



THE 2015 MetLife SOUTH ASIAN SPELLING BEE



2014-15 880 WORDS

Serious wordsmiths and aspiring competitive spellers, welcome to the MetLife South Asian Spelling Bee! The MetLife South Asian Spelling Bee encourages young people to learn new words and expand their vocabularies, and this booklet is designed to give you a head start in mastering their annual study list.

Hexco has collected and categorized words from legions of sources for over 30 years and has worked with students studying for Scripps' National Spelling Bee, the Texas University Interscholastic League spelling contest, and more recently, the MetLife South Asian competition and the North-South Foundation competitions.

Each word in this booklet includes an easy-to-use phonetic pronunciation that is unique to Hexco products, as well as an abbreviated definition. A key is located at the bottom of each page to enable accurate pronunciations. This feature allows students to be able to 'sound out' words and is ideal for young children, advanced spellers wanting to learn a large number of words quickly, and non-native English speakers. Many find that our phonetic pronunciation scheme is easier than reading straight from the dictionary, and most Hexco spelling products use this method in addition audio. Visit our website at www.hexco.com/south-asian-spelling-bee/ for many more challenging and interesting word lists.



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WELCOME SOUTH ASIAN SPELLERS



The *South Asian Spelling Bee Study Guide* is provided to help you methodically learn all the words on their annual study list. Make it a goal to learn all the words in this book. Many will be used in area competitions and in the national event.

Competitions will also cover many words that are not in this study list. After learning these words, we recommend additional study and learning Latin and Greek roots to aid you in fielding the off list words.

Our **Verbomania** collection contains over 13,000 words that are primarily vocabulary-enriching or SAT-type words. For more difficult words typical of those used in higher level bees, we recommend **New Nat's Notes** with 18,000 words that have been used in various national contests and study lists. **Spelling Rules Book** expounds on conventions to promote less reliance on rote memorization and more on understanding language. It also presents approaches to spelling many foreign language words included in the dictionary along with a lengthy list of Latin and Greek elements and words.

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

South Asian Spelling Supplement research and editing by
Linda Tarrant, Keisha Bedwell, and Jennifer King

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HEXCO ACADEMIC
PO Box 199, Hunt, TX 78024
800.391.2891
www.hexco.com



TABLE OF CONTENTS

WORD LISTS	PAGE
Very Easy.....	.5
Easy.....	.11
Medium.....	.17
Difficult.....	.23
Very Difficult.....	.29
INDEX.....	.37



Good luck and good spelling!



SPELL BETTER AND HAVE FUN!

CONDUCT MINI-SPELLING BEES

Assign a group of words for a one or two week period, and at the end of that time, host a mini-spelling bee.

1. For the first spelling bee, stick to the words in the first group assigned. Allow students to ask for repeated or additional pronunciations, use in a sentence, or language of origin (at the higher levels), which are available in our *Coach's Manual*.
2. For subsequent bees, start with a round of Lesson 1 words, work up through all the groups studied, and end with words from the current group.
3. Teach protocol of speaking each word to ensure that the speller is hearing the right word, asking questions, spelling the word, and repeating the word.
4. Ensure that spellers know they may restart, but may not change order of letters.
5. Eventually, as the spellers are mastering more words, give them words from a group that they have not studied to teach them how to field unfamiliar words.

CREATE WORD ACTIVITIES

Suggest activities with the words in the group, such as the following.

- Pick six words and have spellers write a colorful sentence with all six. Repeat.
- Create word searches to ensure spelling is mastered (find puzzle makers online).
- Create crossword puzzles to amplify learning vocabulary.
- Have student(s) write a newspaper article using 10 to 20 of the words.
- Make matching games with the words and meanings.
- Select words in a group and have the spellers "collect" rhyming words or synonyms.
- Select words for which students are to find additional meanings in dictionary.
- Encourage spelling notebooks and collections of words outside of these lists.
- Encourage organizing words in groups, like food words, verbs, positive words, etc.

LEARN WORD MEANINGS

For each group of words, pick out the words with more difficult or obscure meanings and write multiple-choice questions in a test format for the spellers. Then pick out another group of words and have each speller write a dozen such questions for the rest of the group like the following.

- What is the meaning of *truce*?
- Which of the following is NOT a synonym for *adage*?

VERY EASY

- fun** <FUHN>
n, v, adj / that which provides amusement
- mug** <MUHG>
n / drinking cup with handle, usually with thick sides
- lid** <LID>
n, v / covering for the top of something
- pet** <PET>
n, v, adj / animal kept for companionship; favorite person; pamper; cherished, indulged
- tag** <TAG>
n, v / tatter; tip on fox's tail; label, brank; trail behind
- rug** <RUHG>
n / mat used to cover a floor
- van** <VAN>
n, v / vehicle with storage capacity for transporting people and goods
- lag** <LAG>
v, n, adj / linger, loiter; interval; last, hindmost
- hop** <HAHP>
v, n / jump on one foot; jump
- pun** <PUHN>
n, v / play on words; use a word to suggest more than one possible meaning
- den** <DEN>
n, v / family room; animal's lair
- zoo** <ZOO>
n / location for housing live animals for public viewing
- pod** <PAHD>
n, v / school of marine animals; seed covering; pouch
- cub** <KUHB>
n, v / young of a bear or fox; hunt for foxes; confine
- ham** <HAM>
n, v, adj / roast from pork; overplay one's part
- met** <MET>
v / satisfied; joined; came in contact with
- hen** <HEN>
n / female chicken or other domestic fowl
- bag** <BAG>
n, v / type of paper or cloth container with a top opening
- fad** <FAD>
n / rage; fashion; fever; trend
- log** <LAWG>
n, v / ship's daily record; tree cut for use in a fireplace; length of tree for making lumber
- run** <RUHN>
v, n, adj / move quickly by foot; jog at a fast pace
- old** <OHLD>
adj, n, adv / no longer young or new
- gag** <GAG>
n, v / clever remark; prank, trick, cloture; obstruct, choke, heave, retch, balk
- jog** <JAHG>
v, n / run at a trotting speed; remind
- harp** <HAHRP>
n, v / large musical instrument with strings played with fingers
- avid** <AV.id>
adj / eager, being enthusiastic about
- gang** <GANG>
n, v / group working toward same goal
- task** <TASK>
n, v / chore, element of one's work; assign a job to another

zonal <ZOHN.uh> adj / relating to region distinct from other parts by some feature or characteristic	next <NEKST> adj, adv, prep / immediately adjoining; in the nearest order
music <MYOO.zik> n, v / rhythmic sounds of a composed melody using voice or instruments	apse <APS> n / usually semicircular projecting part of a building
colic <KAHL.ik> n, adj / convulsion of acute pain in the abdomen	yowl <YOWL> v, n / make articulate sounds of grief or pain, wail, howl
overt <oh.VUHRT> adj / open, visible	ably <AYB.lee> adv / in a manner showing the needed skills
abuzz <uh.BUHZ> adj / alive with excited talking	noel <noh.EL> n / Christmas song; Christmas season
fishy <FISH.ee> adj / questionable, unconvincing, dubious, relating to aquatic animal	eric <EHR.ik> n / medieval fine paid for the murder of another
raspy <RASP.ee> adj / grating, harsh	feta <FED.uh> n / white cheese made of sheep milk and cured in brine
jocund <JAHK.uhnd> adj / mirthful, cheerful	dour <DOWR> adj / stern; harsh
zodiac <ZOH.dee.ak> n / imaginary belt extending across the heavens	opus <OH.puhs> n / group of musical arrangements
banjos <BAN.johz> n / instruments with 4 or 5 strings played by picking or strumming	wold <WOHLD> n / high, hilly plain without trees
slithery <SLITHH.ree> adj / having a slippery surface or quality	crux <KRUHKS> n / significant point that needs to be resolved
opt <AHPT> v / choose	dais <DAY.is> n / raised platform, as in a banquet room for seats of honor; raised terrace; bench
own <OHN> v, adj, pron / be in possession of; belonging to me	jazz <JAZ> n / ragtime music developed and popularized in New Orleans
ago <uh.GOH> adj, adv / past; in the past	woad <WOHD> n, v / herb whose leaves are used to make a blue dye
vex <VEKS> v, n / annoy; cause distress; tease, torment; go over thoroughly, belabor	apex <AY.peks> n, v / tip, point
maim <MAYM> v, n, adj / cripple, mutilate, mangle; eliminate a limb of a person	loaf <LOHF> n, v / mound or roll of bread

- kuvasz (K)** <KU.vahs>
n / Hungarian dog often used as a guard dog
- zephyr** <ZEF.uhr>
n, adj / gentle breeze from the west; lightweight
- oneida (O)** <oh.NII.duh>
n / Iroquoian tribe that once lived in New York
- ipecac** <IP.i.kak>
n / dried roots used to induce vomiting
- uraeus** <yuh.REE.uhs>
n / stylized representation of snake worn by Egyptian royalty
- orrery** <AWR.uhr.ee>
n / object with moveable balls showing position and movement of planets
- syrinx** <SIR.ingks>
n / panpipe; passage in Egyptian burial vault
- asylum** <uh.SII.luhm>
n / institution of refuge and protection
- glacon** <gla.SOHN>
n / various-sized pieces of ice in the sea
- zydeco (Z)** <ZII.duh.koh>
n / music popular in southern Louisiana that combines French and Caribbean melodies
- ascham** <ASK.uhm>
n / tall, thin cellar that contains bows and arrows
- hoyden** <HAWID.uhn>
n, v, adj / boisterous girl, tomboy; act in a carefree manner; rude, boisterous
- aikido** <ii.kee.DOH>
n / Japanese style of self-defense
- triage** <tree.AHZH>
n / process of sorting priorities of disaster victims for medical treatment
- parquet** <pahr.KAY>
n, v / type of patterned flooring
- rinseau** <ran.SOH>
n / motif of winding and branching scroll decorated with leaves
- pharynx** <FEHR.ingks>
n / back of the mouth extending up over the soft palate to nasal cavity
- beignet** <bayn.YAY>
n / a light square doughnut usually sprinkled with powdered sugar
- guerdon** <GUHRD.uhn>
n, v / reward or recompense; give a reward
- Nicoise (n), Niçoise (n)** <nee.SWAHZ>
n, adj / salad made of green vegetables and an assortment of toppings
- bibelot** <BEEB.uh.loh>
n / small, beautifully designed book; small, ornamental trinket
- Bauhaus (b)** <BOW.hows>
adj / relating to a school of design emphasizing craftsmanship and functionality
- pirogue** <pee.ROHG>
n / canoe made from a log that has been hollowed out
- halcyon (H)** <HAL.see.uhn>
adj, n / idyllic, prosperous; suggesting the fabled bird thought to nest on the seas
- gnomish** <NOH.mish>
adj / resembling a wizened old man
- ipseity (I)** <ip.SEE.uh.dee>
n / selfhood; individuality
- naphtha** <NAF.thuh>
n / volatile liquid hydrocarbon mixture distilled from petroleum products
- eclogue** <EH.klawg>
n / pastoral poem often in the form of a dialog between shepherds
- aliquot** <AL.uh.kwaht>
adj, n, v / relating to an exact divisor of a quantity