 'afrəkän(t)s /  
L > D

a language that developed in southern Africa from 17th-century Dutch and is one of the official languages of the Republic of South Africa.

*The South African president gave his inaugural address in Afrikaans.*

**afterglow**

n  
/ 'aftə(r).glō /  
E + E

the light especially in the western sky after sunset.

*Pike's Peak stood out majestic and beautiful in the afterglow.*

**against**

**agalloch**

n  
/ ə'galək /  
Dravidian > Gk

the soft resinous wood of an East Indian tree that is burnt as a perfume.

*A small piece of agalloch smoldered outside the Buddhist temple.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**agathism**

n  
/ 'agəˌθɪzəm /  
Gk

the doctrine that all things tend toward ultimate good.  
*Whereas optimism holds that all things are now for the best, agathism maintains that somehow things will be good in the end.*

**aged**

**agency**

**aggrandize**

**aggrandizing**

v  
/ ə'græn.dɪzɪŋ /  
L > F  
making appear great or greater : exalting.  
*Aggrandizing himself at every opportunity, Seth sees no value in humility.*

**aggressor**

n  
/ ə'gresə(r) /  
L  
one that commits or practices an offensive action or procedure; especially : a nation that commits an unprovoked overt hostile attack.  
*America is fortunate to be bordered by no nation that desires to be an aggressor.*

**aggrieved**

adj  
/ ə'grɛvd /  
L > F > E  
troubled or distressed in spirit.  
*When Laurie's father died, she asked her aggrieved mother to come to live with her.*

**agile**

**agility**

n  
/ ə'jɪlədē /  
L  
quickness and dexterity of movement.  
*Mrs. Case moved with great agility for such an old woman.*

**agitation**

n  
/ əjə'tɪʃən /  
L  
the persistent and sustained attempt to arouse public feeling or influence public opinion (as by appeals, discussions, or demonstrations).  
*A long agitation for national independence, not a sudden revolt, severed the country's ties with its motherland.*

**agnomen**

n  
/ ag'nōmən /  
L  
an additional name or epithet.  
*Richard gets testy when people use the agnomen the Lion-Hearted along with his given name.*

**agonic**

**agonize**

v  
/ 'agə.nɪz /  
Gk > L > F  
endure torture, pain, or anguish.  
*Before the new pain medication was available, Alicia would agonize with her migraine headaches for several days at a time.*

**agora**

**agравic**

**agricultural**

**agriculture**

**agrorod**

**agronome**

**agronomist**

n  
/ ə'gränəməst /  
L + Gk  
a specialist in the branch of agriculture that deals with crop production and soil management.  
*Last summer a Russian agronomist visited Uncle Carl's farm.*

**ahem**

**ahimsa**

n  
/ ə'hɪm.sə /  
Skt  
the doctrine of refraining from the harming of others or the taking of life.  
*Mahatma Gandhi went from village to village trying to restore peace, preaching ahimsa.*

**aiguille**

**aiguillette**

**aioli**

n  
/ 'ɪ.ɔɪ.ɪ /  
L > Prov  
a sauce made of crushed garlic, egg yolks, olive oil, and lemon juice and sometimes potato.  
*In the Mediterranean region, aioli is served with fish and potatoes : garlic mayonnaise.*

**airsickness**

**airstream**

n  
/ 'a(a)ɪ.streɪm /  
Gk + E  
a current of air : wind; especially : a high-velocity wind at high altitude.  
*Flying in the same direction as an airstream increases an airplane's airspeed appreciably.*

**aitch**

n  
/ 'äch /  
L? > F  
the letter h.  
*It is surprising in how many words the aitch is silent.*

**alarmable**

**alarmist**

**alas**

**alba**

**album**

**alcazar**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**alcogel**

**alcoves**

n pl  
/ 'alkōvz /  
Ar > Sp > F  
recessed parts (as breakfast nooks) of rooms.  
*Silvio found that the alcoves in the library were ideal spots for afternoon naps.*

**aldehyde**

n  
/ 'aldəhīd /  
Ar > Sp > L + Gk > L > G  
any of a class of very reactive organic compounds that are intermediate in state of oxidation.  
*Cinnamic aldehyde is a high molar mass aldehyde that has a pleasant odor and is used in the manufacture of perfumes.*

**alembic**

n  
/ ə'lembik /  
Gk > Ar > L > F  
an apparatus usually made of glass or metal formerly much used in distillation.  
*The sorcerer used an alembic in concocting the invisibility potion.*

**alepidote**

n  
/ ə'lepədōt /  
Gk  
a fish without scales.  
*The handsaw fish is a deep-sea alepidote.*

**aleuronat**

**algebraic**

**algebraically**

adv  
/ .aljə'brāək(ə)lē /  
Ar > L + Ecff  
in a manner of, relating to, involving, or according to the laws of algebra.  
*The area of a rectangle is expressed algebraically as "area equals length times width."*

**Algerian**

adj  
/ al'jirēən /  
African geog name  
of, relating to, or characteristic of Algeria, a country in northwest Africa.  
*The Algerian vineyards that were planted under the French colonial rule have mostly fallen into ruin.*

**algometer**

**alienage**

**aliphatic**

adj  
/ .alə'fadik /  
Gk  
of, relating to, or derived from fat.  
*Alison's science fair project was a study of the effectiveness of the aliphatic compounds used in soap.*

**aliveness**

**alkalify**

**alkyd**

n  
/ 'alkəd /  
ISV  
any of a large group of thermoplastic or thermosetting synthetic resins used chiefly in making protective coatings characterized in general by their gloss, flexibility, and good weathering properties.  
*Alkyd is an important ingredient in paint manufacturing.*

**allegation**

n  
/ .alə'gāshən /  
L  
the act of asserting positively often before a court.  
*Patrick's allegation that his neighbor started the forest fire was totally unfounded.*

**allegeable**

**allegiant**

**allegretto**

**alleviate**

**alleviation**

n  
/ ə.lēvē'āshən /  
L  
relief, moderation (as of physical or mental suffering).  
*Pat was ready to follow any recommendation for alleviation of her back pain.*

**alleyway**

**allied**

adj  
/ 'alīd /  
L > F  
joined by treaty or compact.  
*The leaders agreed to form an allied army to defend against any attack on their two countries.*

**allonym**

n  
/ 'alə.nim /  
Gk  
a name that is assumed by an author but that actually belongs to another person.  
*For his first novel, Allen considered using John Grisham as an allonym.*

**allot**

v  
/ ə'lɒt /  
(Gmc + L) > F > E  
assign as a share or portion to a particular person or thing or for a particular purpose.  
*When the supervisor made the schedule, she failed to allot each employee time for a morning break.*

**allotment**

**allotted**

**allspice**

**allure**

n  
/ ə'lū(ə)r /  
L > F + Gmc > F  
power of attraction or fascination.  
*The allure of possible immortality drove the wizard to study the dark side of magic.*

**alluring**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**allusion**

n  
/ ə'lyʒhən /  
L

[has homonym: illusion] an implied indication or indirect reference.

*Gwen's essay made much of the author's use of biblical allusion.*

**allusively**

adv  
/ ə'lyʒivl̩ /  
L + Ecf

implicitly, indirectly.

*The old parchment mentioned treasure so allusively that it was not clear whether it was referring to something of actual monetary value.*

**alluvial**

**alluvium**

**ally**

**alogia**

**aloha**

**alpestrine**

**alphabetical**

**alphanumerical**

adj  
/ ˌalfəˌn(y)u'merəkəl /  
Gk + L + Ecff

consisting of both letters and numbers and often other symbols as well.

*Because she used two separate alphanumerical codes, Georgia made many mistakes.*

**alpine**

**alternate**

**alternative**

n  
/ ɔl'tɜrnədɪv /  
L

one of a number of things or courses offered for choice.

*One alternative to confusion is proper organization.*

**alternativity**

**altigraph**

n  
/ ˈaltəˌɡrɑf /  
L + Gk

an instrument that measures height and is equipped with a recording mechanism.

*Nora stored the readings of the altigraph in a folder in her backpack.*

**altimeter**

**altimetry**

**alto**

**altocumulus**

n  
/ ˌal(ɪ)tō'kyümyələs /  
L + L

a fleecy cloud or cloud formation consisting of large whitish globular cloudlets with shaded portions.

*The altocumulus consisted mostly of small, supercold water droplets.*

**altricial**

adj  
/ al'trɪʃəl /  
L

having the young hatched in a very immature and helpless condition so as to require care for some time.

*Parrots are altricial birds, and their mortality rate is often high if breeders do not pay close attention to detail.*

**alum**

**aluminotype**

**aluminous**

**aluminum**

**alumnus**

**alveolar**

adj  
/ əl'veələ(r) /  
L

articulated with the tip of the tongue touching or near the teethridge (as the English consonant sounds \t\, \d\, and \n\).

*Constance worked with a speech therapist to improve her pronunciation of alveolar consonants.*

**always**

**alyssum**

n  
/ ə'lyʒəm /  
Gk > L

a plant of a genus of European and Asiatic herbs having small usually yellow flowers.

*Elvira's flagstone walk was bordered with sweet alyssum.*

**amalgamation**

n  
/ əˌmɑlgə'mæʃən /  
Ar > L > F

the action or process of uniting or combining into a uniform and independent whole.

*In the 13th century King Edward I effected the amalgamation of Wales with England.*

**amandine**

adj  
/ ˌæmən'dēn /  
Gk > L > F

[Note: Could be confused with almandine and amandin.] prepared or served with almonds.

*Gail made salmon with mashed potatoes and green beans amandine for her dinner party.*

**amantadine**

**amaranth**

n  
/ ˈaməˌrɑn(t)θ /  
Gk

a dark reddish purple.

*Justin wanted to buy a green sofa, but his wife preferred to decorate the living room in amaranth and beige.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**amaranthine**

**amaretto**

**amateurish**

adj

/ ,amə'tərɪʃ /

L > F + Ecf

lacking professional finish.

*Sandy refused to pay for the wedding photographer's amateurish work.*

**amathophobia**

**Amazon**

n

/ 'aməzən /

Gk

one of a race or nation of female warriors usually associated with Scythia or Asia Minor with whom the ancient Greeks of mythology repeatedly warred.

*Penthesilea was an Amazon who fought on the side of the Trojans in the Trojan War and was killed by Achilles.*

**amazonite**

**ambassador**

**ambidexterity**

n

/ ,am.bədək'stɛrədə /

L

the quality or state of being capable of using both hands with equal ease.

*The quarterback's ambidexterity came in handy on many occasions during yesterday's game.*

**ambient**

**ambiguous**

**ambitious**

**amble**

n

/ 'ambəl /

L

an easygoing or leisurely walking movement.

*If you are in a hurry, you had better not go at an amble.*

**ambrette**

n

/ 'ambret /

F

a French dessert pear having a musky odor.

*The featured dessert at Le Chateau Rouge was poached ambrette with whipped cream.*

**ambulance**

**ameliorable**

**amenities**

n pl

/ ə'menədēz /

L

things that conduce to physical or material comfort or convenience or to a pleasant and agreeable life.

*The timeshare resort's maintenance fee nearly doubled with the addition of several amenities.*

**amenity**

**amerce**

**amercement**

n

/ ə'mərsmənt /

F > AF > E

the infliction of a penalty at the discretion of the court; also : the penalty thus imposed.

*For the officer's neglect of duty the court imposed an amercement of two weeks' pay.*

**amethysts**

n pl

/ 'aməθəsts /

Gk > L > F > E

[Note: Could be confused with singular form.] specimens of a clear purple or bluish violet variety of crystallized quartz much used as a jeweler's stone.

*The jeweler emptied a small bag of amethysts on a velvet pad, and Anna selected the one she liked best.*

**amiably**

adv

/ 'āmēəblē /

L > F

in a friendly, sociable, and congenial manner.

*"Hello, students," Mr. Perry said, and he amiably gave each child a handshake.*

**amidol**

**amigo**

n

/ ə'mē(,)gō /

L > Sp

friend.

*Roger has been John's amigo since grade school.*

**ammoniacal**

adj

/ ,amə'nīəkəl /

Gk > L

of, relating to, containing, or having the properties of ammonia.

*A strong ammoniacal odor emanated from the laboratory.*

**ammunition**

**amnesty**

n

/ 'amnəstē /

Gk

the act of an authority (as a government) by which general pardon of an offense is granted.

*The new president granted amnesty to all imprisoned draft evaders.*

**amontillado**

**amorphous**

adj

/ ə'mɔrfəs /

Gk

being without real or apparent crystalline form.

*Glass is an amorphous solid that in some ways is more like a liquid than a solid.*

**amount**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**ampere**

n  
/ 'am.pi(ə)r /  
F name  
the practical meter-kilogram-second unit of electric current that is equivalent to a flow of 1 coulomb per second or to the steady current produced by 1 volt applied across a resistance of 1 ohm.  
*Brian's calculations show that the circuit has a current of 1 ampere.*

**amphichrome**

**amphitheater**

**ample**

adj  
/ 'ampəl /  
L  
[has near homonyms: ampul, ampule, ampoule] marked by extensive or more than adequate size.  
*Wilma enjoyed her walks in the cathedral's ample gardens.*

**ampliate**

adj  
/ 'amplēət /  
L  
widened, enlarged.  
*Carina prefers the new ampliate sidewalks downtown because there is plenty of room for her wheelchair.*

**amplifier**

**amplify**

**amplitude**

n  
/ 'amplə.tiəd /  
L  
the extent of a vibratory movement or of an oscillation.  
*Titus carefully noted any variations in the amplitude of the sine waves.*

**amply**

**amputee**

**amyelonic**

**amylaceous**

**amyotonia**

n  
/ .ā.miə'tōnēə /  
Gk  
deficiency of muscle tone.  
*The doctor recommended physical therapy for the bedridden patient afflicted with amyotonia.*

**amyotrophic**

**anaclastic**

**anacoluthon**

n  
/ .anəkə'lü.thän /  
Gk  
syntactical inconsistency or incoherence within a sentence.  
*Anacoluthon can make dialogue sound more natural.*

**anacreontic**

n  
/ ə.nakrē'äntik /  
Gk name  
a poem in imitation of or in the manner of Anacreon : a drinking song or light lyric.  
*Mr. Maclean included an anacreontic in the collection of verse.*

**anadiplosis**

n  
/ .anədə'plōsəs /  
Gk  
repetition of a prominent word, usually the last in a phrase, clause, sentence, or verse, at the beginning of the next phrase, clause, sentence, or verse.  
*Anne read the second member of the anadiplosis louder than the first for emphasis.*

**anadromous**

adj  
/ ə'nadrəməs /  
Gk  
of fish : ascending rivers from the sea at certain seasons for breeding.  
*The anadromous salmon is a wonder of nature.*

**anagram**

**anallobar**

**analogous**

**analysis**

**analyze**

v  
/ 'an.ə'līz /  
Gk > L + Ecf  
weigh or study (various aspects, factors, or elements) in order to arrive at an answer, result, or solution.  
*Deanne needed more information before she could analyze the lab report.*

**anamnesis**

n  
/ anəm'nēsəs /  
Gk  
a recalling to mind : reminiscence.  
*The musical comedy was based on an anamnesis of the author's days on a South Pacific island.*

**Ananias**

n  
/ .anə'nīəs /  
Christian name  
liar.  
*The little boy who cried "Wolf!" is a famous Ananias.*

**anaphylaxis**

n  
/ .anəfə'laksəs /  
Gk  
hypersensitivity (as to foreign proteins or drugs) that is marked by a tendency to intense systemic reaction.  
*Fortunately, Daphne exhibited no symptoms of anaphylaxis after she was stung by a bee.*

**anaptyxis**

n  
/ .an.əp'tiksəs /  
Gk  
the insertion of an extra vowel in the body of a word.  
*An example of anaptyxis is the pronunciation of the word athlete as "athalete."*

**anaqua**

**anarchic**

**anathematize**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**anatocism**

n  
/ ə'nadə.sizəm /  
Gk > L  
compound interest : the taking of compound interest.  
*At the seminar the business students discussed simple interest, anatocism, and the basics of investing.*

**anatomy**

n  
/ ə'nadəmē /  
Gk  
a branch of biology that deals with the form and structure of animals.  
*The two cadavers delivered to the lab were designated for use by Dr. Wheeler's class in anatomy.*

**ancestral**

adj  
/ an'sestrəl /  
L > F  
of or belonging to an ancestor or ancestors.  
*Carmen visited Romania to explore her ancestral heritage.*

**ancestry**

**anchor**

n  
/ 'aŋkə(r) /  
Gk > L > E  
something that serves to hold an object firmly.  
*Because the day was windy, Sarah brought a heavy rock to act as an anchor for the picnic cloth.*

**anchorage**

**anchored**

**ancient**

**incipital**

**andiron**

**andradite**

**andragogy**

n  
/ 'andrə.gəjē /  
Gk + Gk  
the art or science of teaching adults.  
*Mary Lynn's skill in andragogy was due to her experience as a high school teacher.*

**androgynism**

**androgynous**

adj  
/ an'drəjənəs /  
Gk + Gk + Ecf  
having the characteristics of both sexes.  
*This fall's androgynous fashions don't appeal to Sharon.*

**android**

n  
/ 'an.drɔid /  
Gk  
an automaton of human form.  
*Rolf was cast as an android in the college's spring production.*

**anechoic**

adj  
/ .anə'kɔik /  
Gk  
free from echoes and reverberations.  
*Stereo speakers are tested in an anechoic chamber designed to absorb all stray sounds.*

**anemology**

n  
/ .anə'mäləjē /  
Gk + Gk  
the study of winds.  
*In his meteorology class Mike learned how anemology helps to explain the effects of winds on the weather.*

**anemometry**

**anemotropism**

n  
/ .anə'mätrə.pizəm /  
Gk + Gk  
an involuntary reaction by an insect to a current of air in its environment.  
*An example of anemotropism is when flies poise for flight facing the wind.*

**anent**

**anfractuous**

**angelfish**

**anger**

**angiitis**

**angina**

**anglophilia**

n  
/ .aŋglə'filēə /  
L + Gk  
particular unreasoned admiration of or partiality for England or English ways.  
*After one trip abroad, Grace was seized by anglophilia and moved to London.*

**angora**

**angrily**

**angstroms**

n pl  
/ 'aŋztrəmz /  
Sw name  
units of wavelength, each equal to a 10-billionth of a meter.  
*Sandy determined that the laser's wavelength measured 5,200 angstroms.*

**anguished**

adj  
/ 'aŋgwisht /  
L > F > E  
produced, affected, or accompanied by excruciating distress.  
*Charities throughout the country sent aid to the anguished victims of the hurricane.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**angwantibo**

n  
/ ʌŋ'wɑntəbō /  
Efik  
a small lemur of western Africa having a rather long snout and a rudimentary tail.  
*The angwantibo feeds mainly on caterpillars.*

**anhedonia**

n  
/ ˌanhē'dōnēə /  
Gk  
incapacity for experiencing happiness.  
*Soren's anhedonia might be the result of a miserable childhood.*

**anhinga**

**aniconic**

**animadversion**

n  
/ ˌanə.məd'vərzhən /  
L  
criticism that is usually adverse and prompted by some degree of hostility.  
*The traditionally negative reviewer had little animadversion in his column this week.*

**animadversions**

n pl  
/ ˌanə.məd'vərzhənz /  
L  
censorious remarks or observations.  
*The movie received so many animadversions in preliminary reviews that the producer decided to revamp it.*

**animate**

**animus**

n  
/ ˈanəməs /  
L  
intention or objective.  
*The promise of free land was the animus that drove many Americans to move west in the 19th century.*

**ankylosaur**

n  
/ ˈŋkəlō.sō(ə)r /  
Gk + Gk  
any of a suborder of heavily armored Cretaceous dinosaurs somewhat resembling immense horned toads in shape.  
*The ankylosaur, a herbivore, fed on low shrubbery.*

**annals**

**annates**

**annelid**

n  
/ ˈanələd /  
L > F > L  
any of a phylum of usually elongated segmented invertebrate animals (as earthworms and leeches) having a body cavity.  
*The earthworm is probably the most familiar example of an annelid.*

**annexation**

n  
/ ˌa.nək'sāshən /  
L > F  
the act of taking possession or control of.  
*The annexation of Texas by the United States in 1845 was one of the causes of the Mexican War.*

**announcer**

n  
/ ˈnɑn(t)sə(r) /  
L > F > E  
a person who introduces television or radio programs, makes commercial announcements, or gives station identification.  
*The game show contestant waited nervously for the announcer to introduce her.*

**annoy**

**annularity**

n  
/ ˌanyə'larədə /  
L > F + Ecf  
the state or form of a ring.  
*Photographs of the solar eclipse showed the halo-like annularity of the Sun's disk.*

**anoia**

**anoint**

**anorak**

**anorexic**

**ansa**

n  
/ ˈansə /  
L  
part of a celestial body having the appearance of a handle (as the projecting part of Saturn's rings).  
*Photographs from Voyager 2 revealed the planet's ansa in striking detail.*

**answerer**

**antagonist**

n  
/ an'tagənəst /  
Gk + L  
the principal opponent or foil of the main character in a drama or narrative.  
*The Joker proved to be a cunning but overconfident antagonist for Batman.*

**antebellum**

**antecedence**

**antedate**

**anteing**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**antennae**

n pl  
/ an'tenē /  
L

the paired movable sensory appendages of the head of certain arthropods.

*The bug stopped and wiggled both of its antennae.*

**antepenultimate**

adj  
/ .antəpə'nəltəmət /  
L

coming before the next to last in any series.

*The antepenultimate question in the game "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" is worth \$250,000.*

**anthem**

**anthesis**

n  
/ an'thēsəs /  
Gk

the action or period of opening of a flower.

*Time-lapse photography can show the complete anthesis of a rose in a few seconds.*

**anthophorous**

adj  
/ an'thāfərəs /  
Gk

flower-bearing.

*Amy selected several anthophorous plants to decorate her office.*

**anthracite**

n  
/ 'an(t)thrəsīt /  
Gk

a hard glossy coal that burns with a nearly smokeless flame.

*Anthracite was created when soft coal was subjected to the intense heat and pressure of Earth's crust.*

**anthropologist**

n  
/ .an(ə)tθrə'päləjəst /  
Gk

a specialist in the study considering man's physical character, historical and present geographical distribution, racial classification, group relationships, and cultural history.

*The anthropologist Margaret Mead spent many years studying Pacific Island societies.*

**anthropology**

n  
/ .an(ə)tθrə'päləjē /  
Gk

the study considering man's physical character, historical and present geographical distribution, racial classification, group relationships, and cultural history.

*Jody created a poster that highlighted Margaret Mead's contributions to anthropology.*

**anthropomorphic**

adj  
/ .an(t)θrə.pō'mɔrfik /  
Gk

described or thought of as having human form or attributes : ascribing human characteristics to nonhuman things.

*Sterling pretends that his cat has anthropomorphic powers and often talks for her in a tiny, squeaky voice.*

**anthropophagous**

adj  
/ .an(t)θrə'päfəgəs /  
Gk + Gk

[Note: Could be confused with noun anthropophagus.] feeding on human flesh : man-eating : cannibal.

*The class was fascinated by the story of Christopher Columbus's encounter with the Caribs, a supposed anthropophagous people.*

**anthropopsychism**

n  
/ .an(t)θrə.pō'si.kizəm /  
Gk + Gk

ascription of a soul like that of humans to nature or to something that governs natural processes.

*A perfect example of anthropopsychism can be found in an old commercial that claimed, "You can't fool Mother Nature."*

**antibiotic**

**anticipate**

**anticipation**

**anticlimax**

n  
/ .antē'kli.maks /  
L + Gk

an event (as the last of a series) that is strikingly less important than what has preceded it.

*After the climactic duel with the villain, the hero's wedding came as an anticlimax.*

**anticoagulant**

n  
/ .an(ə)tɪkō'agyələnt /  
L

a substance (as a drug) that hinders clotting of blood.

*The surgeon administered an anticoagulant after the operation.*

**antidotal**

adj  
/ .antə'dɔdəl /  
Gk

consisting of, suited for, or acting as a remedy able to counteract the effects of poison.

*Vomiting is often the body's antidotal response to the ingestion of spoiled food.*

**antidote**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**antigen**

n  
/ 'antəjən /  
Gk + Gk

a usually protein or carbohydrate substance that when introduced into the body stimulates the production of an antibody.

*Louis Pasteur developed an antigen against the much-feared anthrax bacterium.*

**antihistamine**

n  
/ ,antɪ'hɪstə.mēn /  
L + Gk + ISV

any of various compounds used for treating certain allergic reactions.

*Although Rod and Todd are twins, only Rod needs to take an antihistamine during the hay-fever season.*

**antineoplastic**

**antinomy**

n  
/ an'tɪnəmē /  
Gk

[Note: Could be confused with antimony.] a statement or sentiment that is seemingly contradictory or opposed to common sense and yet perhaps true in fact : paradox.

*The students were asked to write an essay on the following antinomy: The more terrible the prospect of nuclear war becomes, the less likely it is to happen.*

**antipathies**

n pl  
/ an'tɪpəθēz /  
Gk

settled aversions or dislikes.

*George Washington warned of the consequences of having permanent, inveterate antipathies against particular nations.*

**antipathy**

**antiphonal**

adj  
/ an'tɪfənəl /  
Gk + Gk

answering or alternating (as in a musical composition sung alternately by divisions of a choir or congregation).

*The director seated half the choir in the balcony to make the piece with antiphonal parts even more dramatic.*

**antiphony**

**antiquate**

**antiquated**

**antiseptics**

**antithetical**

**antitussive**

**anxieties**

n pl  
/ an'zɪədēz /  
L

strong concerns about some imminent developments.

*Sally has had enough to worry about without our adding to her anxieties.*

**anxiolytic**

n  
/ ,anʒēō'lidɪk /  
L + Gk

a drug that relieves an abnormal and overwhelming sense of apprehension and of fear.

*Amy's doctor prescribed an anxiolytic for her to take when she felt a panic attack.*

**anxious**

**anxiously**

adv  
/ 'an(k)ʃəsli /  
L

in an apprehensive, worried manner.

*Mary anxiously twisted her hair during the geometry test.*

**aoristic**

**aparejo**

n  
/ ,apə'rā(ɪ)ō /  
L > Sp

a packsaddle of stuffed leather or canvas.

*The aparejo has never been improved upon as a way to protect an animal from injury while holding cargo.*

**apartment**

**apiculture**

n  
/ 'āpəkəlchə(r) /  
L

[has near homonym: aviculture] beekeeping, especially when pursued on a large scale.

*Even though apiculture has been practiced for many centuries, bees have not been domesticated or tamed.*

**apiece**

**apishamore**

**aplastic**

**apocalyptic**

adj  
/ ə,pākə'liptɪk /  
Gk

predicting or foreboding imminent disaster or final doom.

*Apocalyptic prophets are typically hostile to reason and science.*

**apocryph**

**apocrypha**

n pl  
/ ə'pākɹəfə /  
Gk > L

quasi-scriptural books of doubtful authorship and authority.

*The Sunday school teacher shared with her students some stories from the Old Testament apocrypha.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**Apollonian**

adj

/ ˌapəˈlɒniən /

Gk

of, relating to, or resembling the god Apollo, the Greco-Roman god of manly beauty, of poetry and music, and of the wisdom of oracles.

*Reggie's Apollonian temperament led him to an admiration of classical art and literature.*

**Apollyon**

n

/ əˈpɒliən /

Biblical name

[Note: Might be confused with Apollonian.] devil.

*Like Christian in the book Pilgrim's Progress, everyone eventually faces his or her personal Apollyon.*

**apologetic**

**apologize**

**apolune**

**apopemptic**

adj

/ ˌapəˈpem(p)ɪk /

Gk + Gk

sung or addressed to one departing : valedictory.

*At the end of the ceremony the graduates filed out of the auditorium to the strains of an apopemptic hymn.*

**apophysis**

n

/ əˈpɒfəsəs /

Gk + Gk

a part of a bone (as a vertebra) that projects outward.

*After Tony's car accident, X rays showed that the apophysis of one of his vertebrae was out of alignment.*

**apoplectic**

**apostasy**

**apostate**

n

/ əˈpɒstɑːt /

Gk > L

one who has renounced or forsaken his religious faith or given up his moral allegiance.

*The Roman emperor known as "Julian the Apostate" tried to reverse the tide of Christianity in the Roman empire.*

**apotheosis**

n

/ əˈpɒθiəˈɒsəs /

Gk

the raising of a person or thing to divine status.

*The emperor Caligula announced his own apotheosis to his terrified subjects.*

**apotheosize**

**apotropaic**

adj

/ əpɒtrəˈpaɪk /

Gk + Ecf

designed to avert or turn aside evil.

*The native costume included a pouch of apotropaic herbs worn around the neck.*

**appalled**

**apparent**

**apparently**

**appearance**

**appeasable**

adj

/ əˈpiːzəbəl /

L > F + Ecf

capable of being brought to a state of ease or content.

*Jeff described his father as being easily excitable, but just as easily appeasable.*

**appeased**

v

/ əˈpiːzd /

L > F > E

caused to subside : allayed.

*Carole peeked in Mrs. Hinkle's grade book and appeased her curiosity about the grade distribution.*

**appellant**

**appellate**

adj

/ əˈpelət /

L

[Note: Could be confused with appellant.] having the power to review and affirm, reverse, or modify the judgment or decision of another tribunal.

*The appellate court decided to reverse the lower court's verdict.*

**appellations**

n pl

/ ˌapəˈlæʃənz /

L

[has near homonym:

Appalachians] names or titles by which persons, things, or clans are called and known.

*Matt has a reputation for bestowing familiar appellations upon his friends, and for some reason he calls his best friend "Sarge."*

**appendage**

**appendicular**

adj

/ ˌapənˈdɪkjələ(r) /

L

of or relating to a limb or limbs.

*Arthritis limited Joan's appendicular movements.*

**appendix**

**appetitost**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**applause**

n  
/ ə'plɔz /  
L  
approval publicly expressed (as by clapping hands).  
*After the applause subsided, the opera continued.*

**appleblossom**

**applicant**

**application**

**appliquer**

**appoggiatura**

**apportioned**

**apposite**

**appraise**

v  
/ ə'prāz /  
F > E  
[has homonym: upraise] set a value on (as goods or land).  
*For insurance purposes, Selina had an expert appraise her furniture.*

**appreciate**

**apprehend**

v  
/ ,aprə'hend /  
L  
take (a person) in legal process : arrest.  
*The police chief ordered the officers to apprehend the forger.*

**apprehensible**

**approximately**

**appulse**

n  
/ ə'pəls /  
L  
the apparent very near approach of one celestial body to another.  
*Marsha peered through binoculars to see the appulse of Saturn to Jupiter.*

**apraxia**

**apron**

**apse**

**apterous**

**apterygote**

adj  
/ ap'terə,gōt /  
Gk  
of or relating to a subclass of insects that are presumed never to have developed wings.  
*Silverfish, firebrats, and bristletails are apterygote insects.*

**apteryx**

n  
/ 'aptə(,)riks /  
Gk + Gk  
a flightless New Zealand bird that is about the size of a domestic chicken.  
*The eggs of the apteryx, which are as large as one fourth its weight, are incubated by the male.*

**apyretic**

adj  
/ ,āpɪ'redɪk /  
Gk  
without fever.  
*The pediatrician said that Bobby could return to school as soon as he was apyretic.*

**aqua**

n  
/ 'akwə /  
L  
a variable color averaging a light greenish blue.  
*The whiteness of the beach's sand made the aqua of the water even more striking.*

**aquamarine**

**aquarelle**

**aquarellist**

n  
/ ,akwə'reləst /  
L > It > F + Ecf  
one who draws or paints in watercolor, especially transparent watercolor.  
*Duncan showed great promise as an aquarellist.*

**aquiclude**

**aquosity**

n  
/ ə'kwāsədē /  
L  
the quality or state of being moist.  
*Marlene dutifully checked the aquosity of the soil every day with the test strips the nursery gave her.*

**arable**

**arachin**

**arachnophagous**

adj  
/ ,arak'näfəgəs /  
Gk + Gk  
feeding on spiders.  
*Jill's contribution to the discussion about arachnophagous creatures was that there are not enough of them.*

**Aramaic**

n  
/ ,arə'māik /  
Gk  
a Semitic language of which documents are known from as early as the 9th century B.C.  
*Aramaic is the mother of many languages in the Middle East and Asia.*

**araneid**

**araneiform**

**araucaria**

**arbitrariness**

n  
/ ,ärbə'trerənəs /  
L + Ecf  
the quality or state of arising from unrestrained exercise of the will, caprice, or personal preference.  
*The report indicated that the ghetto residents had been subjected to the arbitrariness of the authorities.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**arbitration**

n  
/ ˈɑːrbəˈtræʃən /

L  
the hearing and determination of a case between parties in controversy by a judge.

*They discussed and debated and raved and ranted until they were on the verge of blows, when it was decided to submit the question to arbitration by the princesses.*

**arbor**

**arboretum**

**arbustum**

**arbutus**

n  
/ ərˈbjuːdəs /

L  
a tree of a genus of evergreen shrubs or trees of southern Europe and western North America with white or pink flowers and many-seeded scarlet berries.

*Evelyn refers to the arbutus in her backyard as a "strawberry tree."*

**arc**

n  
/ ˈɑːrk /

L  
a sustained brilliantly luminous glow formed when a break is made in an electric circuit.

*The arc that shot from the electrical appliance indicated a problem with its circuitry.*

**arcade**

**arcane**

adj  
/ ərˈkɑːn /

L  
known only to a very few : mysterious.

*The scroll was written in an arcane script that nobody could identify.*

**archaically**

**archaism**

**archetype**

n  
/ ˈɑːrkəˌtɪp /

Gk + Gk  
the original model, form, or pattern from which something is made or develops.

*Diane bragged that her dress design was the archetype that others had merely copied.*

**archidiaconal**

**archimage**

**architect**

**architectural**

adj  
/ ˈɑːrkəˈtektʃərəl /

Gk > L  
of, resembling, or relating to the art or practice of designing and building structures, especially habitable structures.

*King Ludwig's castle in Bavaria is a famous example of architectural extravagance.*

**architrove**

**archive**

**archives**

**archivist**

**archivistic**

**ardoise**

**arena**

**Areopagus**

n  
/ ˌɑːrēˈæpəɡəs /

Gk  
the supreme tribunal of Athens.  
*The general was commanded to appear before the Areopagus, but he refused.*

**argali**

n  
/ ˈɑːrgəleɪ /

Mongolian  
a large wild sheep having immense horns and widely distributed in mountainous central and eastern Asia.

*The argali may weigh over 300 pounds and stand four feet high at the shoulders.*

**argent**

n  
/ ˈɑːrjənt /

L  
a metal tincture used in heraldry and conventionally supposed to be represented by silver but in practice represented by either silver or white.

*The earl's coat of arms featured a roaring lion on a field of argent.*

**argonaut**

n  
/ ˈɑːrgəˌnɒt /

Gk name + Gk  
an adventurer or traveler engaged in a particular quest; specifically : one of those who went to California in 1849 in search of gold.

*Another name for an argonaut is "forty-niner."*

**argue**

**argyria**

**arid**

**aridly**

**arise**

**aristocracy**

n  
/ ˌɑːrəˈstɪkrəsi /

Gk + Gk  
an upper class usually made up of an hereditary nobility.

*In matters of war and peace the king often sought the advice of the aristocracy.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**aristocrat**

n  
/ ə'ristəkrət /  
Gk + Gk  
one who has the bearing and viewpoint typical of a ruling, privileged, or otherwise superior class.  
*After winning the lottery, Francine started behaving like an aristocrat.*

**arithmetic**

**armiger**

n  
/ 'ärməjər /  
L  
[has near homonym: armature]  
armor-bearer, squire.  
*The knight summoned his armiger so he could choose a sword.*

**armigerous**

**armoire**

**arnica**

n  
/ 'ärnika /  
L  
the dried flower head of an herb used in a tincture for bruises, sprains, and swellings.  
*The herbalist used arnica to make a paste for healing bumps and bruises.*

**arolium**

n  
/ ə'rölēəm /  
L  
a padlike lobe projecting between the tarsal claws of many insects.  
*The grasshopper has a small but well-developed arolium on its foot.*

**aromatic**

adj  
/ .arə'mədək /  
Gk > L > F > E  
of, relating to, or characterized by the presence of at least one benzene ring.  
*Aromatic amines are used mainly in the manufacture of dyes.*

**arrearage**

n  
/ ə'ririʒ /  
L > F > E + Ecf  
an obligation that has not been on time or is unfinished, especially : something that remains unpaid and overdue after previous payment of a part.  
*Mr. Olson's medical bills remained in arrearage until the insurance claims were settled.*

**arrears**

n pl  
/ ə'ri(ə)rɪz /  
L > F > E  
state of being behind in the discharge of duties, obligations, or responsibilities.  
*Mark's landlord will evict him because he is one year in arrears with his rent payments.*

**arriccio**

**arriero**

**arrival**

**arrogate**

**arsedine**

**arsine**

**arson**

n  
/ 'ärsən /  
L > F  
the willful and malicious burning of or attempt to burn any building, structure, or property of another or of one's own usually with criminal or fraudulent intent.  
*The investigators determined that the fire was the result of arson.*

**arterial**

**arteriole**

**artery**

**Arthropoda**

n pl  
/ ä'rθrəpədə /  
Gk  
the largest phylum of invertebrate animals with jointed legs, a segmented body, and an exoskeleton.  
*Insects comprise the class Insecta, the largest class of the phylum Arthropoda.*

**articulate**

adj  
/ ä'r'tikyələt /  
L  
expressing oneself clearly and effectively.  
*Articulate even when he was a young child, Jack is a good choice for debate team captain.*

**artificer**

**artist**

**artiste**

**artistry**

**arugula**

**asado**

n  
/ ə'sä(,)dō /  
L > Sp  
barbecue.  
*Tina is sure that La Piñata has the best asado in town.*

**asarotum**

**ascending**

adj  
/ ə'sendɪŋ /  
L > E + Ecf  
mounting up or sloping upward : rising.  
*The watercolor depicted a country manor with a gently ascending driveway.*

**ascensive**

**ascertain**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**ascetic**

adj  
/ ə'sedɪk /  
Gk  
refraining from self-indulgence : self-denying, self-disciplined, austere.  
*Ricky's lavish lifestyle contrasts sharply with his brother's ascetic existence.*

**ascot**

**ascribe**

**ashamed**

**askance**

adv  
/ ə'skɑn(t)s /  
unknown  
with a side look : sideways, obliquely.  
*Juan's cat has a habit of looking askance at a toy for a long while before pouncing on it.*

**asocial**

**aspen**

**asperge**

**asperities**

n pl  
/ ə'spɛrədēz /  
L  
rough places.  
*Only with a microscope could Michael see asperities on the seemingly smooth leaf.*

**asperous**

**aspersions**

**aspidistra**

**aspirant**

**asportation**

**assailants**

n pl  
/ ə'sālənts /  
F  
ones who encounter or confront in order to prevail over.  
*Roosevelt warned that assailants of the democratic way of life were on the march, threatening large and small nations.*

**assault**

n  
/ ə'sɔlt /  
L > F > E  
a violent attack with physical means (as blows or weapons).  
*The rock musician was fined \$2000 for his assault on the photographer.*

**assemble**

v  
/ ə'sembəl /  
L  
join together usually in an orderly way with logical selection or sequence.  
*Moira helped Simon assemble the 5000-piece puzzle, but it still took them a week to finish.*

**assembly**

**assertive**

**assessable**

**assessed**

**assign**

**assimilative**

**assisi**

n  
/ ə'sē(,)sē /  
It geog name  
embroidery with unworked designs outlined by a solid background of cross-stitch.  
*Elaine purchased an antique Italian pillowcase decorated with assisi.*

**assist**

**assistant**

**assure**

**assurgent**

adj  
/ ə'sɜrjənt /  
L  
ascending, rising.  
*In heraldry a human or beast rising out of the sea is said to be "assurgent."*

**astatine**

**asterial**

adj  
/ ə'stɪrēəl /  
L or Gk  
of or relating to stars.  
*The movie theater's ceiling is dotted with an asterial design.*

**asterisk**

**asthma**

**asthmogenic**

**astounding**

adj  
/ ə'staʊndɪŋ /  
E  
causing or capable of causing wonder and surprise in high degree.  
*The book was hailed as a fascinating account of an astounding epoch.*

**astragal**

**astragalomancy**

n  
/ ə'strəgəlō.mɑn(t)sē /  
Gk + Gk  
divination by means of small bones or dice.  
*The committee decided to have a booth devoted to astragalomancy rather than the usual palm readings at the fair.*

**astringent**

adj  
/ ə'strɪnjənt /  
L > F  
having the property of drawing together the soft organic tissues.  
*Lorelei applied an astringent lotion to her face every night before bedtime.*

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**astrolabe**

n  
/ 'astrə.lāb /  
Gk > L&F > E  
a compact instrument for observing the positions of the celestial bodies.  
*Before the sextant was developed, the astrolabe was used for navigation.*

**astronaut**

**astrophysicist**

n  
/ ,astrə'fizəsəst /  
Gk  
a specialist in the branch of astronomy dealing principally with the physical and chemical natures of the heavenly bodies and their origin and evolution.  
*Martha plans to be an astrophysicist and work for NASA.*

**astuciously**

adv  
/ ə'st(y)üşhəslē /  
L > F  
shrewdly, cleverly.  
*The movie details the methods of the detective who astuciously solves the murder mystery.*

**astucity**

**asunder**

adv  
/ ə'səndə(r) /  
E  
into parts : into different pieces.  
*The wind was so violent that Justin feared his tent would be torn asunder.*

**asymmetric**

adj  
/ ,āsə'metrik /  
Gk  
not characterized by due or balanced proportions.  
*Devon challenged his audience by intentionally making the sculpture asymmetric.*

**asymptote**

n  
/ 'asəm(p).tōt /  
Gk  
a straight line associated with a curve such that as a point P moves out along the curve, the distance from the point P to the line approaches zero.  
*The graph clearly showed an asymptote to the hyperbola.*

**asyndeton**

n  
/ ə'sində'tän /  
Gk  
omission of the conjunctions that ordinarily join words or clauses.  
*Anyone who has taken Latin should know the famous asyndeton in Caesar's words, "I came, I saw, I conquered."*

**atavistic**

adj  
/ ,adə'vistik /  
L  
marked by recurrence in an organism or in any of its parts of a trait typical of ancestors more remote than the parents.  
*Even though Marie considered herself a city girl, visiting her great-grandparents' farm ignited an atavistic desire to dig in the dirt.*

**atheist**

**athetize**

**athodyd**

**Atlantic**

adj  
/ ə'tlantik /  
Gk  
of, relating to, or found in, on, or near the Atlantic Ocean.  
*The hurricane ravaged the Atlantic coast of Florida.*

**atoll**

n  
/ 'atōl /  
Maldives Islands name  
a coral reef appearing above the sea as a low ring-shaped coral island or as a chain of closely spaced coral islets around a shallow lagoon.  
*The atoll was formed by a process started millions of years ago by an undersea volcano.*

**atrament**

n  
/ 'atrəmənt /  
L  
a very dark substance—usually used of liquids.  
*The puff of atrament hid the octopus from a nearby predator.*

**atresia**

**attaboy**

interj  
/ 'adə'bōi /  
E  
—used to express encouragement, approval, or admiration.  
*"Attaboy!" cried Uncle Felix as Ted crossed the finish line.*

**attachable**

adj  
/ ə'tachəbəl /  
Gmc + Lcf  
capable of being fastened to something.  
*Linda's new cape has an attachable hood for use in the rain.*

**attacked**

**attain**

**attempt**

**attending**

**atticism**

n  
/ 'adə'sizəm /  
Gk  
a favoring of or attachment to the Athenians.  
*Jacques's writing was noted for its pronounced atticism.*

**attorney**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**attorneys**

n pl  
/ ə'tɜrnēz /  
F

legal agents qualified to act for suitors and defendants in legal proceedings.  
*Under the law, the hospital had to turn over all relevant documents to the attorneys for the plaintiff.*

**attraction**

n  
/ ə'trækshən /  
L

[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word.] a force acting between oppositely electrified bodies or oppositely magnetized bodies that tends to draw them together and resist their separation.  
*Mr. Lee showed the pupils a simple compass and explained that it worked because of the attraction between the compass needle and Earth's magnetic poles.*

**atwitter**

**auburn**

adj  
/ 'ɒbə(r)n /  
L > F

of a moderate brown color that is redder, lighter, and slightly stronger than chestnut brown.  
*Rita Hayworth and Greer Garson were famous actresses who had auburn hair.*

**auction**

v  
/ 'ɒkshən /  
L

sell to the highest bidder at a public sale of property.  
*Georgia wanted to auction all of the furniture.*

**audace**

adj  
/ au'dä.chā /  
L > It

bold, spirited—used as a direction in music.  
*Angela sang the audace passage with remarkable verve, and the audience murmured their appreciation.*

**audible**

**audio**

**audiometer**

n  
/ .òdē'aməd-ə(r) /  
L + Ecf + Gk > Ecf  
an instrument used in measuring the acuity of hearing in the individual ear for sounds of various frequencies.

*At the local schools, students' hearing is tested annually by a specialist using an audiometer.*

**audit**

v  
/ 'òdət /  
L

attend (a course especially in a college or university) without working for or expecting to receive formal credit.  
*Senior citizens are allowed to audit classes free of charge at the local community college.*

**auditor**

**auditorium**

n  
/ .òdə'tɔrēəm /  
L

a room, hall, or entire building specially designed for stage and film presentations, concerts, lectures, and audio-visual features and activities.  
*A new curtain for the stage of the auditorium was purchased with money raised by the students.*

**augmented**

v  
/ òg'mentəd /  
L

increased.  
*Cheating at Tim's school has actually augmented under the new honor code.*

**Augustan**

adj  
/ ò'gəstən /  
L name  
of, relating to, or characteristic of the Roman emperor Augustus Caesar or his age.  
*Vergil's Aeneid is the pinnacle of Augustan literature.*

**aulic**

**aunt**

**aurify**

v  
/ 'òrə.fī /  
L

turn into gold.  
*Alchemists of long ago tried to aurify stone.*

**auroral**

**aurulent**

**auscultate**

**auspicate**

**auspicious**

**austausch**

n  
/ 'äus.taush /  
G

an effect of turbulent motion that is manifested by an exchange of air and water vapor molecules from one layer to another.  
*The meteorologist ran a computer simulation to show atmospheric austausch.*

**austerity**

2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Consolidated Word List: Words Appearing with Moderate Frequency

**Australian**

adj  
/ ɔːˈstræliən /

L  
of or relating to the commonwealth of Australia.

*The longest fence in the world keeps Australian wild dogs from marauding the sheep herds of Southeast Australia.*

**Australopithecus**

n  
/ ɔːstrā(,)lɔːˈpɪθɪkəs /  
L + Gk

a genus of extinct generalized anthropoid apes known chiefly from skulls from the middle Pleistocene deposits of southern Africa.

*Justine's heart skipped a beat as she unearthed the skull of an Australopithecus.*

**autecology**

**auteur**

n  
/ ɔːˈtər /  
F

[has homonym: hauteur] a film director who is the primary creative force in a motion picture.

*The auteur was not very receptive to the actors' suggestions.*

**authoritarianism**

n  
/ ɔːˌθɪərəˈterɪənɪzəm /  
L + Ecff

a political system that concentrates power in the hands of a leader or a small autocratic elite not constitutionally responsible to the people.

*Sergei said that despite all its democratic rhetoric, the system was authoritarianism, pure and simple.*

**authorship**

**autistic**

adj  
/ ɔːˈtɪstɪk /  
Gk

of, relating to, or marked by absorption in self-centered subjective mental activity.  
*Ulrike's autistic behavior includes fantasies, hallucinations, and delusions.*

**autochthon**

**autograph**

**automation**

n  
/ ɔːdəˈmæʃən /  
Gk

the state of being operated with a self-regulating mechanism that performs a required act at a predetermined point in an operation.

*Automation of the assembly line increased productivity at the plant.*

**automobile**

**autonomously**

**autopilot**

**auxilian**

**avalvular**

**avenge**

**avenue**

**aversion**

**avert**  
v  
/ əˈvɜrt /  
L

[has near homonym: evert] prevent the occurrence or unfortunate, dangerous, and dire effects of.  
*It is hoped that the peace mission will avert war.*

**avgolemono**

n  
/ ˌävɡɔːˈlemə(,)nɔː /  
Gk

a soup or sauce made of chicken stock, egg yolks, and lemon juice.  
*Alex ate three bowls of his grandmother's avgolemono after his soccer game.*

**aviary**

**avid**

adj  
/ ˈævəd /  
L

craving eagerly : desirous to the point of greed.

*Behind Mr. Jenkins's superficial concern was a gleam of avid curiosity.*

**avidity**

**avifauna**

**avocation**

**avogram**

n  
/ ˈævəˌɡrɑːm /

It name + Gk > ISV  
a unit of mass and weight equal to one gram divided by the Avogadro number.

*Mr. Lufkin explained to the class that an avogram of any element is equal to the weight of one atom.*

**avoid**

**awesome**

**awful**

**awkward**

adj  
/ ˈɔːkwə(r)d /  
ON > E + E

lacking ease, grace, or deftness of movement.

*Something troubled and awkward in Melinda's manner made Mary stare very hard at her.*







































































