

gusset

n
/ 'gʊsət /
F > E

a usually triangular or diamond-shaped insert (as of cloth or leather) placed in a seam to give ease or expansibility.

Eileen sewed a gusset into the waistband of her hiking pants.

guttate

adj
/ 'gʊd.ət /
L

resembling a drop or having spots that resemble drops.

Symptoms of Janet's illness included a high fever and guttate skin lesions.

gymnure

n
/ 'dʒɪm.n(y)ù(ə)r /
Gk

a small whitish insectivorous mammal of southeastern Asia having a long snout and a long naked tail.

The gymnure, also called the moonrat, is usually black with whitish head, but some individuals are all white.

gynecocentric

adj
/ ˌdʒɪnəkə'sentrik /
Gk

dominated by or emphasizing feminine interests or point of view.

Lucy enjoyed the movie mostly for its gynocentric plot.

gyromancy

n
/ 'dʒɪrə.man(t)sē /
Gk + Gk

divination in which one walking in or around a circle falls from dizziness and prognosticates from the place of the fall.

In one form of gyromancy, a circle is marked with the alphabet so that words may be formed as the diviner falls on the letters.

habit

n
/ 'hæbət /
L > F > E

a behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition.

It is a Yorkshire habit to say what you think with blunt frankness, and old Ben Weatherstaff was a Yorkshire moor man.

habituated

adj
/ hə'bɪtʃə.wədəd /
L

made familiar through use or experience : accustomed.

Although now habituated to a comfortable life, Edna never forgot the pain of her poverty-stricken childhood.

hagiographer

n
/ ˌhæɡē'ægrəfə(r) /
Gk

one who writes about the life of a saint.

Most biographies of the saints are anonymous, but some are attributed to a particular hagiographer.

hagiolith**hailstones**

n pl
/ 'hāl.stōnz /
E + E

balls or lumps of ice falling from a cloud.

The hailstones damaged the finish of many cars in the neighborhood.

hairiest

adj
/ 'ha(a)rēəst /
E

the most covered with or as if with hair.

"That's the hairiest baby I've ever seen!" exclaimed Mr. Feeney.

hallux

n
/ 'hæləks /
L

the innermost digit (as the big toe) of the hind limb : big toe.

The football player became afflicted with an arthritic hallux that affected his mobility.

halogen

n
/ 'hæləjən /
Gk

any of the five elements fluorine, chlorine, bromine, iodine, and astatine forming group VII A of the periodic table.

A halogen normally appears in the free state as a diatomic molecule.

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

hambo

n
/ 'häm(,)bü /
Sw geog name
a Swedish round danced to various melodies in triple time.
Joel learned to dance the hambo when he visited relatives in Sweden.

hammer

hamotzi

hamper

hamster

handbill

handicap

n
/ 'handē.kap /
E
an advantage given a weaker contestant or a disadvantage imposed upon a stronger contestant in order to equalize chances of winning.
Mr. Shore's golf handicap has remained unchanged after six years of play.

handicapper

handiwork

handkerchief

n
/ 'hæŋkə(r)chəf /
E + F > E
a piece of cloth that is used for various personal purposes or as a costume accessory.
Mr. Van Deventer bought a matching tie and handkerchief off the bargain rack.

handsome

hangar

hangdog

adj
/ 'hæŋ.dɒg /
E + E
dejected, cowed, pitiful.
When asked why he had such a hangdog look, the little boy replied that he couldn't find his puppy.

hangul

n
/ 'hæŋgəl /
Kashmiri
a deer of Kashmir closely related to the red deer of Europe.
The deer hunter pointed out his most recent trophy — the mounted head of a hangul.

haori

hapchance

haphazardry

happenstance

n
/ 'hæpən(z)tan(t)s /
E + L
a circumstance regarded as being due to chance.
By happenstance, Gloria found herself in the position of being a witness to a robbery.

haptic

adj
/ 'hæp.tɪk /
Gk
relating to or based on the sense of touch.
The human body's haptic sensor is the skin.

harassment

n
/ hə'ræsmənt /
F
the act or an instance of vexing, troubling, or annoying continually or chronically.
The employee sued the company for harassment that occurred over a period of two years.

hardihood

hardscrabble

hariolation

harmfully

harmless

adj
/ 'hɑ:mləs /
E
lacking capacity or intent to injure.
The snake was a harmless little thing that would not hurt anyone and seemed in a hurry to get out of the room.

harmony

harpy

n
/ 'hɑ:pē /
Gk > L
a predatory monster in chiefly classical mythology represented as having a woman's head and body and claws of a vulture and as being an instrument of divine vengeance.
Mrs. Byrd did not realize that the harpy Jill drew to illustrate Roman mythology had personal significance.

harras

harried

v
/ 'hɑ:rēd /
E
kept under constant attack or threat of attack : harassed.
A mosquito harried Charlie as he tried to sleep.

harrow

harrowing

adj
/ 'hɑ:(,)rɔ:ɪŋ /
E
acutely distressing or painful : agonizing.
Laura worried that a trip to the South Dakota badlands would be a trip through miles of harrowing and hazardous countryside.

harvester

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

hastate

adj
/ 'hɑ.stāt /
L
shaped like a spear or the head of a spear.
Michael has a letter opener with a hastate blade that looks like a Neolithic weapon.

hastener

hastilude

hastily

adv
/ 'hɑstəlē /
F > E
hurriedly.
The hastily executed maneuver saved the ship from the rocks.

hatched

haul

haunches

n pl
/ 'hɒnchəs /
Gmc > F > E
hips : hindquarters.
The guard dog sat on his haunches and growled a warning to all who came near.

hausfrau

Havarti

n
/ hə'vɑrtē /
Danish geog name
a semisoft Danish cheese with a mild to sharp flavor.
Rivka served raw vegetables and mild Havarti with crackers to her party guests.

Hawaiian

adj
/ hə'wāyən /
Hawaiian
of or relating to the island, state, or Territory of Hawaii, the Hawaiian islands, or the inhabitants of Hawaii.
Maureen won a Hawaiian vacation on a game show.

hawk

hawker

n
/ 'hɒkə(r) /
G&E
one that sells wares especially in the streets : peddler.
Sabrina tried to ignore the hawker as he extolled the virtues of beef jerky.

hawse

hawser

n
/ 'hɒzə(r) /
L > F > E
[Note: Could be confused with Hausa, houser.] a large rope for towing or mooring a ship or securing it at a dock.
Jody passed the hawser around the mooring post and disembarked from the boat.

hawthorn

hayloft

n
/ 'hɑ.lɒft /
E + ON > E
a loft or scaffold for hay.
Uncle Albert forbade the children from playing in the hayloft.

hazard

haziness

hazing

headpiece

headset

hearse

heartburn

heartthrob

heathenness

heaven

heavyweight

hebdomadal

hebephrenia

n
/ .hɛbə'frɛnēə /
Gk
a form of schizophrenia that is characterized by silliness, delusions, hallucinations, and regression and that has an early insidious onset.
The prognosis for hebephrenia, which presents itself initially during youth, is unfavorable.

hebetudinous

hecatomb

n
/ 'hekə.tɒm /
Gk
a large number or quantity.
The hecatomb of soldiers slain in the War Between the States makes this war the deadliest conflict in our country's history.

heckle

hector

v
/ 'hektə(r) /
Gk name
harass, intimidate, bully, or domineer by bluster, scolding, or personal pressure.
Some seniors like to hector underclassmen on the first day of school.

hedebo

hedge

hedghopper

hedgerow

n
/ 'hej.rɒ /
E
a row of shrubs or trees enclosing or separating fields.
The property belonging to the estate extended from the hedgerow at the left of the house to the stone pillar one mile down the road.

hedonic

heedful

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

heedless

hefty

adj
/ 'heftē /
E

impressively large.
Little Jolene sat on several hefty books in order to reach the desktop.

heiferette

heighten

heist

heliacal

adj
/ hə'liækəl /
Gk

relating to or near the Sun—used especially of the last setting of a star before and its first rising after invisibility due to conjunction with the Sun.
The Egyptian rural year was determined by the heliacal rising of Sirius.

helical

heliciform

adj
/ hə'lisə.fɔrm /
Gk + Ecf
spiral.

Emmett picked up several small heliciform shells while playing on the beach.

helicline

heliocentric

adj
/ 'hɛləɔ̄.sɛntrɪk /
Gk

having or relating to the Sun as the center.
Copernicus proposed in the 16th century a heliocentric theory of planetary arrangement.

heliophyte

n
/ 'hɛləɔ̄.fɪt /
Gk + Gk
a plant thriving in or tolerating full sunlight.

The cactus is a good example of a heliophyte.

heliosis

n
/ .hɛləɔ̄'ɔ̄səs /
Gk

sunstroke.
Ben stayed indoors for a week following his bout with heliosis on the rafting trip.

heliport

helix

n
/ 'hɛlɪks /
Gk > L
something spiral in form.
Each tendril of a grape vine forms a helix.

hellebore

helmet

n
/ 'hɛlmət /
Gmc > F
any of various protective head coverings usually made of a hard material to resist impact.
The steel helmet protected the soldier from shrapnel.

helminthoid

adj
/ hɛl'mɪnθɔ̄ɪd /
Gk
resembling a parasitic worm (as a roundworm, tapeworm, or leech).
The calves' emaciation and stunted growth were found to be a result of infestation by helminthoid organisms.

helpful

hemera

n
/ 'hɛmərə /
Gk
a stratigraphic zone comprising the time range of a particular fossil species.
Work on the excavation stopped when the workers accidentally unearthed a wide, rich hemera.

hemic

adj
/ 'hɛmɪk /
Gk
of or relating to blood.
Hemic problems caused Ron's breathing difficulty.

hemiplegia

hemiplegic

adj
/ .hɛmə'plɛjɪk /
Gk
marked by paralysis of one lateral half of the body or part of it resulting from injury to the motor centers of the brain.
Marc's automobile accident left him in a hemiplegic condition.

hemlock

hemochromatosis

n
/ .hɛmɔ̄.krɔ̄mə'tɔ̄səs /
Gk
a disease characterized by widespread deposition of iron-containing pigments in the tissues resulting in bronzing of the skin, associated with cirrhosis of the liver and pancreas.
"Bronze diabetes" is the common name for hemochromatosis.

hemodialysis

n
/ .hɛmɔ̄dɪ'aləsəs /
Gk + Gk + Gk
the process of removing blood from an artery (as of a kidney patient), purifying it, adding vital substances, and returning it to a vein.
Mr. Barnes is glad that his hemodialysis can be done at home instead of at the hospital.

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

hemolymph

n
/ 'hēməlim(p)f /
Gk > L > E
the circulatory fluid of various invertebrate animals that is functionally comparable to the blood and lymph of vertebrates.
The hemolymph of insects is usually green, yellow, or colorless.

hemophilic

hemostat

n
/ 'hēməstat /
Gk
an instrument for compressing a bleeding vessel.
A hemostat is an indispensable tool in surgery.

hennery

n
/ 'henərē /
E + Ecf
[has near homonym: henry] an enclosure or house for poultry.
Bill painted the small hennery and put fresh straw inside it for the chickens.

heortology

n
/ ,hē.ó(r)'täləjē /
Gk + Gk
a study of religious calendars; especially : a study of the history and the meaning of the seasons and festivals of the church year.
Barbara's thesis on medieval Italian heortology was published last year to modest critical acclaim.

hepatectomy

hepatomegaly

n
/ ,hepədō'megəlē /
Gk + Gk
enlargement of the liver.
An accumulation of glycogen in the liver can result in hepatomegaly.

heptachord

heptagonal

heptastich

herald

heraldry

n
/ 'herəldrē /
Gmc > F > E
a branch of knowledge that deals with the history and practice of bearing and displaying armorial ensigns and with the art of describing them.
When she began studying heraldry, Jenny realized that she would have to learn a dictionary full of specialized terms.

herb

herbal

herbicide

herbivore

herbivorous

adj
/ ,(h)ər'bivərəs /
L
feeding on plants.
Most insects are herbivorous and feed on virtually every part of a plant, from the flower to the root.

herbs

n pl
/ '(h)ərbz /
L > F > E
plants or plant parts valued for their medicinal, savory, or aromatic qualities.
Karl guarded carefully the secret of which herbs he put in his barbecue sauce.

hereafter

hereinbelow

heresimach

n
/ hə'rēzə.mak /
Gk
an active opponent of heresy and heretics.
During the Inquisition, Torquemada was Spain's most zealous heresimach.

heretofore

heritably

hermetic

hero

heroism

heron

herpetofauna

hesitate

hessian

hesychast

n
/ 'hesəkast /
Gk
one of a set of Eastern Orthodox monastics practicing a solitary meditative form of prayer.
A monk who is a hesychast seeks inner stillness through prayer.

heterodyned

v
/ 'hedərə.dīnd /
Gk
combined (a radio frequency) with a different frequency so that a beat is produced.
The incoming radio signals had to be heterodyned down to 150 kilohertz for recording with a tape recorder.

heterogeneity

n
/ ,hedərəjə'nēədē /
Gk + Lcf
the quality or state of differing in kind.
Sherman was amazed at the heterogeneity of the fraternity members.

heteronomy

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

heteronym

n
/ 'hedərənɪm /
Gk
one of two or more words spelled alike that differ in pronunciation and meaning.
Each of the words spelled b-a-s-s in the following sentence is a heteronym: The fisherman in his bass voice cried out that he had caught a bass.

heterotrichosis

n
/ .hedərōtrə'kōsəs /
Gk
a condition of having hair of variegated color.
When Granny saw rainbow-colored hair for the first time, she wondered if she were seeing a freakish case of heterotrichosis.

heterozygote

n
/ .hedərō'zīgōt /
Gk
an animal or plant that contains genes for both members of at least one pair of alternative Mendelian characters such as whether or not one can roll one's tongue.
Certain genetic disorders are asymptomatic in the heterozygote.

hew

v
/ 'hyü /
E
[has homonym: hue] shape, form, create, or bring into being with or as if with hard rough blows or efforts.
Dr. King told his listeners that with faith they would be able to "hew out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope."

hewgag

hewn

adj
/ 'hyün /
E
felled, cut, or shaped by hewing (as with an ax).
From the hewn stump in the front yard new shoots began to sprout.

hexafoos

hexagonal

adj
/ hek'sagən'ɪ /
Gk + Ecf
having six angles and six sides : six-sided.
A cell of a honeycomb is one of many hexagonal forms in nature.

hexameter

n
/ hek'samədə(r) /
Gk
a line of six metrical feet.
Gil read the difficult hexameter without pause or problem, to the astonishment of Professor Winterbottom.

hexerei

hideaway

hideosity

hidrosis

highbinding

highlight

highroad

n
/ 'hī.rōd /
E + E
the best approach : an easy way.
The highroad to the lodge was very scenic.

hilarity

hinder

hindquarter

hindrance

hindsight

hintingly

Hippocratic

adj
/ .hipə'kradɪk /
Gk name
of or relating to Hippocrates or to the school of medicine that took his name.
Dr. Owens takes the Hippocratic oath literally.

hippocrepiform

hirsuteness

hirsutism

n
/ 'hɜ:süt.izəm /
L
excessive growth of hair of normal or abnormal distribution.
Hirsutism is often the result of a hormonal imbalance in the body.

histogenesis

histogeny

n
/ hi'stājənē /
Gk
the formation and differentiation of tissues.
The 19th-century physiologist Theodor Schwann was renowned for his pioneering study of histogeny.

historian

historicize

Hitchcockian

adj
/ hɪtʃ'kəkēən /
American name
of, relating to, or suggestive of the cinematic style or technique of Alfred Hitchcock.
One Hitchcockian mark was to put himself in the background of a scene in the film, usually when the audience would least expect to see the director.

hither

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

hitherto

adv
/ 'hiθə(r)ti /

E
up to this time.
Frieda discovered an opening to a hitherto unknown cave.

Hitlerian

adj
/ hit'li:riən /

G name
of, relating to, or suggestive of dictator Adolf Hitler or his regime in Germany.
The regime's Hitlerian disregard of human life and human rights repulsed and disgusted the commission.

hittable

adj
/ 'hidəbəl /
ON > E + L

capable of being struck.
The batter cursed himself for missing a perfectly hittable ball.

hobbyist

hobgoblin

hobnail

hobnob

hodad

hoedown

n
/ 'hō.daʊn /
E + E

a lively old-time dance.
Pamela enjoyed the hoedown tremendously.

hoggish

hogshead

n
/ 'hɔgz.hed /
E + E

a U.S. unit of capacity equal to 63 gallons.
We grew enough apples in our backyard this year to yield 1 hogshead of cider.

hogwash

hokum

holcodont

holdall

holiday

holistic

Hollerith

n
/ 'hæləriθ /
name

a code for representing alphanumeric information on punch cards.
Billy started programming back when mainframe computers still had special readers for Hollerith.

hollygrape

holography

holometabolous

adj
/ həlō.mə'təbələs /

Gk > L + Ecf
of an insect : characterized by development with complete metamorphosis.
Most beetles, butterflies, and moths are holometabolous insects.

holophrasis

holophrastic

adj
/ hələ'frastik /

Gk + Gk
expressing a complex of ideas in a single word.
Holophrastic utterances are one of the first stages in children's acquisition of speech.

holozoic

holster

homage

n
/ '(h)ämij /

L > F > E
reverential regard : respect, deference.
The Lord Chancellor demanded homage wherever he went.

hombre

n
/ 'äm(ɪ)brā /
L > Sp

[has homonym: ombre] man, fellow, guy.
Tex was too fast to let that hombre get the drop on him.

homebound

homeopathy

Homeric

adj
/ hō'merik /

Gk name
of or relating to the Greek poet Homer, his age, or his writings.
The Homeric portrayal of death is pessimistic and offers no unambiguously attractive hope of a reward for a good life.

homestretch

homiletic

hominivorous

hominoid

n
/ 'hämə.nɔid /

L + Ecf
resembling the family of mammals to which humans and their ancestors belong.
Chewbacca has markedly hominoid features.

homogeneous

adj
/ 'hōmə.jēnēəs /

Gk
relating to, occurring in, or being a system that contains no internal physical boundaries.
Roger's lecture was about the homogeneous catalytic role that chlorine plays in the depletion of the ozone layer.

homonymous

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

homophone

n
/ 'häməfōn /
Gk
one of two or more words pronounced alike but different in meaning or derivation or spelling.
When Andrew's mom was in school, a homophone was called a "homonym."

homuncular

adj
/ .hō'məŋkyələr /
L
resembling or characteristic of a little man, specifically one artificially produced by an alchemist.
The three-dimensional gingerbread man that Jana baked had a homuncular quality.

honcho

hone

honestly

honestone

honeycomb

n
/ 'hənē.kōm /
E
a mass of hexagonal prismatic wax cells built by bees as a nest and store of food.
A swarm of bees covered the large honeycomb.

honeypot

honeysuckle

honor

honorarium

n
/ .änə'rerēəm /
L
an honorary payment or reward usually given as compensation for services.
Dr. Ferraro donated the honorarium she received for her speech at the Rotary Club to a local animal shelter.

hoodlum

n
/ 'hüdləm /
unknown
a criminal usually belonging to a gang : thug.
The young hoodlum was arrested for vandalism.

hooley

hooper

hoorosh

hooves

hopper

hopperdozer

horizontalize

hornpipe

n
/ 'hō(ə)rŋ.pīp /
E
a lively folk dance of the British Isles.
A musical instrument called "the hornpipe" gave its name to a popular sailors' dance.

horologist

n
/ hə'räləjəst /
L
a maker of clocks or watches.
After working as a watch repairman for seven years, Matt decided to become a full-fledged horologist.

horoscope

horoscopic

horrible

adj
/ 'hōrəbəl /
L
likely to arouse fear, dread, or abhorrence.
A horrible sound came from inside the fall festival's haunted house.

horrid

horrifically

adv
/ hō'rifək(ə)lē /
L
in a manner inspiring horror or fear.
The real consequences of a nuclear war could be horrifically worse than previously imagined.

horrified

horrify

horsehair

horst

horticultural

hostile

adj
/ 'häst'l /
L
[has homonym: hostel] offering an unpleasant or forbidding environment.
The snow and ice-covered mountains presented a hostile picture of the next segment of the journey.

hostilely

hovel

howbeit

howled

v
/ 'hauld /
E
uttered or emitted a loud sustained doleful sound or outcry characteristic of dogs and wolves.
The wind howled cruelly in an effort to tear them loose.

hox

hoydenish

adj
/ 'hōid'nish /
D? + Ecf
lively, tomboyish, unladylike.
Mrs. Taylor remarked that even a die-hard feminist would consider Zoe's behavior hoydenish.

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

hubristic

adj
/ hyü'bristik /
Gk
insolent, vain, arrogant.
Without question, Rick was the most hubristic intern Dr. Hallberg had ever encountered.

huckaback

huckster

hue

n
/ 'hyü /
E
gradation of color.
An inspired painter reveals mood through the use of hue and shade.

hueless

hula

v
/ 'hülə /
Hawaiian
perform a sinuous mimetic Polynesian dance of traditional form and topical adaptation, usually accompanied by chants and rhythmic drumming.
Leilani was invited to hula for the guests at the luau.

hulking

adj
/ 'həlkiŋ /
Gk > L > E + Ecf
of great size or powerful build.
One look at the hulking guard would cause anyone to think twice about making him angry.

humaniora

n pl
/ (h)yü.manē'örə /
L
the branches of learning regarded as having primarily a cultural character and usually including languages, literature, history, mathematics, and philosophy.
Mateo received his degree in general studies or, as he likes to call it, "humaniora."

humanitarian

n
/ (h)hyü.manə'terēən /
L + Ecf
a person who is actively concerned in promoting human welfare and especially social reform.
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. will always be remembered as a great humanitarian.

humbly

adv
/ 'həmblē /
E
in a modest or meek manner.
Anita humbly protested that her work did not deserve to hang on the museum's walls.

humdinger

humid

humidity

n
/ hyü'midədē /
L
a moderate degree of wetness especially of the atmosphere.
In addition to the heat and humidity, the hikers had to deal with pesky mosquitoes.

humiliate

humility

n
/ hyü'milədē /
L
the quality or state of being humble in spirit : freedom from pride or arrogance.
We all need humility in the face of what we do not understand.

humiture

n
/ 'hyümə.chü(ə)r /
L&L
an integer average of temperature and humidity.
When the temperature is 85 degrees Fahrenheit and the relative humidity is 90, the humiture is 88.

hummingbird

hummocky

humstrum

humus

n
/ '(h)yüməs /
L
[Note: Could be confused with adjective humorous. Also, has near homonym: hummus.] the organic portion of soil.
Mario's compost heap provides an annual supply of humus for his garden.

hunching

v
/ 'hənchiŋ /
unknown
assuming a bent or crooked posture.
After hours of hunching in the car, Huey was glad for an opportunity to stretch at the rest stop.

hundred

hundredweight

n
/ 'həndrəd.wāt /
E + E
a unit of weight equal to 100 pounds—called also "short hundredweight."
Ronnie may be teased for only being a hundredweight, but he is respected for his quickness.

Hungarian

n
/ .həŋ'ga(a)rēən /
European geog name
a native or inhabitant of Hungary, a country in central Europe.
Many a Hungarian has settled happily in the United States.

hungry

hurdle

n
/ 'hərdl /
E
an artificial barrier over which horses leap in a race.
Gordon's mount cleared the last hurdle with ease and won the race.

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hure

n
/ 'hyù(ə)r /
F > E

[has homonym: hewer] a close-fitting cap.
The 15th-century painting depicted a peasant wearing a gray hure.

hurling

v
/ 'hərliŋ /
imit? E

impelling with great vigor.
For lack of something better to do, Simon spent the afternoon hurling stones into the creek.

hurriedly

adv
/ 'hərədlē /
E? + Ecff

quickly, hastily.
Jennifer dressed hurriedly in the cold room.

husbandry

n
/ 'həzbəndrē /
ON > E

the cultivation or production of plants and animals : agriculture, farming.
The barn was well stocked with tools of husbandry.

husky

hustings

n pl
/ 'həstiŋz /
ON > E

an election platform : stump.
After the political conventions, the election heated up as each party's nominee took to the hustings with renewed zeal.

hustle

v
/ 'həsəl /
D

move or act with vigorous speed.
"You'd better hustle if you want to make your train!" Betty shouted.

hydra

n
/ 'hīdrə /
Gk > L

a many-sided problem or obstacle that presents new difficulties each time one aspect of it is solved or overcome.
The problem was a hydra of immense proportion.

hydroacoustic

adj
/ .hī(,)drə'küstik /
Gk

of or relating to the transmission of sound in water.
Whales use a form of hydroacoustic communication.

hydrocortisone

n
/ .hī(,)drə'kò(r)ḍə.sōn /
Gk + L

a crystalline hormone that is used in the treatment of certain allergic diseases.
At one time available only in compounds prescribed by doctors, hydrocortisone is now found in many over-the-counter medications.

hydrological

adj
/ .hīdrə'lājəkəl /
Gk

of or relating to the study of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere.
The hydrological cycle includes the evaporation of oceanic water into the atmosphere and its eventual return as precipitation.

hydropathy

hydrophobia

n
/ .hīdrə'fōbēə /
Gk

an acute viral disease of the nervous system of warm-blooded animals that is fatal when untreated and is transmitted with infected saliva usually through the bite of an animal : rabies.
In recent years many raccoons have succumbed to hydrophobia.

hydroponics

n pl
/ .hīdrə'päniks /
Gk

the growing of plants in nutrient solutions with or without sand, gravel, or other inert medium to provide mechanical support.
Hydroponics is invaluable in regions having poor or no soil.

hydroxyzine

hyetometer

n
/ .hīə'tämədə(r) /
Gk

rain gage.
Ambrose set up a hyetometer in the front yard as part of his science fair project.

hygeian

adj
/ hī'jēən /
Gk name

[Note: Could be confused with hygiene.] of or relating to health or medical practice.
Janice does not know which hygeian career she will pursue, but she is currently very interested in nutrition.

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

hygienic

adj
/ .hɪjē'ɛnɪk /
Gk

of, relating to, or conducive to health or the science which deals with the establishment and maintenance of health in the individual and the group.

The minister reported that better hygienic conditions had reduced infant mortality significantly over the past ten years.

hygienically

hygrometer

n
/ hɪ'grāmədə(r) /
Gk

any of several instruments for measuring the humidity of the atmosphere.

Eileen wondered what would happen if she took the hygrometer into the shower with her.

hygroscope

hyoid

n
/ 'hɪ.ɔɪd /
Gk

a bone or complex of bones situated at the base of the tongue, supporting the tongue and its muscles.

X rays showed damage to the patient's larynx and hyoid.

hypallage

n
/ hɪ'palə(ɪ)jē /
Gk

the interchange in syntactic relationship between two terms.

The sentence "you are become dead to the law" is hypallage for "the law has become dead to you."

hyperborean

adj
/ .hɪpə(r)'bɔrēən /
Gk

of, relating to, or inhabiting an extreme northern region : frigid.
Polar bears are among the few animals that can survive in hyperborean regions.

hyperkalemia

hyperopia

n
/ .hɪpə'rɒpēə /
Gk

a condition in which visual images come to a focus behind the retina and vision is better for distant than for near objects : farsightedness.
Mom attributed her difficulty in reading fine print to hyperopia.

hypertonic

hyphenic

hypnosis

hypocaust

n
/ 'hɪpɔ.kɔst /
Gk

a central heating system of an ancient Roman building consisting of an underground furnace or fire chamber and a series of tile flues for distribution of the heat.

Jessamyn pointed out the remains of the hypocaust that had heated the public baths.

hypochlorite

n
/ .hɪ(ɪ)pɔ'klɔr.ɪt /
Gk

a salt or ester of a weak acid used chiefly as an oxidizing agent, bleaching agent, disinfectant, and chlorinating agent.

Sodium hypochlorite is the primary ingredient in commercial laundry bleaches.

hypocrite

hypopharynx

n
/ .hɪ(ɪ)pɔ'færɪŋ(k)s /
Gk

a thickened fold on the floor of the mouth of many insects that resembles a tongue.

In a chewing insect the hypopharynx secretes digestive juices.

hypotactic

adj
/ .hɪpə'taktɪk /
Gk

of, relating to, or exhibiting syntactic subordination (as by conjunction).

Yun loved the complicated hypotactic prose of academic German.

Hypotheria

n pl
/ .hɪpɔ'thɪrēə /
Gk

a hypothetical order including the as yet undiscovered ancestors of the mammals.

Speculation about the ancestors of the mammals will remain just that until a member of the order Hypotheria is discovered.

hypothermia

hypothesize

v
/ hɪ'pəθə.sɪz /
Gk

make an assumption in order to draw out its logical or empirical consequences.

We can hypothesize that every statement is true, but then we will have to accept contradictions as truth.

hypoxemia

hypozeuxis

hypsoneter

n
/ hɪp'sämədə(r) /
Gk + Gk

any of various instruments used to determine the height of trees by triangulation.

Being a forester, Steve was an expert at using a hypsoneter.

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hyrax

n
/ 'hɪraks /
Gk > L
any of a family of small thickset mammals with short legs and ears, feet with soft pads and broad nails, and a rudimentary tail.
The hyrax feeds on a wide variety of plants and can digest fiber very efficiently.

hysterics

hysterogenic

ibex

n
/ 'ɪbeks /
L
one of several wild goats living chiefly in high mountain areas and having large recurved horns.
While on a ski trip in the Swiss Alps, Pierre spotted an ibex.

ibidem

ibuprofen

n
/ ɪbyʊ'prɒfən /
ISV
a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug used to relieve pain and fever.
Because aspirin upsets her stomach, Angela takes ibuprofen to relieve minor pains.

iceberg

icebound

adj
/ 'ɪs.baʊnd /
E + E
surrounded with ice so as to be incapable of advancing.
The harbor was icebound during much of the winter.

ichor

ichorous

adj
/ 'ɪkərəs /
Gk
[has near homonym: Icarus] thin, watery.
In severe psoriasis the skin becomes hard and then cracks, and from the cracks there is an ichorous discharge.

ichthyic

ichthyism

ichthyologist

ichthyosaur

n
/ 'ɪkθɪsə.sɔ(ə)r /
Gk + Gk
any of an order of extinct fishlike reptiles of the Mesozoic era having a long snout and a large caudal fin.
Its streamlined body and paddle-like limbs enabled the ichthyosaur to move swiftly through the water.

ickiness

iconoclasm

iconoduly

iconographer

n
/ ɪkə'nəgrəfə(r) /
G
a maker or designer of figures or drawings especially of a conventional or mechanical type.
The congregation was quite pleased with the inspirational scene depicted by the iconographer.

icotype

icteric

adj
/ 'ɪk.terɪk /
Gk > L
of, relating to, or affected with jaundice.
Hepatitis A is one common disease that has an icteric stage lasting from days to weeks.

ictus

idealist

idealize

v
/ ɪ'diə(ə),lɪz /
Gk
make into a perfect example.
Greer tends to idealize her friends.

ideate

v
/ ɪ'diə.ət /
Gk + Ecf
remember, imagine, or think of when not in the presence of.
Painters often rely on their ability to ideate a landscape or a face.

ideological

idiasm

n
/ ɪ'di.əzəm /
Gk
an individual mannerism (as in literary style).
James Joyce's main idiasm was his penchant for writing in stream of consciousness.

idiom

idiomatic

idiomatically

adv
/ ɪ'diə'madək(ə)lɪ /
Gk
in a manner conforming to the language peculiar to a people or to a district, community, or class.
The immigrant student quickly learned to speak English idiomatically.

idiopathic

adj
/ ɪ'diə'pathɪk /
Gk
arising spontaneously or from an obscure or unknown cause.
After carefully examining Leila, the doctor announced that her sudden hearing loss was idiopathic and might disappear with time.

idiophone

idiosyncrasies

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

idiosyncrasy

idle

adj
/ ɪd̩l /
E
[has homonyms: idol, idyl, idyll]
given to rest or ease.
Not one to be idle, Ben assists others whenever he completes his assigned tasks.

idol

idolization

n
/ ɪd̩lə'zāshən /
Gk > L > F > E
the act of loving or revering to excess, or the state of being revered to excess.
The public's idolization of celebrities inevitably causes them to change the nature of their public contacts.

idunit

n
/ ɪ'dənət /
E
an autobiographical or confessional account usually of a sensational character.
Everyone expected the colorful Wall Street broker to write an idunit after his conviction for embezzlement.

ignescence

ignition

ignore

illaudable

illeist

illfare

illimitable

adj
/ i(l)'lɪmɪd̩əbəl /
L
not capable of being restricted or bounded.
The capacity of human beings to absorb what they wish to absorb and to ignore the rest seems to be illimitable.

illiteracy

n
/ i(l)'lɪd̩ərəsē /
L
inability to read or write.
The administration promised to launch a campaign against illiteracy.

illogical

illogicality

n
/ (,i)lɪ'lɔːdʒɪ'kælədē /
Gk + Ecff
the quality or state of reasoning unsoundly through ignorance or negligence of logic.
The English teacher pointed out the illogicality in saying "My cup is fuller than yours."

illuminable

illuminometer

n
/ ə'lɪmənə'næməd̩ə(r) /
L + Ecf + Gk
a photometer for measuring the illumination of surfaces.
Houston and Kennelly called their invention an illuminometer.

illustrious

adj
/ ə'lɪstr̩əs /
L + Ecf
notably or brilliantly outstanding.
The ambassador's illustrious achievements are known throughout the land.

imagine

v
/ ə'maɪən /
L > F > E
form an idea of.
Louis became dizzy when he tried to imagine himself sky-diving or hang-gliding.

imago

n
/ ə'mā(,i)gō /
L
an insect in its final adult mature usually winged state.
A butterfly has a caterpillar stage and a chrysalis stage before it emerges as an imago, or butterfly.

imbibition

imbroglio

imitate

immanent

adj
/ ɪ'mənənt /
L
remaining or operating within the subject considered : indwelling.
Stefan told a story about a forest god immanent in the large redwood near our camping spot.

immaterial

immeasurable

immeasurably

adv
/ i(m)'mezh(ə)rəbl̩ /
L > Ecf + L + L > F > E
in a manner that is incapable of being measured.
A two-volume index adds immeasurably to the usefulness of the encyclopedia.

immediacy

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

immemorial

adj
/ i(m)mə'mōrēəl /
L > F

not within the reach of memory, record, or tradition : indefinitely ancient.

Daring teenagers have been climbing Devil's Rock since time immemorial.

immerge

immigrant

immiscibility

n
/ i(m)'misə'bilədē /
L

inability to mix or become homogeneous.

Rain falling on an oil slick demonstrates the immiscibility of the two liquids.

immitigable

immittance

immobile

immobilize

v
/ i(m)'mōbəlīz /
L > F

interfere with or prevent freedom of movement or effective use of.

The general planned to use his secret weapon to immobilize enemy forces.

immortelle

immund

immune

adj
/ ə'myün /
L

protected, guarded.

Wearing her heavy parka made Judith immune to the cold wind.

immunity

immunize

immunology

impartiality

n
/ ɪm.pärshē'alədē /
L

freedom from bias or favoritism.

Justice is often personified with a blindfold and scales to represent impartiality.

impartible

impassionate

impatient

impeach

impeachment

n
/ əm'pēchmənt /
F > E

conviction of misconduct and usually removal from office.

Faced with almost certain impeachment, Richard Nixon became the first United States president to resign from office.

impel

v
/ əm'pel /
L

urge or drive by force or constraint.

Contrary to the best calculations of policy, the nation will impel its government to war.

impenitently

impercipient

adj
/ ɪmpə(r)'sɪpēənt /
L

lacking intuitive recognition or insight.

The critic complained that the novel's characters were so impercipient that no one could possibly care about them.

imperfect

imperil

v
/ əm'perəl /
L > F > E

expose to danger of imminent harm or loss.

The investigation into fund-raising efforts could imperil the candidate's political future.

imperilment

imperious

imperiously

impermeable

impertinent

impetrated

v
/ ɪmpə'trādəd /
L

obtained by request or entreaty : procured.

Lisa impetrated a bottle of Dijon mustard from the couple at the next table and spread some on her sandwich.

impetuous

impignorate

impingement

impious

impish

adj
/ ɪmpɪʃ /
E

relating to a person who behaves mischievously.

Troy's impish behavior was not tolerated at his new school.

impishness

implicate

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

implosion

n
/ əm'plōzhən /

L
the action of bursting inward.
Judd's chemistry experiment created a small implosion after the oxygen was consumed.

impluvium

impof

impolite

adj
/ ɪmpə'līt /

L
lacking in politeness, in etiquette, or in consideration of others.
"All I meant was that perhaps it isn't too important," Milo repeated, trying not to be impolite.

imponderable

importunate

adj
/ əm'pɔrchənət /

L
troublesomely urgent : overly persistent in request or demand.
Peter's importunate requests for assistance cause people to ignore and also avoid him.

importune

v
/ ɪmpər'ti:n /

L&F
press or urge with frequent or unreasonable requests or troublesome persistence.
The political organization was asked not to importune shoppers to sign petitions in front of the store.

imposing

adj
/ əm'pōziŋ /

L > F + Ecf
impressive because of size, scope, bearing, dignity, or grandeur.
The imposing statues at the temple's entrance awed the visitors.

imprecate

v
/ ɪm'prəkāt /

L
invoke evil upon : curse.
The defendant's attorney expects that the angry plaintiff may imprecate her during cross-examination.

imprecatory

impreg

impregnable

adj
/ ɪm'pregnəbəl /

L > F > E
incapable of being taken by assault.
Three feet of densely packed snow enveloping Dieter's fort rendered it impregnable.

impressive

adj
/ əm'presiv /

L + Ecf
tending to arouse the strong interest or admiration of another.
The singer's vocal range is very impressive.

improvement

improvident

improving

improvisation

n
/ (ˌ)ɪm.prəvə'zāshən /

L > F
the act of creating an extemporaneous composition (as of music or poetry).
Joel found he had a real gift for improvisation on his saxophone.

improvisational

adj
/ ɪm.prəvə'zāshənəl /

L
composed extemporaneously.
Patrick enjoys improvisational dancing but not ballroom dancing.

impudent

adj
/ ɪmpyədənt /

L
disrespectful, insolent.
The bully stood before the principal with an impudent and haughty look in his eye.

impugnable

adj
/ əm'pyünəbəl /

L
capable of being called into question.
Although the senator's loyalty was never doubted, his judgment was certainly impugnable.

impugnement

impuissant

imu

inability

inaccessible

adj
/ ɪnɪk'sesəbəl /

L
not capable of being reached, entered, or approached.
Damian remodeled his store's entrance because it was inaccessible to people in wheelchairs.

inadequacy

n
/ ɪn'adəkwəsē /

L
the state of being not fully sufficient for a specified or implied requirement.
The psychologist spoke about the feelings of failure, powerlessness, and inadequacy that overwhelm people in a society obsessed with success.

inadvertently

adv
/ ɪnəd'vɜrtəntlē /

Ecf + L + Ecf
unintentionally.
Grace inadvertently locked her keys in the trunk of her car.

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inamissible

inappetence

inaudible

inaugurate

inaugurator

n
/ ɪˈnɔːɡjəˌrɑːdət(r) /

L
a person who begins or brings about the beginning of something.
Geoffrey of Monmouth is credited as the inaugurator of the legends of King Arthur.

incalescent

incandescence

incantations

n pl
/ ɪnˌkɑːnˈtæʃənz /

L
uses of spells or verbal charms spoken or sung as part of ritual or magic.
The priest pronounced barely audible incantations over the sick man.

incarnadine

incavation

incentive

inched

incinerated

v
/ ɪnˈsɪnəˌreɪtəd /

L
caused to burn to ashes.
Janna incinerated her love letters in the wood stove.

incipiently

incise

incision

incisive

adj
/ ɪnˈsɪsɪv /
L
having a cutting edge or piercing point.
Mr. Cunningham's wit was as incisive as the stroke of a fang.

incisor

incite

v
/ ɪnˈsaɪt /
L
[has near homonym: insight] move to a course of action : stir up : urge on.
Patrick Henry's goal was to incite his listeners to rebel.

inclemency

inclinometer

inclusion

incogitant

incognita

n
/ ɪnˌkɔːɡɪˈnɛdə /
L
[has near homonym: incognito] a woman in disguise; especially : one concealing her real quality or state under some unobtrusive appearance.
Though her employers knew her as Jane Swanson, the incognita was really a dangerous terrorist named Carmen Leblanc.

incoherently

adv
/ ɪnˌkɔːhɪrɪntlē /
L
in a manner lacking orderly continuity or relevance.
The distraught woman explained rather incoherently that she couldn't find her three-year-old daughter.

incommensurate

adj
/ ɪnkəˈmen(t)s(ə)rət /
L
not equal in measure or extent.
Stephanie's expenditures are incommensurate with her salary, so she is looking for a higher-paying position.

incommoding

v
/ ɪnkəˈmɔːdɪŋ /
L
giving inconvenience or distress to.
Mr. Elton offered to take the drawing to London, and Emma did her best to pack it as to ensure its safety without much incommoding him.

incommunicado

incompatible

adj
/ ɪnkəmˈpədəbəl /
L
incapable of harmonious combination.
Marriage would not do for Emma; it would be incompatible with what she owed to her father.

incompletable

incomplete

inconcinnity

n
/ ɪnˌkənˈsɪnədə /
L
lack of suitability or congruity : awkward or unsuitable form or character.
There was an obvious inconcinnity between the lawyer's offense and the penalty imposed by the judge.

incongruent

inconsolable

adj
/ ɪnkənˈsɔːləbəl /
L
incapable of being consoled : grieved beyond comfort.
A friend advised the inconsolable widow to consider going to live with her daughter for a while.

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inconvenient

adj
/ ɪnkən'vɛnyənt /

L
giving trouble, uneasiness, or annoyance.

Rachel's mom complains that the location of the kitchen in relation to their garage is terribly inconvenient.

incorporeal

incorporeity

n
/ ɪn.kɔ(r)pə'rɛədē /

L
the quality or state of having no material body or form.

The students in the introductory physics class were puzzled by the incorporeity of the photon.

incorruptible

adj
/ ɪnkə'rəptəbəl /

L
incapable of being bribed or changed from good to bad in morals, manners, or actions.

The local police force prided itself on being incorruptible.

incrassate

incredulous

incremental

adj
/ ɪŋkrə'mentl /

L > E
of, relating to, constituting, or resulting from slight or imperceptible augmentations.

Though Nathan's day-to-day growth was incremental, he grew eight inches in a year's time.

incriminate

incroyable

incunabula

incur

incurrable

adj
/ ɪn'kərəbəl /

L
[has near homonym: incurable] liable to be brought down upon oneself.

When laws are violated, penalties are incurrable.

indecisively

adv
/ ɪndə'sɪsəvlē /

L + Ecf
indistinctly, vaguely.

Tim's answer was given indecisively.

indefectible

indehiscent

indelibly

index

indexically

indignant

adj
/ ɪn'dɪgnənt /

L
filled with or marked by intense resentment.

Mrs. Calloway was indignant over the committee's decision.

indignity

n
/ ɪn'dɪgnədē /

L
something humiliating or injurious to one's self-esteem : insult, outrage.

The prisoners were forced to suffer one indignity after another.

indirect

indirectly

indirubin

indiscreet

indispensable

indisputable

adj
/ ɪndə'spyüdəbəl /

L
that is beyond argument : unquestionable.

Geraldo considered the result of his experiment indisputable.

indistinguishable

adj
/ ɪndə'stɪŋwɪʃəbəl /

L
incapable of being perceived as being separate or different.

Mom could not be conned into believing that margarine is indistinguishable from butter.

individual

individuality

individually

indivisible

adj
/ ɪndə'vɪzəbəl /

L
not separable into parts.
Democritus postulated the existence of the atom, which he thought was the smallest indivisible unit of matter.

inducible

industry

inebriacy

inebriety

n
/ ɪnə'brɪədē /

L
drunkenness.
Arthur saw very little humor in the comedian's feigned inebriety.

inedita

ineffaceable

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

inefficient

adj
/ inə'fɪʃənt /
Ecf + L
wasteful of time or energy in performing work.
Measuring once and cutting twice is more inefficient than measuring twice and cutting once.

ineligibility

ineligible

adj
/ in'eləjəbəl /
L
not qualified to be chosen.
According to the rules, last year's champion is ineligible to compete this year.

inerrant

adj
/ in'erənt /
L
free from error or mistake.
The minister expressed staunch commitment to the inerrant authority of Scripture.

inescapable

inesculet

adj
/ in'eskyələnt /
L
not suitable for use as food especially for human beings : inedible.
Gary was sick for several days after eating an inesculet mushroom.

inessential

adj
/ inə'senchəl /
L
not necessary : dispensable.
The soldier claims that enforcement of inessential regulations is petty harassment of the weak by the strong.

inestimable

adj
/ in'estəməbəl /
L
too valuable or excellent to be measured or appreciated.
The soldier died in battle, unaware of the inestimable service he had performed for his country.

inevitability

n
/ (i)nevədə'bilədē /
L
the quality or state of being incapable of being avoided or evaded.
The character rages throughout the play at the unfairness of life and the inevitability of death.

inexcusable

inexcusably

adv
/ inik'skyüzəblē /
L + Ecf
not justifiably, not apologetically.
Toby is inexcusably late for his violin lesson.

inexhaustible

adj
/ inig'zɔstəbəl /
L
incapable of being used up : unending.
After her visit to Third World countries, Jody realized that she lived in a land that had an inexhaustible wealth in agriculture.

inexpensiveness

infallibility

infamous

infanticide

n
/ ən'fəntəsɪd /
L
a killing of a newly or recently born child.
In ancient Rome the head of the family had the right to commit infanticide.

infantry

infatuate

infatuated

adj
/ ən'fætəwādəd /
L
possessed with or marked by a strong attachment or foolish or unreasoning love.
The young man, infatuated with his first love, was blind to her faults.

infer

v
/ ən'fər /
L
derive by reasoning or implication.
The reader was left to infer what Jojo's crime was.

inference

inferential

infidel

n
/ 'ɪnfədəl /
L > F
an unbeliever in respect to a particular religion.
Ann's favorite painting in the museum is a 17th-century portrait entitled Conversion of the Infidel.

infiltration

infirmary

infirmary

n
/ ən'fərm(ə)rē /
L
a hospital or place where the sick are lodged for treatment.
The camp nurse confined Jason to the infirmary after he fainted.

infirmity

n
/ ən'fərmədē /
L
feebleness, frailty.
Fortunately Grandpa Edgar's infirmity of body is not accompanied by mental infirmity.

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inflammable

adj
/ ɪn'flæməbəl /
L

capable of being easily set on fire.
Inflammable hair products carry a warning label.

inflexible

adj
/ in'fleksəbəl /
L > E

rigid.
Nature's laws are more inflexible than iron.

inflorescence

influence

influenceable

influential

infralittoral

infrared

adj
/ ɪnfrə'red /
L + E

lying outside the visible spectrum at its red end.
The sun's infrared radiation is responsible for the warmth felt in direct sunlight.

infrastructure

n
/ ɪnfrə'strʌktʃə(r) /
L

the underlying foundation or basic framework (as of an organization or a system).
Martin's economics project required him to set up a city government, complete with infrastructure.

infrigidate

infundibular

infuriated

v
/ ɪn'fjʊrɪeɪtəd /
L

enraged, maddened.
The traffic jam infuriated those drivers with little or no patience.

ingenuity

ingots

ingravescence

ingredient

n
/ ɪn'grɛdɪənt /
L
something that enters into a compound or is a component part of any combination or mixture.
Grandma refuses to reveal the secret ingredient that makes her chocolate cake so delicious.

ingress

ingurgitate

v
/ ɪn'gɜrjətāt /
L
swallow, devour, or drink greedily or in large quantity.
Even if Fran's dog has recently been fed, he will ingurgitate anything that is put in front of him.

inhaust

inherent

inhospitable

adj
/ ɪnhə'spɪdəbəl /
L
providing no shelter or sustenance.
Deserts seem to be inhospitable to frogs, yet 23 species live in Australia's arid regions.

inhumanness

inion

n
/ ɪnɪˈæn /
Gk
the external occipital protuberance of the skull.
The coroner determined that the cause of the hitchhiker's death was a blow to the inion.

irritability

initiate

inject

injudiciously

inkblot

inlier

innate

innavigable

adj
/ i(n)'navəgəbəl /
L
not deep enough or wide enough to afford passage to ships.
Since the dam was built, the Green River has been innavigable.

innocuously

innoxious

innuendo

inoculum

v
/ ɪ'nɔkyələm /
L
material (as spores, bacteria, or contaminated fluids) used or suitable for use as an immunity-inducing agent.
Dr. Srinivasan administered the diphtheria inoculum quickly and placed a small bandage over the spot.

inordinate

adj
/ ɪ'nɔ(r)dɪnət /
L
exceeding in amount, quantity, force, intensity, or scope the ordinary, reasonable, or prescribed limits.
Andrew thought Amanda was taking an inordinate amount of time getting ready for her date.

inosculate

v
/ ɪn'ɔskyələt /
L
unite or join so as to become or make as if one : blend.
Through surgery Dr. Manning will inosculate the torn tissues.

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

insatiate

adj
/ in'sāsh(ē)ət /

L
not satisfied.
The pirates were fierce fighters, hardy seamen, and insatiate plunderers.

inscription

inseam

insecticolous

insectival

insectivorous

adj
/ in.sek'tiv(ə)rəs /
L + Ecf
feeding on insects : depending on insects as food.
Some birds and spiders are insectivorous.

inselberg

n
/ 'in(t)səl.bərg /
G
an isolated mountain partly buried by the debris derived from and overlapping its slopes.
The bare, rounded inselberg of rock stands like an island in a sea of vegetation.

insensate

adj
/ in'sen.sāt /
L
unfeeling : cruel, harsh.
Brian despised and protested the insensate strategy of the war.

insensitive

adj
/ in'sen(t)sədɪv /
L > F > E
lacking feeling.
Only a thoroughly insensitive person would not respond to a child's cry for help.

inseparably

adv
/ in'sepərəblē /
L
in a manner so as not to be separated or disjoined.
The city of Las Vegas is inseparably associated with gambling.

insignificant

adj
/ in.sig'nifəkənt /
L
of little size or importance.
Marcella told her brother not to let an insignificant quarrel with his best friend spoil the friendship.

insincerity

n
/ in.sən'serədē /
L
the quality or state in which one is not what one appears to be or does not express what one appears to express.
George's apology oozed with insincerity.

insinuator

insinuating

insistence

insolation
n
/ in(t)(.)sō'lāshən /
L
[has near homonym: insulation]
solar radiation that has been received (as by Earth).
Insolation can cause a lake's temperature to rise by several degrees in a matter of hours.

insoluble

inspection

inspector

inspissate

installation

instantaneity

instantly

instep

instigator

n
/ 'inz.tə.gādə(r) /
L
one that provokes or incites.
The substitute teacher named Verne as the instigator of the disruption.

instinct

instinctively

adv
/ inz'tɪŋ(k)təvlē /
L + Ecff
in a manner determined by natural impulse or propensity.
Instinctively Josey knew that he had taken a wrong turn at the corner.

institute

instructed

instructible

instrument

insufferable

insufflator

insular

insulate

v
/ 'in(t)sə.lāt /
L
separate or shield from conducting bodies by means of nonconductors so as to prevent transfer of electricity, heat, or sound.
The material used to insulate the music department's practice rooms was ineffective.

insuperable

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

insuppressible

adj
/ insə'presəbəl /
L > Ecf + L + L > Ecf
impossible to put down or out of existence.
The crowd's anger proved insuppressible, and the police had to be called.

insurgency

n
/ ən'sərjənsē /
L + Ecf
a condition of revolt against a recognized government that does not reach the proportions of an organized revolutionary government and is not recognized as belligerency.
Installation of a puppet government resulted in widespread insurgency.

insurgents

n pl
/ ən'sərjən(t)s /
L
[has homonym: insurgence]
persons who rise in revolt against civil authority or an established government.
To strengthen, perpetuate, and extend slavery was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union even by war.

integer

integral

adj
/ 'intəgrəl /
L
of, relating to, or serving to form a whole.
Political and economic independence are integral to one another.

integrand

integrity

intellectualism

intellectualize

v
/ int'l'ekchə(wə)liz /
L + Ecf
give rational form or content to.
Sometimes Marie tries so hard to intellectualize her problems that she loses track of what she really feels.

intelligentsia

intemperance

intenerate

v
/ ən'tenə.rāt /
L
make sympathetic or sensitive : soften.
The captive's pleas served to intenerate the victor's heart.

intense

adj
/ ən'ten(t)s /
L
existing in a strained or extreme degree.
Mr. Siberell's slight twitch was a sign of intense anxiety.

intensification

intensively

adv
/ in'ten(t)səvvlē /
L
zealously, eagerly.
This summer Jeremy is studying intensively for the Utah bar exam.

intercut

interested

interferant

interfere

interference

n
/ intə(r)'firən(t)s /
L
the act of meddling in or hampering an activity or process.
Rachel's contribution to the group project turned out to be interference, not help.

interfering

v
/ intə(r)'fi(ə)riŋ /
L + Ecf
entering into or taking a part in the concerns of others.
Gladden thought his older brother was interfering in his decision to attend Ohio University.

interferon

interfluve

intergalactic

interim

interject

v
/ intə(r)'jekt /
L
interpose, interpolate.
Jared tried without success to interject a comment at the meeting.

interlace

v
/ intə(r)'lās /
F > E
unite by or as if by weaving or twining together.
The counselor showed the campers how to interlace leather cords to make a lanyard.

interloper

intermediate

intermission

n
/ intə(r)'mishən /
L
a planned interruption in a program.
During the intermission the lobby was filled with patrons discussing the first act.

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internecion

n
/ .intər'neshən /

L
[Note: Could be confused with
internecine.] mutual destruction :
massacre.

*The Civil War Battle of Antietam is
the bloodiest single-day battle in
American history, an internecion
that claimed more than 23,000
lives.*

interosseous

adj
/ .intə(r)'äsēəs /

L
situated between bones; especially :
lying between the bones of the leg
or forearm.

*When Kate fell, she damaged the
interosseous membrane of her right
forearm.*

interpretant

interpretation

interrogate

v
/ ən'terəgāt /

L
question typically with formality,
command, and thoroughness for
full information and circumstantial
detail.

*Ms. Chapin called Darina to the
office to interrogate her about the
missing bicycle.*

interstices

interstitial

intertrigo

n
/ .intə(r)'tri(.)gō /

L
inflammation produced by chafing
of adjacent areas of skin.

*The shirtless runner developed
intertrigo along his sides from
pumping his arms while running.*

interval

interveinal

interwrought

intestate

intimidated

v
/ ən'timədədēd /

L
made timid or fearful : frightened.
*Jerry's dog is intimidated by loud
noises and hides under the bed
during thunderstorms.*

intimidator

intolerant

intonaco

intonation

n
/ .intə'nāshən /

L
a pitch phenomenon in speech that
makes a syntactical or emotional
distinction.

*Molly judged from Luke's
intonation that he was more
disappointed than he would admit.*

intrados

n
/ 'intrədäs /

L + F
the interior curve of an arch.
*Maryanne believed that the arched
doorway of her new home needed
some decoration, so she stenciled
the intrados.*

intramontane

intraneous

intravasation

intricacy

intriguingly

introspect

v
/ 'intrəspekt /

L
look within (as one's own mind).
*Bokeem likes to sit on the edge of
the pond in his aunt's backyard and
introspect.*

introuvable

intrude

intruder

intuition

intuitive

intussusception

inunction

inunctum

invadable

invariably

adv
/ in'verēablē /

L > F
without exception or change :
always, consistently.
*He invariably leaped before he
looked and never cared where he
was going as long as he knew why
he shouldn't have gone to where
he'd been.*

invasion

invention

inverness

inversion

n
/ ən'vərzhən /

L
a reversal of normal atmospheric
temperature gradient : increase of
temperature of the air with
increasing altitude.

*Rapid cooling of Earth's surface
causes an inversion wherein the
lower levels of air are colder than
the higher levels.*

invertebrate

n
/ in'verdəbrāt /

L
an animal having no backbone or
internal skeleton.
*Carla's example of an invertebrate
was the jellyfish that she found on
the beach last summer.*

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inverted

adj
/ ɪn'vɜrdəd /
L

turned upside down or inside out.
The blood rushed to his head as he zoomed across the field in inverted flight.

investiture

n
/ ɪn'vestə.chù(ə)r /
L

the ceremonial conferral of symbols of office or honor.
The new archbishop arrived at his investiture with a letter of appointment from the pope, then donned his miter and offered a homily.

invigorating

inviscate

v
/ ɪn'vɪ.skāt /
L

encase in a sticky substance : make viscid.
When Lauren learned that some hunters smear birdlime on branches to inviscate birds, she became enraged.

invisible

adj
/ ɪn'vɪzəbəl /
L

of such small size as to be hardly noticeable.
Isaiah felt invisible sitting in the back of the lecture hall.

invite

involute

n
/ ɪnvə.lükə(r) /
L

a rosette of bracts surrounding a composite flower head.
The florist pointed out the involucre around the daisy's flower head.

involuntary

involute

adj
/ ɪnvə.lüt /
L

curled spirally.
Seashells are generally either involute or orbicular.

involve

iodopsin

n
/ ɪə'däpsɪn /
Gk

a photosensitive violet pigment in the retinal cones of most animals that is important in daylight vision.
The cone cells in the human eye contain three types of iodopsin that respond to red, blue, and green.

iridaceous

adj
/ ɪrə'dāshəs /
Gk > L

resembling an iris.
The showy iridaceous flowers were the hit of the exhibit.

iridesce

v
/ ɪrə'des /
Gk

show colors like those of the rainbow especially in shifting patterns of hues and shades that vary with a change of light or point of view.
Fini sat on the dock watching the gasoline spill iridesce on the water.

iridescence

iridescently

iridium

iridize

v
/ ɪrədɪz /
L + Ecf

make to show colors like those of the rainbow.
Mohandas proceeded to iridize the polished metal surface by applying heat to it.

irksome

adj
/ ɪrksəm /
E

causing annoyance or vexation : irritating.
Gary found the speaker's nasal voice irksome.

iroko

n
/ ɪ'rō(,)kō /
Yoruba

a very large timber tree of tropical western Africa with strong durable streaky lustrous brown wood that is extremely resistant to termite attack and often used as a substitute for teak.
Logs of iroko were shipped to Mystic Seaport from Ghana for the building of the Amistad replica.

ironclad

ironically

ironworker

irony

irrebuttable

adj
/ ɪrə'bədəbəl /
Ecf + F > F + Ecf
impossible to refute or contradict.
The researchers were convinced that their findings were irrebuttable.

irrefutable

irremeable

irremediable

irremovable

irreproachable

adj
/ ɪrə'prōchəbəl /
L + F > E
blameless, faultless, impeccable.
The Seeing Eye dog's behavior during the airplane flight was irreproachable.

irreption

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

irresponsible

irretrievable

adj
/ ɪrə'trɪvəbəl /
Ecf + F > E + Ecf
impossible to recoup, repair, or overcome.
By not going to college when he had the opportunity, Jack suffered an irretrievable loss.

irreverent

adj
/ ɪ'rev(ə),rɛnt /
L
not proceeding from or expressing honor or respect.
Mother considers it irreverent to leave church before the service is over.

irrision

n
/ ə'rɪzhən /
L
a laughing at a person or thing.
When Mrs. Scott's hat blew off, the class broke out in irrision.

irritable

adj
/ ɪ'rɪdəbəl /
L
likely to become impatient, angry, or disturbed.
Caleb is especially irritable when he is tired.

irritator

n
/ ɪ'rɪ.tədə(r) /
L
one that aggravates or incites displeasure.
Calvin is the class irritator and likes to make the teacher shout at him.

isarithm

n
/ ɪsə'rɪθm /
Gk
[has homonym: isorhythm] a line drawn on a chart or map to connect points having equal numerical values (as of temperature, elevation, or density of population).
Noelle traced the elevation isarithm from the topographical map onto her hiking map.

iscariotic

ischium

isentropic

adj
/ ɪs'n'trɒpɪk /
Gk
taking place without change of the amount of energy in a system not available for doing work.
If steam could be expanded in a turbine with no friction or other losses, expansion would be isentropic.

island

islay

isobar

n
/ ɪsə'bɑr /
Gk > ISV
an imaginary line on a map connecting places on the surface of Earth with equal barometric pressure.
Ned noted that the weather map's isobar passed directly through his hometown.

isochronal

adj
/ ɪ'säkrənəl /
Gk
uniform in time : recurring at regular intervals.
Even early humans realized that sunrise was isochronal and not randomly recurring.

isochronous

isocracy

isogenous

isogloss

n
/ ɪsə'gläs /
Gk
a boundary line between places or regions that differ in a particular linguistic feature.
The shape of the isogloss confirmed Matilda's theory about regional dialects.

isolate

isolation

isolationist

adj
/ ɪsə'lāsh(ə)nəst /
L > It > F + Ecff
of, characterized by, or favoring a policy directed towards keeping a nation apart from other nations by a deliberate abstention from alliances and other international and economic relations.
Isolationist sentiment has often been strong in the United States.

isometric

isometrics

n pl
/ ɪsə'metrɪks /
Gk + Gk
exercise or a system of exercises involving contraction of the muscles against resistance.
On January first, Maggie began an ambitious program of isometrics.

isonomy

isothermal

Israelite

n
/ ɪzrēəl.ɪt /
Heb > Gk
a member of one of the ten Hebrew tribes anciently inhabiting the northern part of Palestine.
On his trip through the valley Jacob met an Israelite tending a small flock of sheep.

issuance

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issue

italicize

ivied

adj
/ 'ivēd /
E

covered with ivy.
The ivied ruins attested to the magnificence of the original cathedral.

iwan

jabber

jackboot

n
/ 'jak.büt /
nickname + E
a laceless military boot reaching to the calf.
The jackboot has come to symbolize cruel military oppression.

jackdaw

jackhammer

jackrabbit

jackroller

Jacksonian

adj
/ jak'sōnēən /
American name
of or relating to Andrew Jackson, his views or policies, or his era.
The politician preached his brand of Jacksonian politics in all the town squares through which he passed.

Jacobin

n
/ 'jakəbən /
L
member of an extremist political group advocating equalitarian democracy and famous for its terrorist policies during the French Revolution of 1789.
The Bostonian Federalists grew up under the impression that a Jacobin was a repulsive creature.

jacopever

jacqueminot

jaded

jagged

jailbird

jangling

v
/ 'janɡliŋ /
Gmc > F > E
sounding harshly or discordantly.
Though Hector's alarm clock was jangling, he remained fast asleep.

japonaiserie

n
/ zhə.pōnez(ə)'rē /
F
a style of art reflecting Japanese qualities or motifs.
The restaurant's ambience was enhanced by the use of japonaiserie.

jarana

n
/ hə'rænə /
Sp
a couple dance of Yucatan that is performed with waltz and zapateado steps.
In Cancun one still sees couples dancing the jarana.

jasm

jasminewood

jaywalk

jazz

jealous

jeans

jejunely

adv
/ jə'jünlē /
L
in an immature or juvenile manner.
Although the colors of the painting were unusual and bold, Sam guessed that the brushstrokes had been executed jejunely.

jejunum

jellify

jeopardous

jersey

jessamine

jessamy

jetbead

jettisonable

jetty

jewel

jewels

n pl
/ 'jüəlz /
F > E
ornaments of precious metal often set with gems.
"The last rays of sun were falling through a glade of the wood and were shining bright as jewels on the flowery mantle of the wreck," Sam read aloud.

jimmies

n pl
/ 'jimēz /
unknown
tiny rod-shaped bits of variously flavored candy often sprinkled on ice cream and pastry.
Carol order vanilla ice cream with chocolate jimmies.

jingle

jingly

jingoish

adj
/ 'jin(,)gōish /
proper name? + Ecf
marked by arrogant nationalism.
Senator Clark's jingoish foreign policy recommendations were roundly denounced by his colleagues.

jitney

jockey

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jodhpurs

jogger

join

jollity

jordanon

n
/ 'jò(r)dʰn.än /
F name + Gkcf
a small usually localized population slightly but effectively differentiated from related forms.
The Himalayan blackberry plant is a very aggressive jordanon that can spread over a radius of 10 feet in a year.

joropo

jorum

jounce

journalese

n
/ .jərn'ɪɛz /
L > F > E + L > Pg&It
a style of writing held to be characteristic of newspapers.
The word transpired is considered journalese because it rarely occurs outside of newspapers.

journalist

jovially

adv
/ 'jövɛəlɛ /
L
in a jolly, good-humored manner.
Mr. Edwards jovially donned the Santa Claus suit and took a seat near the children.

Jovian

adj
/ 'jövɛən /
L
relating to the planet Jupiter.
The Jovian magnetic field is much stronger than Earth's.

jowly

joyfully

adv
/ 'jòif(ə)lɛ /
E
in a happy or jubilant manner.
At the age of six Malachy joyfully began school.

joyous

adj
/ 'jòias /
L > F > E + Ecf
happy, joyful.
Jeremy was utterly joyous as he revealed his latest work of art.

joyride

judge

v
/ 'jəj /
L > F > E
form an authoritative opinion about.
An experienced editor can judge the quality of a manuscript from a few sample pages.

judgmental

judicature

juggins

jughead

juicily

julep

junco

Jungian

adj
/ 'yüŋɛən /
Swiss name
of, relating to, or having the characteristics of the psychological doctrines of Carl G. Jung.
Becky showed how the novel Mists of Avalon made extensive use of Jungian archetypes.

juration

juratory

jurimetrics

juror

jury

justified

justify

jut

jute

kale

Kallikak

n
/ 'kaləkək /
Gk > US literary name
a stupid person.
Andrea's brother teased her by calling her a Kallikak.

kalon

kamelaukion

n
/ .kämə'laük.yòn /
Gk
a tall brimless hat worn by priests and monks in some Eastern rites.
When Kathy visited Crete, a bearded priest in a tall black kamelaukion asked her if she was from Chicago.

kamik

n
/ 'kämik /
Esk
[has homonym: comic] an Eskimo sealskin boot.
Among Alaskan natives, the homemade kamik is still the most common footwear.

kanji

n
/ 'kän(ɪ)jɛ /
Jpn
a Japanese system of writing based on the Chinese one and composed principally of characters borrowed or adapted from Chinese.
Evan was awarded the university linguistics prize for his paper on the history of kanji.

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Kantian

adj
/ 'kantēən /
G name
of or relating to the German philosopher Immanuel Kant.
Professor Smith's lectures betrayed a strong bias toward Kantian metaphysics.

kaolinic

kaolinize

karma

n
/ 'kärmə /
Skt
in Hinduism and Buddhism, the sum total of the ethical consequences of a person's good or bad actions comprising thoughts, words, and deeds.
In Buddhism, harming another being is believed to contribute to bad karma.

karyogamy

karyology

karyotin

karyotype

n
/ 'karēə'tīp /
Gk + Gk
the sum of the specific characteristics of a cell nucleus including chromosome number, form, size, and points of spindle-fiber attachment.
Most male children are of the 46-XY karyotype, which means they have 46 chromosomes including one XY pair.

kathak

n
/ kə'tāk /
Skt > Beng
an intricate dance of northern India that includes passages of narrative pantomime.
The kathak Simon saw in Delhi told the story of an emperor disguised as a poor beggar.

kathakali

n
/ ,kädə'kälē /
Skt > Malayalan
a spectacular lyric dance drama of southern India performed with acrobatic energy and highly stylized pantomime.
The dancers in the kathakali had painted faces and stylized costumes and headwear.

Katmandu

adj
/ ,kat.man'dü /
Nepalese geog name
of or from Katmandu, the capital of Nepal.
Marisa has a Katmandu prayer rug hanging on her wall.

Keatsian

adj
/ 'kētsēən /
E name
of, relating to, or characteristic of the English poet John Keats.
Mr. Gardner criticized the poet's excessive use of Keatsian allusions.

keelage

keenly

adv
/ 'kēnlē /
E
in a manner characterized by intense interest.
The cat watched keenly as the nuthatches came and went from the birdfeeder.

keenness

keitloa

n
/ 'kītłəwə /
Sechuana
a black rhinoceros that has a posterior horn and which has been considered to constitute a distinct species.
While on safari, Roger and Sandy saw a rare keitloa.

kelpfish

Kelvin

adj
/ 'kelvən /
E name
relating to, conforming to, or having a thermometric scale on which the unit of measurement equals the Celsius degree and according to which absolute zero is 0 degrees Kelvin.
The Kelvin scale has been adopted as the international standard for scientific temperature measurement.

kemancha

n
/ kə'mänchə /
Per > Ar
an Arabian violin that has usually a single string and a gourd resonator and is held vertically when played.
When his mother was transferred to the Middle East for her job, Michael took up the kemancha.

kench

kentledge

kerchoo

kernelly

adj
/ 'kərnəlē /
E
[has near homonym: carnally]
having or containing whole grains or seeds.
Jeffrey is quite fond of a certain kind of kernelly bread.

ketone

n
/ 'kētōn /
G
any of a class of organic compounds (as acetone) that are characterized by a carbonyl group attached to two carbon atoms.
Certain diseases in humans are marked by the presence of excessive amounts of ketone in the circulatory system.

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kettle

n
/ 'ked·l /
ON > E
a cooking utensil with a bail handle.
A soup kettle hung from a hook in the castle kitchen's enormous fireplace.

kewpie

keyhole

n
/ 'kē.hōl /
E + E
a hole or aperture for receiving a key.
In the dark, Demmie could not find the keyhole.

Keynesian

adj
/ 'kānzēən /
E name
of or relating to the advocacy of monetary and fiscal programs by government to increase employment.
Professor Rabin is a proponent of Keynesian economics.

keystone

khatun

khedive

kibbutz

n
/ ki'bùts /
Heb
a collective farm or settlement in Israel.
Meredith's pen pal lives on a kibbutz.

kibbutznik

kibe

kick

v
/ 'kik /
E
give impetus to something with a usually fast blow with the foot, generally with the intention of scoring or gaining ground.
Julio could kick the football 75 yards but was uninterested in trying out for the team.

kicksorter

kidney

n
/ 'kidnē /
E
one of a pair of vertebrate organs situated in the body cavity near the spinal cavity that serve to excrete waste products.
In an effort to save his daughter's life, the prisoner sued the state to be allowed to give her his only kidney.

kidskin

kiekie

kier

kilderkin

n
/ 'kildə(r)kən /
(L + D) > E
a cask about half the size of a common barrel and sometimes smaller.
By a 16th-century English statute a kilderkin for beer had to contain 18 gallons; one for ale, 16 gallons.

killarney

n
/ kə'lärnē /
Ir geog name
a moderate yellowish green to green that is stronger than Gretna green.
Seamus said that all the fuss about the difference between killarney and Gretna green was nonsense.

killcrop

killjoy

kiloliter

kilometer

n
/ kə'lämədə(r) /
Gk > F
a metric unit of length equal to 1,000 meters.
Bob knew he was out of shape when he couldn't run a kilometer without gasping for air.

kilowatts

Kilroy

n
/ 'kil.rōi /
Amer name
an inveterate traveler.
Most of Lyra's postcard collection comes from her uncle Thor, who is quite a Kilroy.

kindhearted

kindred

kingfisher

kinless

kinship

kinsman

kipper

kirimon

kirsch

kirtle

n
/ 'kərd·l /
E
[has homonyms: curdle, curtal] a garment resembling a tunic or coat usually reaching to the knees and worn by men often as the principal body garment until the 16th century.
Ethelred's kirtle snagged as he mounted his steed.

kiteflying

kitten

klavern

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

kleptomania

klezmerim

klipspringer

n
/ 'klip.sprɪŋə(r) /
Afrikaans
a small agile African antelope inhabiting mountainous regions. *Because of its specially adapted hooves, the klipspringer can traverse the mountain crags.*

klister

n
/ 'klistə(r) /
G > Norw
[has homonym: clyster] a soft wax used on skis especially for corn snow or crust. *Wary of the spring skiing conditions, Maria applied some klister to her skis.*

klompen

klutz

klystron

knack

knavish

kneeboard

knell

knelt

knickknack

knife

knifelike

adj
/ 'nɪf.lɪk /
ON? > E + E
resembling an instrument with a sharp edge. *The tops of the trees created a knifelike silhouette on the horizon.*

knitwear

knot

n
/ 'nɑt /
E
[Note: The definition provided is not the one most commonly associated with this word. In addition, word has homonyms: naught, not.] 1 nautical mile per hour—used as a unit of measurement in expressing the rate of speed of airplanes and seagoing ships. *Lester had trouble explaining the difference between a ship moving at 1 knot and a car moving at 1 mile per hour.*

knothole

knottiness

known

knucklesome

kobold

koftgari

n
/ 'kɒftgə(,)rē /
Per > Hindi
Indian damascene work in which steel is inlaid with gold. *While on vacation in India, Tyler saw many types of koftgari for sale.*

koinonia

n
/ .kɔɪnə'nɛə /
Gk
intimate spiritual communion and participative sharing in a common religious commitment and spiritual community. *Karl's book details how koinonia developed among the 12 apostles.*

komatik

koshare

n
/ kɔ'sha(a)(ə)r /
Keres
a Pueblo Indian clown society whose members imitate ancestral spirits in ceremonies invoking rain. *While visiting a Pueblo Indian historical site Alan learned about the tribe's different societies, including the koshare.*

koto

kouros

kraft

kraken

n
/ 'krækən /
Norw
a fabulous Scandinavian sea monster perhaps imagined on the basis of chance sightings of giant squids. *Granddad has an engraving that depicts a kraken in a fjord.*

krakowiak

n
/ krə'kɔvɛ.ak /
Pol
a Polish group folk dance that combines elements of the ancient round, the more recent square, and the modern polka. *The krakowiak is a lively dance named for the area of Poland where it originated.*

krill

n
/ 'krɪl /
Norw
[has near homonym: creel]
planktonic crustaceans and larvae that constitute the principal food of whalebone whales. *Researchers are studying ways to process protein-rich krill into human food.*

krone

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

kugel

n
/ 'kügəl /
G > Yiddish
a baked pudding (as of potatoes, noodles, bread, or cabbage) served as a side dish or dessert.
Natalie often makes a noodle kugel to accompany a roast chicken.

kulak

n
/ kü'lak /
Turkish > Russ
a prosperous or wealthy peasant farmer in 19th-century Russia.
The kulak was a member of the middle class in pre-revolutionary Russia.

kundalini

n
/ .künd'l'ēnē /
Skt
the yogic life-force that is held to lie at the base of the spine until it is sent to the head to trigger enlightenment.
The ultimate goal of a yogi is to awaken the kundalini.

kuru

n
/ 'kü(,)rū /
Fore
a rare progressive fatal disease of the brain that is caused by a slow virus and occurs among tribespeople in eastern New Guinea.
People who have kuru have symptoms similar to those of Alzheimer's disease.

kvetch

kyoodle

v
/ kī'(y)üd'l /
imit
make loud useless noises : holler, yap.
Rover began to kyoodle from the backyard whenever the letter carrier approached the house.

labile

adj
/ 'lābəl /
L
[has homonym: label] readily or continually undergoing chemical or physical or biological change or breakdown.
The problem at the end of the chapter was to explain how a substance can be thermodynamically stable but still labile.

labiovelar

laborer

laburnum

n
/ lə'bərnəm /
L
any plant of a small genus of poisonous shrubs and trees having pendulous racemes of bright yellow flowers.
The laburnum, also known as "golden rain," is often cultivated for Easter decoration.

lacertilian

adj
/ .lasə(r)'tilēən /
L
of or relating to a lizard.
The zoo's exhibit included serpentine and lacertilian reptiles.

lacery

lacework

laches

lackluster

laconism

lacquer

lacquering

lactoprene

lacustrine

ladybug

lagging

laguna

n
/ lə'günə /
L > Sp
[Note: The pronunciation of this word is close to that of lagoon, which can also be spelled l-a-g-u-n-e.] lagoon, lake, pond.
Water at the bottom of a tropical laguna is almost always foul.

laicize

lakefront

lalopathy

lamentations

n pl
/ .lamən'tāshənz /
L
vocal expressions of sorrow : complaints.
The chorus in the Greek tragedy uttered wild lamentations for the fallen hero.

lamina

laminectomy

lampistry

n
/ 'lampəstrē /
Gk > L > F
the work of a maker or tender of light-giving devices.
Tonia recently completed an apprenticeship in lampistry.

lance

n
/ 'lan(t)s /
L > F > E
a weapon consisting of a long shaft with a sharp steel head.
The joustler settled the lance firmly under his arm and charged at the target.

landlubber

landowner

landwehr

