



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

1	Abbreviation	Noun	A shortened form of a word or phrase.	SKU is the abbreviation for Stock Keeping Unit.
2	Abhorrent	Adjective	Inspiring disgust, loathing, repulsion	Child abuse is abhorrent and unacceptable behavior.
3	Abnegation	Noun	The action of denial or rejection	The president showed strong abnegation of the corruption charges laid against him.
4	Abominable	Adjective	Causing moral revulsion.	The uprising was suppressed with abominable cruelty.
5	Abomination	Noun	A thing that causes disgust or loathing.	Committing sin at places of worship is an abomination.
6	Aborigine	Noun	A person, animal, or plant that has been in a country or region from earliest times.	The winner of the Sydney Olympics in the 800m race is of the aborigine origin.
7	Absurdity	Noun	The quality or state of being ridiculous or wildly unreasonable.	Duncan laughed at the absurdity of the situation in which he found himself.
8	Accessible	Adjective	(Of a place) able to be reached or entered.	The town is accessible by bus.
9	Acclimatize	Verb	Become accustomed to a new climate or new conditions; adjust.	It's unknown whether people will acclimatize to increasingly warm weather.
10	Accompanied	Verb	Go somewhere with (someone) as a companion or escort.	The two sisters were to accompany us to London.
11	Accomplishment	Noun	Something that has been achieved successfully.	The reduction of inflation was a remarkable accomplishment.
12	Achievement	Noun	Something done successfully with effort, skill or courage.	Every success, no matter how small, should give you a sense of achievement.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

13	Acquaintance	Noun	Knowledge or experience of something.	The learners had little acquaintance with the language.
14	Acquisitive	Adjective	Excessively interested in acquiring money or material things.	We live in a competitive and acquisitive society
15	Acquittal	Noun	An official judgement in a court of law declaring someone's innocence.	He was overjoyed when the trial ended in his acquittal.
16	Adenoids	Noun	A mass of enlarged lymphatic tissue between the back of the nose and the throat, often hindering speaking and breathing in young children.	The surgeon had to remove the infected adenoids, which obstructed her breathing.
17	Adequate	Adjective	A satisfactory or acceptable quality or quantity.	The teacher gave his learners adequate time to complete the project.
18	Adolescence	Noun	The period following the onset of puberty during which a young person develops from a child into an adult.	Adolescence can be a very difficult time for a teenager.
19	Adornment	Noun	A thing which adorns or decorates; an ornament.	The necktie is no longer a necessary male adornment.
20	Adulation	Noun	Excessive admiration or praise.	The pop singer was overwhelmed by the adulation of his fans on Twitter.
21	Adventure	Noun	An unusual and exciting or daring experience.	Her recent adventures in Italy were thrilling.
22	Advertisement	Noun	A notice or announcement in a public medium promoting a product, service, or event or publicizing a job vacancy.	Advertisements for alcoholic drinks should be banned on TV.
23	Aerodynamics	Noun	The study of the properties of moving air and the interaction between the air and solid bodies moving through it.	The plane has the aerodynamics of a brick once the forward thrust is lost.
24	Aeronautic	Adjective	Related to the science of building, operating or flying aircraft.	As a pilot, he showed a keen interest in aeronautic research.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

25	Allegiance	Noun	Loyalty or commitment to a superior or to a group or cause.	Those wishing to receive citizenship must swear allegiance to the republic.
26	Altruism	Noun	Regard for the feelings and happiness of others as an act of unselfishness.	The young girl's voluntary work with the aged is an act of altruism.
27	Aluminous	Adjective	(Chiefly of minerals and rocks) containing alumina or aluminum.	My friend had to have aluminous dentures after losing his teeth at a rugby match.
28	Amateur	Noun	A person who is a beginner and not yet skilled in a sport or activity; not professional.	The community project involved professionals who were training amateur soccer players.
29	Ambassador	Noun	An accredited diplomat sent by a state as its permanent representative in a foreign country.	The French ambassador to Portugal is a distinguished gentleman.
30	Ambience	Noun	The character, mood and atmosphere of a place	The hotel was popular for the relaxed ambience created by its staff.
31	Ambivalent	Adjective	Having mixed feelings or contradictory ideas about something or someone	Many of her friends were ambivalent about her decision.
32	Amethyst	Noun	A precious stone consisting of a violet or purple variety of quartz.	A delicate necklace of amethysts and pearls.
33	Amnesia	Noun	A partial or total loss of memory.	After the accident, he suffered from amnesia and could not remember his name.
34	Amnesty	Noun	A period of time during which people can admit to a crime or give up weapons without being punished; general pardon especially for political offence.	The president granted amnesty to political prisoners.
35	Amphitheatre	Noun	An open, circular or oval building with a central space for the presentation of dramatic or sporting events surrounded by rows of rising seats for spectators.	The concert was performed in the roman amphitheater.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

36	Ancestors	Noun	A person's forefathers; persons who lived in the past, from whom one's father or mother is a descendent.	Ancestors play a significant role in the beliefs and values of some cultures.
37	Ancient	Adjective	Belonging to the very distant past and no longer in existence.	The ancient civilizations of the Mediterranean.
38	Animosity	Noun	A strong feeling of opposition or hostility.	After the disciplinary hearing, he showed animosity towards his boss.
39	Annihilation	Noun	Complete destruction or obliteration.	The threat of global annihilation is real for survivalists.
40	Anniversary	Noun	The date on which an event took place, or an institution was founded in a previous year.	The 50th anniversary of the Battle of Britain.
41	Annual	Adjective	Occurring once every year.	The sponsored walk became an annual event.
42	Antarctic	Adjective	Relating to the south polar region or Antarctica.	Researchers visit the Antarctic zone despite the cold
43	Antennae	Noun	Either of a pair of long, thin sensory appendages on the heads of insects, crustaceans, and some other arthropods.	Bugs use their antennae to detect blood heat.
44	Anthology	Noun	A published collection of poems or other pieces of writing.	An anthology of European poetry is a requirement for anyone studying literature.
45	Anticipated	Verb	To give advance thought, discussion, or treatment to.	It is anticipated that heavy rains will fall at the beginning of November.
46	Anticoagulant	Adjective	Having the effect of retarding or inhibiting the coagulation of the blood.	Anticoagulants are also called blood thinners because they prevent blood clots.
47	Antique	Noun	A collectable object such as a piece of furniture or work of art that has a high value because of its age and quality.	Pauline loves collecting antiques.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

48	Antonym	Noun	The word that means the opposite of another word.	Old has two possible antonyms: young and new.
49	Apartheid	Noun	A policy or system of separation or discrimination on the grounds of race	Whether the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa paved the way for democracy is debatable.
50	Apostrophe	Noun	A punctuation mark used to indicate either possession or the omission of letters in a word.	The apostrophe is often misplaced by many learners.
51	Appendicitis	Noun	A serious medical condition in which the appendix becomes inflamed and painful.	A person who suffers from appendicitis usually undergoes
52	Apprentice	Noun	A person who works for an employer for a fixed period of time in order to learn the particular skills needed in his/her job	The electrician found his experience as an apprentice at a local company very rewarding.
53	Approximately	Adverb	Used to show that something is almost, but not completely, accurate or exact; roughly.	A journey of approximately two hours.
54	Aquarium	Noun	An artificial transparent tank in which water plants and animals are kept.	We saw various types of fish at the aquarium during our last excursion.
55	Araucaria	Noun	An evergreen conifer of a genus that includes the monkey-puzzle, having stiff sharp leaves.	Araucaria trees are perfect for hanging Christmas decorations.
56	Archaeologist	Noun	A scientist who studies human history by digging up and analyzing human remains and artefacts.	Professor Berger is an archaeologist in Egypt.
57	Archipelago	Noun	An extensive group of islands.	The Indonesian archipelago.
58	Architecture	Noun	The art, study or practice of designing and constructing buildings.	He was interested in the architecture of historic buildings during his last visit in Rome.
59	Arguable	Adjective	Debatable or open to disagreement.	It was arguable that the bank had no authority to honor the cheques.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

60	Arrhythmia	Noun	A condition in which the heart beats with an irregular or abnormal rhythm.	Because of arrhythmia, they referred the baby to a heart surgeon.
61	Arsenic	Noun	The chemical element of atomic number 33, a brittle steel-grey semimetal.	The blood tests revealed that her condition was caused by arsenic poisoning.
62	Aspersions	Noun	An attack on the reputation of someone or something.	I don't think anyone is casting aspersions on you, we just need you to explain the accounting errors.
63	Assailants	Noun	A person who physically attacks another.	The police have no firm leads about the identity of his assailant.
64	Assassin	Noun	A person who attempts to or murders an important person for political or religious reasons.	The assassin who attempted to murder the president was taken in for questioning.
65	Assertive	Adjective	Having or showing a confident and forceful personality.	The management position may call for assertive behavior.
66	Assistance	Noun	The action of helping someone by sharing work.	The work was completed with the assistance of carpenters.
67	Association	Noun	(Often in names) a group of people organized for a joint purpose.	The National Association of Probation Officers.
68	Asteroid	Noun	A small rocky body orbiting the sun. Large numbers of these, ranging enormously in size, are found between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, though some have orbits that are more eccentric.	For the first time, scientists were able to track an asteroid from space to the ground and recover pieces of it.
69	Astonished	Adjective	Greatly surprised or impressed; amazed.	He was astonished at the change he saw in his friend.
70	Atmosphere	Noun	The envelope of gases surrounding the earth or another planet.	Part of the sun's energy is absorbed by the earth's atmosphere.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

71	Atrocity	Noun	An extremely wicked or cruel act, typically one involving physical violence or injury.	A textbook which detailed war atrocities.
72	Audience	Noun	A group of people gathered to listen or watch a performance.	At the end of the presentation, the audience was allowed to ask questions.
73	Auspicious	Adjective	Showing promise or likelihood of being successful or favorable	It was not the most auspicious moment to hold an election.
74	Authority	Noun	The power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience.	He had absolute authority over his subordinates.
75	Autobiography	Noun	An account of a person's life written by that person.	He gives a vivid description of his childhood in his autobiography.
76	Autograph	Noun	A signature, especially that of a celebrity written as a memento for an admirer.	Fans surged around the car asking for her autograph.
77	Bacterium	Noun	a member of a large group of unicellular microorganisms which have cell walls but lack organelles and an organized nucleus, including some which can cause disease.	Washing your hands with antibacterial soap is said to kill known bacterium.
78	Balaclava	Noun	A close-fitting garment covering the whole head and neck except for parts of the face, typically made of wool.	The robber wore a balaclava to hide his identity while breaking into the house.
79	Banquet	Noun	An elaborate and formal evening meal for many people.	International leaders attended the state banquet at Buckingham Palace.
80	Barbecue	Noun	A meal or gathering at which meat, fish, or other food is cooked out of doors on a rack over an open fire or on a special appliance.	In the evening, there was a barbecue where we ate different types of meat.
81	Beautify	Noun	Improve the appearance.	Their project was an initiative to beautify the environment.
82	Belittle	Verb	Dismiss (someone or something) as unimportant.	She belittled Amy's riding skills whenever she could.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

83	Benevolent	Adjective	Well-meaning and kind.	He was a benevolent teacher who went out of her way to help the poor and struggling learners.
84	Beverage	Noun	Any type of drink other than water	It is healthier to drink water than a beverage during meals.
85	Bibliography	Noun	A list of the books referred to in a scholarly work, typically printed as an appendix.	His CV included a bibliography of his publications.
86	Bicycle	Noun	A vehicle consisting of two wheels held in a frame one behind the other, propelled by pedals and steered with handlebars attached to the front wheel.	Riding a bicycle is a skill that can be easily acquired through regular practice.
87	Biennial	Adjective	Taking place every other year.	The first of a series of biennial exhibitions.
88	Biscuit	Noun	A small baked unleavened cake, typically crisp, flat, and sweet.	I love crunchy chocolate biscuits.
89	Blasphemy	Noun	The action or offence of speaking sacrilegiously about God or sacred things; profane talk.	He was detained on charges of blasphemy.
90	Bombardment	Noun	A continuous attack with bombs, shells, or other missiles.	An aerial bombardment will precede the attack.
91	Boulevard	Noun	A broad avenue in a city, usually having areas at the sides or center for trees, grass, or flowers.	Their family loves to go for walks on the boulevard.
92	Boundary	Noun	A line, which marks the limits of an area; a dividing line.	A county' political boundary can determine the limits of its authority.
93	Bouquet	Noun	An arrangement of flowers.	She was pleasantly surprised by the bouquet of roses she received from a secret admirer.
94	Boutique	Noun	A small shop/store that sells expensive, fashionable clothes, accessories or gifts.	Shopping at an exclusive boutique can prove to be a costly affair.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

95	Boysenberry	Noun	A large red edible blackberry-like fruit.	A boysenberry is a good source of Vitamin A.
96	Braille	Noun	A form of written language for blind people, in which characters are represented by patterns of raised dots that are felt with the fingertips	She taught herself Braille.
97	Brilliant	Adjective	(Of light or color) very bright.	Brilliant sunshine illuminated the scene.
98	Brochure	Noun	A small book or magazine containing pictures and information about a product or service.	A holiday brochure.
99	Brontosaurus	Noun	Another term for Apatosaurus. A very large dinosaur with a long neck and tail.	A brontosaurus is considered one of the largest animals ever to live on earth.
100	Bruschetta	Noun	Toasted Italian bread drenched in olive oil and served typically with garlic or tomatoes.	She does not like bruschetta and says it's nothing more than a fancy sandwich.
101	Brutality	Noun	Savagely cruel, violent, merciless, behavior	The police were accused of brutality in controlling the protest march.
102	Bulletin	Noun	A short official statement or broadcast summary of news.	A television news bulletin keeps everyone updated on each day's events.
103	Bureau	Noun	An office or department for transacting particular business.	The news bureau was closed due to security threats.
104	Cacophony	Noun	A harsh discordant mixture of sounds.	A cacophony of deafening alarm bells.
105	Calisthenics	Noun	Gymnastic exercises to achieve bodily fitness and grace of movement.	Three women swung Indian clubs while performing calisthenics in unison.
106	Camaraderie	Noun	Mutual trust and friendship among people who spend a lot of time together.	They enforced camaraderie of office life.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

107	Camouflage	Noun	A way of hiding soldiers and military equipment using paint leaves or nets so that they blend in with their surroundings.	Troops dressed in camouflage to hide from the opposing side.
108	Campaign	Noun	A series of military operations intended to achieve a goal, confined to a particular area, or involving a specified type of fighting.	A desert campaign.
109	Candidate	Noun	A person who applies for a job or is nominated for election.	Candidates applying for this position should be computer-literate.
110	Cannabis	Noun	Plant that produces a chemical.	Cannabis is regarded as an illegal drug in many countries.
111	Capable	Adjective	Having the ability, fitness, or quality necessary to do or achieve a specified thing.	I'm quite capable of taking care of myself.
112	Capitol	Noun	A capitol (with an o) is a building that houses a government's legislative branch.	Senators arrived at the Capitol in the morning to pass the new law.
113	Cappuccino	Noun	A type of coffee made with espresso and milk that has been frothed up with pressurized steam.	I often take my friend out for a cup of Cappuccino at the local restaurant every now and then.
114	Captaincy	Noun	The office or rank of a leader called a captain.	The national sports committee decides the captaincy of the Springboks rugby team.
115	Carapace	Noun	The hard-upper shell of a tortoise, crustacean, or arachnid.	Under her carapace of self-confidence, she was very sensitive to criticism.
116	Carbohydrates	Noun	Any of a large group of organic compounds occurring in foods and living tissues and including sugars, starch, and cellulose.	Before the event, I will starve myself of carbohydrates and eat a lot of protein.
117	Caricature	Noun	Description of a person that makes them look funny.	There was a caricature of the minister in the newspaper.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

118	Carnivorous	Adjective	Flesh-eating beings.	Lions are carnivorous as they eat only flesh whereas human beings are omnivorous as they eat flesh and plants.
119	Carousal	Noun	A noisy or drunken feast or social gathering; revelry.	The carousal at Peter's birthday party continued into the early hours of the following morning.
120	Carpentry	Noun	The activity or occupation of making or repairing things in wood	His carpentry skills came in handy when he had to fix the chairs.
121	Casserole	Noun	A kind of stew that is cooked slowly in an oven.	Chicken casserole is a delicious meal.
122	Casualty	Noun	A person killed or injured in a war or accident.	The shelling caused thousands of civilian casualties.
123	Category	Noun	A class or division of people or things regarded as having particular shared characteristics.	The various categories of research.
124	Ceasefire	Noun	A temporary cessation of fighting.	On Christmas day in 1914 during the first world war, the majority of British and German soldiers decided on a ceasefire for goodwill.
125	Celestial	Adjective	Matters concerning the sky and outer space.	The sun is a celestial body and our planet's life-giving star.
126	Centennial	Noun	Celebrating a hundred years in existence.	The school invited all the previous learners to the centennial.
127	Centipede	Noun	Is an arthropod (a bug) that has a long flat body with many different segments and many legs.	A centipede on a leaf.
128	Ceremony	Noun	A formal religious or public occasion, especially one celebrating a particular event, achievement, or anniversary.	The winners were presented with their prizes at a special ceremony.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

129	Cessation	Noun	Refers to something brought to an end.	Ceasefire refers to a temporary
130	Chameleon	Noun	A type of lizard that changes its color so that it cannot be seen easily.	It was difficult to see the chameleon because it turned itself into the color of leaves.
131	Champagne	Noun	A white sparkling wine from Champagne.	The couple celebrated with a glass of champagne.
132	Championship	Noun	A contest that determines the winner.	Each event in the Olympics is a championship round.
133	Changeable	Adjective	Liable to unpredictable variation.	The weather will be changeable with rain at times.
134	Chaperone	Noun	A person who accompanies and looks after another person or group of people.	Aunt Millie went with us as chaperone.
135	Characteristic	Noun	An identifiable feature or quality of a person, place, or thing.	A defining characteristic of human beings is the ability to learn language.
136	Chauffeur	Noun	A person employed to drive a private or hired car.	A chauffeur-driven limousine.
137	Chicanery	Noun	The use of deception or subterfuge to achieve one's purpose.	Storylines packed with political chicanery.
138	Chimney	Noun	A long vertical outlet to the top of a building that allows pollutants to escape.	A chimney must be kept unblocked to allow smoke to escape from a home so that residents do not choke.
139	Chirruped	Verb	Makes series chirps, twittering.	Robins chirruping on the lawn.
140	Chocolate	Noun	A food in the form of a paste or solid block made from roasted and ground cacao seeds, typically sweetened and eaten as confectionery.	A bar of chocolate.
141	Choreograph	Verb	To arrange movements in a space.	To choreograph a ballet requires knowledge of dance, music and



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

142	Chronicle	Noun	A factual written account of important events in the order of occurrence.	CS Lewis wrote a famous fantasy chronicle for children about a hero lion who asks children to save the world of Narnia.
143	Chronologically	Adverb	In a way, that follows the order in which events or records occurred.	The list of events was arranged chronologically.
144	Cigarette	Noun	A thin cylinder of finely cut tobacco rolled in paper for smoking.	A pack of cigarettes is quite costly.
145	Cinnamon	Noun	An aromatic spice made from the peeled, dried, and rolled bark of a SE Asian tree.	I love cinnamon sprinkled on doughnuts.
146	Circumlocution	Noun	The use of many words where fewer would do, especially in a deliberate attempt to be vague or evasive.	His admission of guilt came after years of circumlocution.
147	Clairvoyant	Noun	A person who claims to have a supernatural ability to perceive events in the future or beyond normal sensory contact.	She got a message from a clairvoyant that her son is alive and well.
148	Claustrophobia	Noun	Extreme or irrational fear of confined places.	The small stuffy room had begun to give him claustrophobia.
149	Colleague	Noun	A fellow employee.	A secretary would be subordinate to a manager but would also be a colleague.
150	Columnist	Noun	A journalist who contributes regularly to a newspaper or magazine.	A columnist writes an advice column.
151	Combatant	Noun	A person engaged in fighting.	A soldier would be a combatant in war and police a combatant against crime.
152	Commandment	Noun	A divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments.	The Sabbath had to be kept as ordered in the Fourth Commandment.
153	Commemoration	Noun	The action or fact of commemorating a dead person or past event.	Local martyrs received public commemoration.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

154	Commercial	Adjective	Concerned with or engaged in commerce.	A commercial agreement.
155	Commercialization	Noun	The process of managing or running something principally for financial gain.	The escalating commercialization of athletics.
156	Commissioner	Noun	A person appointed to take on an official role.	One swears an oath of truth before a commissioner of oaths at a post office, police station or lawyer's office.
157	Companion	Noun	A person or animal with whom one spends a lot of time or with whom one travels.	His travelling companion.
158	Comparison	Noun	A consideration or estimate of the similarities or dissimilarities between two things or people.	They drew a comparison between Gandhi's teaching and that of other teachers.
159	Compatriots	Noun	A fellow citizen or national of a country.	Stich defeated his compatriot Boris Becker in the quarterfinals.
160	Competently	Adverb	In an efficient and capable way.	Our government's ability to cope competently with disasters.
161	Competition	Noun	The activity or condition of striving to gain or win something by defeating or establishing superiority over others.	There is fierce competition between banks.
162	Complementary	Adjective	Combining in such a way as to enhance or emphasize the qualities of each other or another.	They had different but complementary skills.
163	Complex	Adjective	Consisting of many different and connected parts.	A complex network of water channels.
164	Compliant	Noun	Disposed to agree with others or obey rules, especially to an excessive degree; acquiescent.	A compliant labor force.
165	Compressor	Noun	An instrument or device for compressing something.	The filling station in that small town has a compressor that cars can fill their flat tires.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

166	Concentrate	Noun	A substance made by removing or reducing the diluting agent; a concentrated form of something.	Apple juice concentrates.
167	Concentration	Noun	The action or power of focusing all one's attention.	She was frowning in concentration.
168	Concurrently	Adverb	At the same time; simultaneously.	Journal articles published concurrently with the exhibition.
169	Condemnation	Noun	Refers to the expression of very strong disapproval.	There is world population condemnation of air and water pollution perpetrated by industries.
170	Condensation	Noun	Water which collects as droplets on a cold surface when humid air is in contact with it.	The inside of the cab steamed up with condensation.
171	Condescending	Adjective	Having or showing an attitude of patronizing superiority.	She thought the teachers were arrogant and condescending.
172	Condiment	Noun	A substance such as salt, mustard, or pickle that is used to add flavor to food.	Certain kinds of food taste better without condiment.
173	Congealed	Verb	To become semi-solid.	Blood usually congeals when it leaves a body, which stops bleeding.
174	Conglomeration	Noun	A thing consisting of a number of different and distinct parts or items that are grouped together.	The Earth is a specialized conglomeration of organisms.
175	Congratulation	Noun	Words expressing one's praise for an achievement or	Our congratulations to the winners.
176	Conjunction	Noun	A word used to connect clauses or sentences or to coordinate words in the same clause (e.g. and, but, if).	An example of a conjunction is the word "because".
177	Conscience	Noun	A person's moral sense of right and wrong, viewed as acting as a guide to one's behavior.	He had a guilty conscience about his desires.
178	Conscientious	Adjective	Wishing to do one's work or duty well and thoroughly.	Being a conscientious man, he took his duties very seriously.
179	Consciousness	Noun	The state of being aware of and responsive to one's surroundings.	She did not regain consciousness and died two days later.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

180	Consequence	Noun	The result of something.	A positive consequence of unpolluted nutrition is good health while a negative consequence of ingesting alcohol, nicotine and drugs is poor health.
181	Consequently	Adverb	As a result.	Flexible workers find themselves in great demand, and consequently gain high salaries.
182	Considerably	Adverb	By a notably large amount or to a notably large extent; greatly.	Things have improved considerably over the last few years.
183	Consignment	Noun	A batch of goods on delivery.	Distribution companies prefer to deal in consignment stock as batching facilitates logistics.
184	Consonance	Noun	Agreement or compatibility between opinions or actions.	Consonance between conservation measures and existing agricultural practice.
185	Conspiracy	Noun	A secret plan by a group to do something unlawful or harmful.	A conspiracy to destroy the government.
186	Constellation	Noun	A group of associated or similar people or things.	No two patients ever show exactly the same constellation of symptoms.
187	Constipation	Noun	A condition in which there is difficulty in emptying the bowels, usually associated with hardened feces.	You can buy medication at the pharmacy down the road to relieve constipation.
188	Constituency	Noun	A group of people with shared interests.	A constituency of voters resides in a demarcated area and can vote only for duly elected candidates.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

189	Contestation	Noun	Refers to what is being argued about.	Contestation occurs when something is declared to be in dispute such as disagreement about the execution of a will.
190	Continuous	Adjective	Forming an unbroken whole; without interruption.	The whole performance is enacted in one continuous movement.
191	Contortionist	Noun	An entertainer who twists and bends his or her body into strange and unnatural positions.	We paid ten dollars to watch the contortionist perform at the show.
192	Contraction	Noun	The process of becoming smaller.	The general contraction of the industry did further damage to morale.
193	Contradiction	Noun	A combination of statements, ideas, or features, which are opposed to one another.	The proposed new system suffers from a set of internal contradictions.
194	Conversation	Noun	Refers to talk amongst people.	The mother enjoyed having a conversation with her son's teacher to learn more about her child.
195	Convocation	Noun	The action of calling people together for a large formal assembly.	The arguments delayed the convocation of the first congress, planned for February 1992.
196	Corticosteroid	Noun	Any of a group of steroid hormones produced in the adrenal cortex or made synthetically.	They gave him corticosteroid medication as part of his treatment.
197	Countable	Adjective	Able to be counted.	The Church is made up of countable people.
198	Courageous	Adjective	Not deterred by danger or pain; brave.	Nothing could stop her from doing her courageous human rights work.
199	Courteous	Adjective	Polite, respectful, or considerate in manner.	She was courteous and obliging to all.
200	Crocodile	Noun	A large predatory semiaquatic reptile with long jaws, long tail, short legs, and a horny textured skin.	A crocodile is one of the most feared predators in the water.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

201	Crustacean	Noun	An arthropod of the large, mainly aquatic group Crustacean, such as a crab, lobster, shrimp, or barnacle.	A crustacean is found normally in water.
202	Culminate	verb	Reach a climax or point of highest development.	Weeks of violence culminated in the brutal murder of a magistrate.
203	Cultivated	Adjective	Refined and well educated.	He was a remarkably cultivated and educated man.
204	Curiosity	Noun	A strong desire to know or learn something.	Filled with curiosity, she peered through the window.
205	Curvature	Noun	The shape of a curve.	The curvature of the body of a guitar requires expert carving to produce harmonious sounds.
206	Debris	Noun	Scattered fragments, wreckage, drifted accumulation.	Workmen were clearing the roads of the debris from shattered buildings after the gale force winds.
207	Decapitation	Noun	The action of cutting off the head of a person or animal.	England's last public decapitation.
208	Decathlon	Noun	An athletic event taking place over two days, in which each competitor takes part in the same prescribed ten events (100 meters sprint, long jump, shot-put, high jump, 400 meters, 110 meters hurdles, discus, pole vault, javelin, and 1,500	The decathlon was quite competitive, and our team excelled in all the events except the javelin category.
209	Decentralization	Noun	The transfer of authority from central to local government.	Efforts to promote decentralization and reform of the national political party.
210	Decibel	Noun	(In general use) a degree of loudness.	His voice went up several decibels.
211	Defamation	Noun	The action of damaging the good reputation of someone; slander or libel.	She sued him for defamation.
212	Defensibility	Adjective	Justifiable by argument.	A morally defensible penal system.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

213	Definition	Noun	A statement of the exact meaning of a word, especially in a dictionary.	A dictionary definition of the verb.
214	Deforestation	Noun	The state of being clear of trees.	One of the reasons for global warming is deforestation.
215	Delay	Verb	Make (someone or something) late or slow.	The train was delayed.
216	Delicious	Adjective	Highly pleasant to the taste.	John's mother bakes delicious chocolate cakes.
217	Delusion	Noun	The action of deluding or the state of being deluded/ a mistaken belief or impression.	It's a delusion to believe that one can be successful without some sort or form of education.
218	Demeanor	Noun	Outward behavior or bearing.	One's demeanor can tell a lot.
219	Democracy	Noun	A system of government by the whole population or all the eligible members of a state, typically through elected representatives.	A system of parliamentary democracy.
220	Demonstrative	Adjective	(Of a person) unrestrained in showing feelings, especially those of affection.	We were a very physically demonstrative family.
221	Demystify	Verb	Make (a difficult subject) clearer and easier to understand.	This book attempts to demystify technology.
222	Dentistry	Noun	The treatment of diseases and other conditions that affect the teeth and gums, especially the repair and extraction of teeth and the insertion of artificial ones.	There have been many advances in modern dentistry.
223	Deodorant	Noun	A substance which removes or conceals unpleasant smells, especially bodily odors.	An athlete needs a good deodorant after working out in the gym.
224	Deplorability	Adjective	Worthy of severe condemnation or reproach.	A deplorable act of violence.
225	Deployment	Verb	Military to spread out (troops) so as to form an extended front or line.	The university's students get course extensions based on their deployment papers.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

226	Depressing	Noun	Feelings of severe despondency and dejection.	Self-doubt creeps in and that swiftly turns to depression.
227	Derogatory	Adjective	Showing a critical or disrespectful attitude.	She tells me I'm fat and is always making derogatory remarks.
228	Descendent	Noun	A person, plant, or animal that is descended from a particular ancestor.	She's a descendant of Charles Darwin.
229	Description	Noun	A spoken or written account of a person, object, or event.	People who had seen him were able to give a description.
230	Descriptive	Adjective	Serving or seeking to describe.	The text contains some good descriptive passages.
231	Destitution	Noun	Poverty so extreme that one lacks the means to provide for oneself.	The family faced eviction and destitution.
232	Deterioration	Noun	The process of becoming progressively worse.	My friend's financial woes led to the deterioration of his health.
233	Detrimental	Adjective	Tending to cause harm.	Recent policies have been detrimental to the interests of many old people.
234	Dexterity	Noun	Skill in performing tasks, especially with the hands.	Her dexterity with chopsticks is delightful.
235	Dialogue	Noun	A conversation between two or more people as a feature of a book, play, or film/ a discussion intended to explore a subject or solve a problem.	The two siblings have been fighting each other but they are now having a dialogue on reconciliation.
236	Diameter	Noun	A straight line passing from side to side through the center of a body or figure, especially a circle or sphere.	My soccer ball is 22 centimeters in diameter.
237	Dichotomy	Noun	A division or contrast between two things that are or are represented as being opposed or entirely different.	A rigid dichotomy between science and mysticism.
238	Dimensional	Adjective	Relating to measurements or dimensions.	Technicians check dimensional accuracy using coordinate



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

239	Dinosaur	Noun	A person or thing that is outdated or has become obsolete because of failure to adapt to changing circumstances/ an extinct reptile that lived millions of years ago, some kinds of which were very large.	My principal is nicknamed, 'the surviving dinosaur' because he still uses the old green chalkboard for teaching instead of using the hi-tech smart board.
240	Disseminate	Verb	Spread (something, especially information) widely.	Health authorities always disseminate information about
241	Dissidence	Noun	Protest against official policy.	The people's dissidence against the group areas act was a step towards a free democratic South Africa.
242	Distillation	Noun	A process of separating the component substances from a liquid mixture by selective evaporation and condensation.	Alcoholic beverages are made stronger through the process of distillation.
243	Distinguished	Adjective	Very successful, authoritative, and commanding great respect.	A distinguished American educationist.
244	Domesticated	Adjective	(Of an animal) tame and kept as a pet or on a farm.	Domesticated dogs.
245	Domineer	Verb	Assert one's will over another in an arrogant way.	Cathy had been a martyr to her gruff, domineering husband.
246	Dutifully	Adverb	In a conscientious or obedient manner.	I dutifully reported the accident.
247	Earthward	Adverb & Adjective	Towards the earth.	When his parachute failed to open, he fell earthward at 120 mph.
248	Eccentricity	Noun	The quality of being different from the norm.	Arthur was noted for the eccentricity of his behavior.
249	Economics	Noun	The branch of knowledge concerned with the production, consumption and transfer of wealth.	The former president of Zimbabwe has a degree in Economics.
250	Ecstatic	Adjective	Feeling or expressing overwhelming happiness or joyful excitement.	Ecstatic fans filled the stadium.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

251	Effervescent	Adjective	(Of a liquid) giving off bubbles; fizzy.	An effervescent mixture of cheap wine, fruit flavors, sugar, and carbon dioxide.
252	Egocentric	Adjective	Having or regarding the self or the individual as the center of all things.	An egocentric philosophy that ignores social causes.
253	Electrify	Verb	Charge (a medium) with electricity; pass an electric current through.	He electrified the fence as a security measure.
254	Elementary	Adjective	Relating to the rudiments of a subject.	An elementary astronomy course.
255	Eloquent	Adjective	Fluent or persuasive in speaking or writing.	An eloquent speech.
256	Elucidation	Noun	Explanation that makes something clear; clarification.	The teacher showed a video that led to the elucidation of the structure of proteins.
257	Emaciated	Adjective	Abnormally thin or weak, especially because of illness or a lack of food.	She was so emaciated she could hardly stand.
258	Embarrass	Verb	Cause (someone) to feel awkward, self-conscious, or ashamed.	She wouldn't embarrass either of them by making a scene.
259	Embodiment	Noun	A tangible or visible form of an idea, quality, or feeling.	She seemed to be a living embodiment of vitality.
260	Emergency	Noun	A serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action.	Personal alarms for use in an emergency.
261	Emission	Noun	The production and discharge of something, especially gas or radiation.	The effects of lead emission on health.
262	Emulsion	Noun	An emulsion is a mixture of two or more liquids that are normally unmixable.	A good tip is to use shampoo on the oiled hair before wetting with water, in order to emulsify the oil.
263	Encryption	Noun	The process of converting information or data into a code, especially to prevent unauthorized access.	I use encryption to protect sensitive information transmitted online.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

264	Endeavor	Verb	Try hard to do or achieve something	They endeavor to help save third world countries from starvation.
265	Endorsement	Noun	The action of endorsing someone or something.	The issue of full independence received overwhelming endorsement.
266	Entanglement	Noun	The action or fact of entangling or being entangled.	Many dolphins die from entanglement in fishing nets.
267	Enthusiasm	Noun	Intense and eager enjoyment, interest, or approval.	Her energy and enthusiasm for life makes her the right candidate for the community builder award.
268	Entourage	Noun	A group of people attending or surrounding an important person.	An entourage of loyal courtiers.
269	Entrepreneur	Noun	A person who sets up a business or businesses, taking on financial risks in the hope of profit.	Many entrepreneurs see potential in this market.
270	Environmental	Adjective	Relating to the natural world and the impact of human activity on its condition.	Acid rain may have caused major environmental damage.
271	Epitome	Noun	A person or thing that is a perfect example of a particular quality or type	She looked the epitome of elegance and good taste.
272	Erosion	Noun	The process of eroding or being eroded by wind, water, or other natural agents.	The problem of soil erosion.
273	Eruption	Noun	Act or instance of erupting.	The eruption of Vesuvius.
274	Essential	Adjective	Absolutely necessary; extremely important.	It is essential to keep up-to-date records.
275	Euphoria	Noun	A feeling or state of intense excitement and happiness.	In his euphoria, he had become convinced he could defeat them.
276	Euthanasia	Noun	The painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable and painful disease or in an irreversible coma.	Euthanasia is not yet legal in South Africa, no matter how sick a patient is.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

277	Evaporation	Noun	The process of turning from liquid into vapor.	Snow cover prevents evaporation of water from the soil.
278	Eventually	Adverb	In the end, especially after a long delay, dispute, or series of problems.	Eventually, after midnight, I arrived at the hotel.
279	Exacerbate	Verb	Make (a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling) worse.	The governor did not want to exacerbate economic hardships by increasing the repo rate.
280	Exaggerate	Verb	Represent (something) as being larger, better, or worse than it really is.	She was apt to exaggerate any aches and pains.
281	Excitedly	Adverb	In a very enthusiastic and eager manner.	He talked excitedly about his future marriage plans.
282	Excitement	Noun	A feeling of great enthusiasm and eagerness.	Her cheeks were flushed with excitement.
283	Exhort	Verb	Strongly encourage or urge (someone) to do something	As a dear friend, I exhort you to eat well and exercise regularly so you will have a long life.
284	Expectation	Noun	A strong belief that something will happen or be the case.	Reality had not lived up to expectations.
285	Exquisite	Adjective	Extremely beautiful and delicate.	She wore exquisite jewelry on her wedding.
286	Extinct	Adjective	(Of a species, family, or other larger group) having no living members.	Trilobites and dinosaurs are extinct.
287	Extremely	Adverb	To a very great degree; very.	This is an extremely difficult thing to do.
288	Extremist	Noun	A person who holds extreme political or religious views, especially one who advocates illegal, violent, or other extreme action.	The extremist was jailed because his ideas caused the deaths of many people.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

289	Exuberant	Adjective	Full of energy, excitement, and cheerfulness.	The headmaster told the exuberant learners to keep quiet.
290	Fabricate	Verb	Invent (something) in order to deceive.	Officers fabricated evidence.
291	Facsimile	Noun	An exact copy, especially of written or printed material.	A facsimile of the manuscript.
292	Fantasy	Noun	The faculty or activity of imagining impossible or improbable things.	His research had moved into the realms of fantasy.
293	Fascinate	Verb	Attract the strong attention and interest of (someone).	I've always been fascinated by processing speed of computers.
294	Fatigue	Noun	Cause (someone) to feel exhausted.	They travelled for hours and were fatigued by their journey.
295	Faucet	Noun	A tap.	Make sure that you close all faucets tightly in order to save water.
296	Fermentation	Noun	The chemical breakdown of a substance by bacteria, yeasts, or other microorganisms, typically involving effervescence and the giving off of heat.	Fermentation is an important stage in the process of making alcohol.
297	Ferocious	Adjective	Very aggressive or violent; very strong.	The tourists were attacked by a ferocious elephant when they were walking in the game park.
298	Fiancée	Noun	A woman to whom a man is engaged to be married.	He went back to the valley to marry his fiancée.
299	Fiefdom	Noun	A territory or sphere of operation controlled by a particular person or group.	A mafia boss has turned the town into his private fiefdom.
300	Figuratively	Adverb	Used to indicate a departure from a literal use of words; metaphorically.	We left many people literally and figuratively in the dark.
301	Flagrant	Adjective	(Of an action considered wrong or immoral) conspicuously or obviously offensive.	A flagrant violation of the law.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

302	Flamboyant	Adjective	(Of a person or their behavior) tending to attract attention because of their exuberance, confidence, and stylishness.	A band's flamboyant lead singer.
303	Flamingo	Noun	A tall wading bird with mainly pink or scarlet plumage and long legs and neck.	A flamingo is a bird indigenous to Brazil and neighboring countries.
304	Flammable	Adjective	Easily set on fire.	The use of highly flammable materials.
305	Foreigner	Noun	A person born in or coming from a country other than one's own.	As a foreigner in America, Peter struggled to speak English.
306	Forensic	Adjective	Relating to or denoting the application of scientific methods and techniques to the investigation of crime.	Forensic evidence is provided to argue cases in court.
307	Forfeit	Verb	To lose something or have something taken away from you because you have done something wrong.	If you cancel your flight, you forfeit your deposit.
308	Fortification	Noun	A defensive wall or other reinforcement built to strengthen a place against attack.	They built and maintained fortifications around the city.
309	Fortuitous	Adjective	Happening by chance, especially a lucky chance that brings a good result.	Their victory was fortuitous because the ball went into the net after it was deflected by the referee.
310	Frenetic	Adjective	Fast and energetic in a rather wild and uncontrolled way.	A frenetic pace of activity.
311	Freudian	Adjective	Relating to or influenced by Sigmund Freud and his methods of psychoanalysis, especially with reference to the importance of sexuality in human behavior.	The Freudian concept of the superego is often used to explain some behaviors.
312	Fundamental	Adjective	Forming a necessary base or core; of central importance.	We strive for the protection of fundamental human rights.
313	Fungicide	Noun	A chemical that destroys fungus.	Many orchards no longer use fungicides.
314	Gangrene	Noun	Localized death and decomposition of body tissue,	Gangrene set in, and her leg was amputated.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

315	Gargantuan	Adjective	Enormous.	Young people are said to have a gargantuan appetite.
316	Garrulous	Adjective	Excessively talkative, especially on trivial matters.	A garrulous cab driver kept me entertained throughout my journey.
317	Gastroenterology	Noun	The branch of medicine, which deals with disorders of the stomach and intestines.	After his mother's struggles with stomach ulcers, he decided to specialize in Gastroenterology
318	Gaudy	Adjective	Extravagantly bright or showy, typically so as to be tasteless.	Silver bows and gaudy ribbons are used as decorations at some weddings.
319	Genetics	Noun	The genetic properties or features of an organism, characteristic.	Genetics often determine whether a child will look like the mother or father.
320	Genuine	Adjective	Of a person, emotion, or action) sincere.	He made a genuine attempt to make things right by paying back the money.
321	Gestation	Noun	The development of something over a period of time.	My birth was delayed so the gestation period in my case was more than 9 months.
322	Gesticulation	Noun	A gesture, especially a dramatic one, used instead of speaking or to emphasize one's words.	He punctuated his speech with wild gesticulations.
323	Gorgeous	Adjective	Beautiful; very attractive.	Gorgeous colors and exquisite decoration made the party an outstanding affair.
324	Gregarious	Adjective	(Of a person) fond of company; sociable.	He was a popular and gregarious man.
325	Grievances	Noun	A real or imagined cause for complaint, especially unfair treatment.	We created a website, which enabled staff to air their grievances.
326	Guarantee	Noun	A formal assurance (typically in writing) that certain conditions will be fulfilled, especially that a product will be repaired or replaced if not of a specified quality.	We offer a 10-year guarantee against rust.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

327	Guernsey	Noun	An animal of a breed of dairy cattle from Guernsey, noted for producing rich, creamy milk.	Her uncles demanded Guernsey cattle as payment..
328	Gymnasium	Noun	A room or building equipped for gymnastics, games, and other physical exercise.	I am a member of the local Gymnasium.
329	Halitosis	Noun	Technical term for bad breath.	Halitosis can be treated medically.
330	Hallucination	Noun	An experience involving the apparent perception of something not present.	He continued to suffer from horrific hallucinations after being in a near-fatal car crash.
331	Haphazard	Adjective	Lacking any obvious principle of organization	The music business works in a haphazard fashion; it's a life with no guarantees.
332	Harbor	Noun	A place on the coast where ships may moor in shelter, especially one protected from rough water by piers, jetties, and other artificial structures.	We saw amazing ships at the harbor.
333	Haughty	Adjective	Arrogantly superior and disdainful.	He collected the award and gave his younger colleagues a look of haughty disdain.
334	Hereditarianism	Adjective	Characteristic of or based on a belief that differences n people are due to their genes (hereditary)	Hereditarianism typically ignores the role of the environment in shaping one's character and behavior.
335	Heroine	Noun	A woman admired for her courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities.	She was a true feminist heroine.
336	Herring	Noun	A fairly small silvery fish, which is most abundant in coastal waters and is of widespread commercial	Shoals of herring swam past.
337	Hierarchy	Noun	A system in which members of an organization or society are ranked according to relative status or authority.	In a school hierarchy, the principal is at the top in terms of authority.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

338	Hilarious	Adjective	Extremely amusing	A movie with the comedian Chris Brown is always hilarious.
339	Hippopotamus	Noun	A large thick-skinned, tusked, freshwater mammal of Africa and Asia.	A hippopotamus prefers river life but will travel miles inland in search of food and mates.
340	Hullabaloo	Noun	A commotion; a fuss.	Do you remember the entire hullabaloo over the lost golf ball?
341	Humorous	Adjective	Causing laughter and amusement; comic.	A humorous and entertaining talk.
342	Hundredth	Adjective/ Number	Constituting number one hundred in a sequence; 100th.	Her hundredth birthday party was attended by four generations of her family.
343	Hygiene	Noun	Conditions or practices conducive to maintaining health and preventing disease, especially through cleanliness	I maintain personal hygiene by bathing regularly.
344	Hyperbole	Noun	Exaggerated statements or claims not meant to be taken literally.	He vowed revenge with oaths and hyperboles.
345	Hyperthyroidism	Noun	Over activity of the thyroid gland, resulting in a rapid heartbeat and an increased rate of metabolism.	Everyone thought she was hyperactive until she was diagnosed with Hyperthyroidism.
346	Hypochondriac	Noun	A person who is abnormally anxious about their health.	Hypochondriacs should stop demanding medication from doctors.
347	Identification	Noun	The action or process of identifying someone or something or the fact of being identified.	It was tagged with a number for identification.
348	Idiomatic	Adjective	Using, containing, or denoting expressions that is natural to a native speaker.	He spoke fluent, idiomatic English.
349	Idiosyncrasy	Noun	A mode of behavior or way of thought peculiar to an individual.	One of his little idiosyncrasies was that he always preferred to be in the car first.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

350	Ignominious	Adjective	Deserving or causing public disgrace or shame.	The man's reputation suffered an ignominious fate in the public
351				debates.
352	Iguanodon	Noun	A large partly bipedal herbivorous dinosaur of the early to mid-Cretaceous period, with a broad stiff tail and the thumb developed into a spike.	The earliest remains of Iguanodon were found by Dr G.
353	Illegible	Noun	Not legible; impossible or hard to read or decipher because of poor handwriting, faded print, etc.	This letter is completely illegible.
354	Illustration	Noun	A picture illustrating a book, newspaper, etc.	The illustrations in the comic book were hilarious.
355	Imaginary	Adjective	Existing only in the imagination.	Chris had solo conversations with his imaginary friends.
356	Imbue	Verb	Inspire or permeate with (a feeling or quality).	One should always strive to imbue people to behave in a proper fashion.
357	Imitation	Noun	The action of using someone or something as a model.	A child learns to speak by imitation.
358	Immediate	Adjective	Occurring or done at once; instant.	The authorities took no immediate action against the criminal and that angered the community.
359	Immensely	Adverb	To a great extent; extremely.	The rapper was immensely popular for his lyrics against violence.
360	Imminent	Adjective	Is when something is just about to occur?	The spelling bee competition is imminent; I hope you are all ready for the competition.
361	Immunology	Noun	The branch of biological science concerned with the study of immunity.	More research in Immunology will help scientists to fight HIV.
362	Impeachment	Noun	The action of calling into question the integrity or validity of something.	The prosecutor presented a detailed impeachment of the character witness.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

363	Impossible	Adjective	Not able to occur, exist, or be done.	A seemingly impossible task.
364	Impressive	Adjective	Evoking admiration through size, quality, or skill; grand, imposing, or awesome.	An impressive view of the mountains.
365	Imprisonment	Noun	The state of being imprisoned; captivity.	He was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.
366	Improvisation	Noun	The action of improvising.	She specializes in improvisation on the piano.
367	Inanimate	Adjective	Not alive in the way that people, animal and plants are.	A rock is an inanimate object.
368	Incarceration	Noun	The state of being confined in prison; imprisonment.	The public would not be served by her incarceration.
369	Incessant	Adjective	(Of something regarded as unpleasant) continuing without pause or interruption.	The incessant beat of the music kept the neighbors up all night.
370	Incinerate	Verb	Destroy (something, especially waste material) by burning.	Waste packaging is to be incinerated rather than buried in landfills.
371	Incitement	Noun	The action of provoking unlawful behavior or urging someone to behave unlawfully.	The learner appreciated the incitement from his teachers, and it encouraged him to perform better.
372	Incoherent	Adjective	(Of spoken or written language) expressed in an incomprehensible or confusing way; unclear.	He screamed some incoherent threats at the criminal.
373	Incongruous	Adjective	Not in harmony or keeping with the surroundings or other aspects of something.	The sneakers he wore were incongruous with the suit and tie that he wore to the wedding.
374	Inconvenience	Noun	The state or fact of being troublesome or difficult with regard to one's personal requirements or comfort.	The inconvenience of having to change trains.
375	Incorporate	Verb	Take in or contain (something) as part of a whole; include.	He has incorporated a number of recommendations in his proposals.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

376	Indigenous	Adjective	Originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native.	The indigenous peoples of Siberia.
377	Individualism	Noun	The habit or principle of being independent and self-reliant.	A culture that celebrates individualism and wealth.
378	Indomitable	Adjective	Tough and refusing to be broken, put down or discouraged.	The indomitable teacher fought for her learners' rights against all odds.
379	Inflorescence	Noun	The complete flower head of a plant including stems, stalks, bracts, and flowers.	In class today we learnt about arose and its inflorescence
380	Infomercial	Noun	An advertising clip, which promotes a product in an informative and supposedly objective style.	Infomercial marketers seeking to capitalize on current events are not a new phenomenon.
381	Infrastructure	Noun	The basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads, and power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.	The difference between developed, developing, and the underdeveloped nations of the world relates directly to the infrastructure available in the
382	Ingenuity	Noun	The quality of being clever, original, and inventive.	In order for one to achieve success in life, one needs to display both hard work and ingenuity.
383	Ingenuousness	Noun	The condition of being ingenuous (innocent and naïve)	I'm not so ingenuous as to believe everything he says.
384	Iniquity	noun	Immoral or grossly unfair behavior.	A den of iniquity.
385	Innocuous	Adjective	Not harmful or offensive.	It was an innocuous question.
386	Insecticide	Noun	A substance used for killing insects.	One must be careful when using insecticide in the home because many of them can poison humans.
387	Insinuate	Verb	Suggest or hint (something bad) in an indirect and unpleasant way.	It is very hard to deal with people who insinuate that you have done



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

				something wrong, but do not come out honestly to accuse you so that you can defend yourself.
388	Insurmountable	Adjective	Too great to be overcome.	For 1000 years, mount Everest was considered to be insurmountable until Sir Edmund Hillary climbed it in 1953.
389	Intermittent	Adjective	Stop stopping or ceasing for a time; alternately ceasing and beginning again.	It is much better for farmers to have intermittent rain that can soak gently into the ground than to have a downpour.
390	Interrogation	Noun	The action of interrogating or the process of being interrogated.	Would he keep his mouth shut under interrogation?
391	Interrupted	Adjective	(Of a compound leaf or other plant organ) made discontinuous by smaller interposed leaflets or	The interrupted leaves provided a decorative background for her
392	Interruption	Noun	The action involving disturbance or stopping or interjecting.	Studying at the library allows me to study without interruption.
393	Intransitive	Adjective	(Of a verb or a sense or use of a verb) not taking a direct object, e.g. look in look at the sky.	Sneeze is a good example of an intransitive verb because it does not take an object.
394	Introductory	Adjective	Serving as an introduction to a subject or topic; basic or preliminary.	A two-day introductory class helps the new students to understand the basics of the course.
395	Investigation	Noun	The action of investigating something or someone; formal or systematic examination or research.	He is under investigation for receiving illicit funds.
396	Jeopardize	Verb	Put (someone or something) into a situation in which there is a danger of loss, harm, or failure.	If you are a lazy, unreliable worker, you are very likely to jeopardize your career.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

397	Kindergarten	Noun	(In Britain and Australia) an establishment where children below the age of compulsory education play and learn; a nursery school.	The local municipality has a budget every year to help the kindergarten centers in the city center.
398	Kitchenette	Noun	A small kitchen or part of a room equipped as a kitchen.	Flats these days are too small to accommodate a kitchen, so people resort to kitchenettes.
399	Kookaburra	Noun	A very large Australasian kingfisher that feeds on terrestrial prey such as reptiles and birds.	Birdwatchers spotted a kookaburra when they visited Australia.
400	Laboratory	Noun	A room or building equipped for scientific experiments, research, or teaching, or for the manufacture of drugs or chemicals.	An important part of learning about Science is how to apply your
401				scientific knowledge in the
402				laboratory.
403	Labyrinth	Noun	A complicated irregular network of passages or paths in which it is difficult to find one's way; a maze.	In some cities, you can get lost in a labyrinth of little streets.
404	Language	Noun	The method of human communication, either spoken or written, consisting of the use of words in a structured and conventional way.	Being able to use language and to communicate effectively is one of the most important skills you learn at home.
405	Legume	Noun	A leguminous plant (member of the pea family), especially one grown as a crop.	Beans and peanuts are examples of legumes.
406	Liability	Noun	The state of being legally responsible for something.	Not having enough education to do the things you want to do is a severe liability in the pursuit of your career.
407	Licentious	Adjective	Promiscuous and unprincipled in sexual matters.	The ruler's tyrannical and licentious behavior cost him his career and marriage.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

408	Lieutenant	Noun	A deputy or substitute acting for a superior.	The co-pilot of a jet plane is often called the flight lieutenant.
409	Lineage	Noun	Direct descent from an ancestor; ancestry or pedigree.	Royal families of whatever nation usually have a very ancient lineage.
410	Linguistic	Adjective	Relating to language or linguistics.	The clicks that are found in a language like Xhosa are linguistic features that are not found in many other languages.
411	Liquidation	Noun	The process of liquidating a business.	The restaurant business failed, and, during its liquidation, they sold its furniture to pay outstanding debts.
412	Literary	Adjective	Concerning the writing, study, or content of literature, especially of the kind valued for quality of form.	The great literary works of the nineteenth century.
413	Literature	Noun	Written works, especially those considered of superior or lasting artistic merit.	Majoring in English at University involves reading many different types of English literature.
414	Lourie	Noun	(South African) another term for turaco and go away bird.	The grey lourie is also known as the go away bird.
415	Luxuriant	Adjective	(Of vegetation) rich and profuse in growth; lush.	Look at that forest of dark, luxuriant foliage.
416	Lyric	Noun	A lyric poem or verse.	An edition of Horace's Lyrics.
417	Machinists	Noun	A person who operates a machine, especially a machine tool or a sewing machine.	She found a job as the first female machinist in a local paper mill.
418	Maelstrom	Noun	A powerful circular current of water.	Although scientists were at a loss to explain the sudden appearance of
419	Maggoty	Adjective	Angry or bad-tempered.	Scotty got a bit maggoty about the lost luggage.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

420	Magistrate	Noun	A civil officer who administers the law, especially one who conducts a court that deals with minor offences and holds preliminary hearings for more serious ones	If you have ever seen television shows like Judge Judy, then you understand the job of a magistrate.
421	Magnolia	Noun	A tree or shrub with large, typically creamy-pink or -white, waxy flowers.	The woodwork is in magnolia gloss.
422	Majesty	Noun	Impressive beauty, scale, or stateliness.	The great Drakensburg mountains in KwaZulu-Natal have a majesty that makes even important people feel humble.
423	Majorettes	Noun	A girl or woman who twirls a baton with a marching band.	The drum majorettes that entertain the crowds during the football trials are as athletic as the field players.
424	Malfeasance	Noun	Wrongdoing, especially by a public official.	The office bearers were fired for brazen malfeasance.
425	Manipulation	Noun	The action of controlling something in a skillful manner.	The format allows fast picture manipulation.
426	Mannerism	Noun	A habitual gesture or way of speaking or behaving.	Learning the great man's speeches and studying his mannerisms.
427	Maneuver	Noun	A movement or series of moves requiring skill and care.	Snowboarders performed daring maneuvers on precipitous slopes.
428	Marathon	Noun	A long-distance running race, strictly one of 42.195km (26 miles 385 yards).	I was due to run the marathon the next day, but I was too exhausted.
429	Marmalade	Noun	A preserve made from citrus fruit, especially bitter oranges.	I would like some sweet marmalade sandwiches.
430	Marvelous	Adjective	Causing great wonder; extraordinary.	The majesty of the Victoria falls in full flood is quite marvelous to behold.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

431	Masquerade	Noun	A false show or pretense.	Showing off and trying to impress others with your skills and influence is just a masquerade to cover up your insecurity.
432	Massacre	Noun	An indiscriminate and brutal slaughter of many people.	When the gang of brigands killed the women and children in the village, it was a massacre that will go down in history.
433	Mathematician	noun	An expert in or student of Mathematics.	My teacher's knowledge of numbers has made her a Mathematician of note.
434	Mausoleum	Noun	A stately or impressive building housing a tomb or group of tombs.	The Cathedral was built in 1517 as a royal mausoleum.
435	Mediocrity	Noun	The quality or state of being mediocre.	The team suddenly improved after years of mediocrity.
436	Melancholy	Noun	A feeling of pensive sadness, typically with no obvious cause.	An air of melancholy surrounded him on his birthday when he was overseas.
437	Melodramatic	Adjective	Relating to melodrama.	Some people have a need to be melodramatic, and so turn every small incident into something traumatic.
438	Memorabilia	Noun	Objects kept or collected because of their associations with memorable people or events.	Sixties memorabilia sell for a fortune at online auctions.
439	Menagerie	Noun	A collection of wild animals kept in captivity for exhibition.	Another specimen was featured in the television menagerie.
440	Merest	Adjective	Used to emphasize how small or insignificant someone or something is.	Questions on immortality cannot be answered by merest mortals.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

441	Metaphor	Noun	A figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable.	When we speak of gene maps and gene mapping, we use a cartographic metaphor.
442	Meteorologist	Noun	An expert in or student of meteorology; a weather forecaster.	It is always interesting to listen to the meteorologist after the news on
443	Metonyms	Noun	The substitution of the name of an attribute or adjunct for that of the thing meant, for example suit for business executive, or the turf for horseracing.	The principal varieties of the trope are the metonymy and the metaphor.
444	Mezzanine	Adjective	Relating to or denoting unsecured, higher-yielding loans that are subordinate to bank loans and secured loans but rank above equity.	The company received \$9.1 m in mezzanine financing.
445	Microphone	Noun	An instrument for converting sound waves into electrical energy variations which may then be amplified, transmitted, or recorded	A good announcer always knows how far the microphone should be placed to best be heard without distortion.
446	Midst	Noun	The middle part or point	He left his flat in the midst of a rainstorm.
447	Migrate	Verb	(of an animal, typically a bird or fish) move from one region or habitat to another according to the seasons	As autumn arrives, the birds migrate south.
448	Millennia	Noun	A period of a thousand years, especially when calculated from the traditional date of the birth of Christ.	Silver first came into use on a substantial scale during the 3rd millennium BC.
449	Miniature	Adjective	Very small of its kind.	These children are dressed as miniature adults.
450	Minimalistic	Adjective	Relating to minimalism.	A minimalistic attitude to life is includes not decorating your home and furnishing it only with those things that you absolutely need.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

451	Ministration	Noun	The provision of assistance or care.	The heart that is weary of life is often cured by the tender ministration of love by a caring companion.
452	Miraculous	Adjective	Of the nature of a miracle or having the power to work miracles.	Many farmers in the drought- stricken area believed that the generosity of the donors was miraculous when a long convoy of trucks arrived bringing thousands of liters of water.
453	Misappropriation	Noun	The action of misappropriating something; embezzlement.	An alleged misappropriation of funds led to her dismissal.
454	Miscarriage	Noun	The spontaneous or unplanned expulsion of a fetus from the womb before it is able to survive independently.	The prisoner was sent to jail on the flimsiest of evidence, so the newspapers protested the judgement as a gross miscarriage of justice.
455	Miscellaneous	Adjective	(Of items or people gathered or considered together) of various types or from different sources.	He picked up the miscellaneous papers in his in tray.
456	Mischievously	Adverb	In a way that shows a fondness for causing trouble in a playful way.	She met his eyes and smiled mischievously.
457	Misogynist	Noun	A person who dislikes, despises, or is strongly prejudiced against women.	The androgynist is someone who is prejudiced against men; and a misogynist is prejudiced against women.
458	Moccasin	Noun	A flat shoe made from soft leather with large stitches around the front.	She was sad to lose her moccasin and spent the whole day looking for it because her moccasins were very warm and comfortable.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

459	Modesty	Noun	The quality or state of being unassuming in the estimation of one's abilities.	With typical modesty, he insisted on sharing the credit with others.
460	Mollycoddle	Verb	Treat (someone) in an indulgent or overprotective way.	I found school very difficult, and realized I'd been mollycoddled at home.
461	Monogamous	Noun	Involving marriage to one person at a time.	Under Canadian law, all marriages must be monogamous.
462	Monstrosity	Noun	A thing, especially a building, which is very large and unsightly.	The hundreds of hectares of identical, featureless houses built by the developer to make money are a monstrosity that has to be seen to be believed.
463	Mosquito	Noun	A slender long-legged fly with aquatic larvae. The	A malaria- carrying mosquito does
464	Motivation	Noun	A reason or reasons for acting or behaving in a particular way.	Escape can be a strong motivation for travel.
465	Moustache	Noun	A strip of hair left to grow above the upper lip.	That clergyman has a long grey moustache.
466	Municipality	Noun	A town or district that has local government.	Voters in our municipality choose a mayor every four years.
467	Murderous	Adjective	Capable of or intending to murder; dangerously violent.	The criminal gave the judge a murderous look after he was sentenced to eight years in jail.
468	Mysterious	Adjective	Difficult to understand or explain; strange.	A mysterious illness is affecting children under the age of 10.
469	Nebulous	Adjective	Not clear; vague.	Despite numerous attempts to explain, his theory remained nebulous.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

470	Necessity	Noun	The state or fact of being required.	The necessity of providing parental guidance cannot be ignored.
471	Neophyte	Noun	Any new participant in some activity.	Because I have very little computer experience, I am a neophyte when it comes to working with most software programs.
472	Nepotism	Noun	The practice among those with power or influence of favoring relatives or friends, especially by giving them jobs.	The minister's decision to give the teaching job to his daughter, ahead of more qualified teachers, was seen as nepotism by the parents.
473	Neuroscience	Noun	The science that deals with the structure of the brain and the nervous system.	When my cousin finished her studies in Neuroscience, she decided to pursue her career as a Brain Surgeon.
474	Nostalgic	Adjective	Feeling, evoking, or characterized by nostalgia	He remained nostalgic about the good old days.
475	Nourishment	Noun	The food necessary for growth, health, and good condition.	We get nourishment from eating healthy food.
476	Nuisance	Noun	A person or thing causing inconvenience or annoyance.	It's a nuisance having all those people clomping through the house.
477	Numerical	Adjective	Relating to or expressed as a number or numbers.	The lists are in numerical order.
478	Nutritious	Adjective	Efficient as food; nourishing.	Home-cooked burgers make a nutritious meal.
479	Obedience	Noun	Compliance with an order, request, or law or	Good children always show
480	Obelisk	Noun	Tapering usually monolithic shaft of stone square or rectangular in a section with pyramidal apex of similar shape.	The obelisk erected in memory of the great king could be seen many kilometers away from the city.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

481	Oblivious	Adjective	Not aware of or concerned about what is happening around one.	She continued watching TV, oblivious of the fact that there were robbers outside her gate.
482	Obnoxious	Adjective	Extremely unpleasant.	Obnoxious odors forced her to clean her house thoroughly.
483	Obscene	Adjective	Offending against moral principles; repugnant.	Using animal skins for fur coats is obscene.
484	Obscurity	Noun	The state in which somebody/something is not well known or has been forgotten.	After retiring from top-flight rugby, he lived the rest of his life working in obscurity.
485	Obstacle	Noun	A thing that blocks one's way, prevents, or hinders progress.	The major obstacle to achieving that goal is money.
486	Obstetrician	Noun	A physician or surgeon qualified to practice in obstetrics.	My wife went to see an Obstetrician in the first month of her pregnancy.
487	Obstreperous	Adjective	Noisy and difficult to control.	The boy is cocky and obstreperous.
488	Obtuse	Adjective	Annoyingly insensitive or slow to understand.	He wondered if the doctor was being deliberately obtuse.
489	Obviously	Adverb	In a way that is easily perceived or understood; clearly.	She was obviously unwell.
490	Occasionally	Adverb	At infrequent or irregular intervals; now and then.	We met up occasionally for a drink.
491	Occupation	Noun	A job or profession.	People in professional occupations.
492	Octagonal	Adjective	Having the shape or cross section of an octagon; eight-sided.	The octagonal tower took years of planning and designing.
493	Octopus	Noun	A cephalopod mollusk with eight sucker-bearing arms, a soft sac-like body, strong beak-like jaws, and no internal shell.	She felt her job was suffocating her as if the eight arms of an octopus were strangling her.
494	Esophagus	Noun	The part of the alimentary canal, which connects the throat to the stomach.	Spasm of the esophagus is most frequent in neurotic subjects.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

495	Offensive	Adjective	Causing someone to feel resentful, upset, or annoyed.	The allegations made are deeply offensive to us.
496	Ominous	Adjective	Suggesting that something bad is going to happen in the future.	The arrival of the police was an ominous sign.
497	Omniscient	Adjective	Knowing everything.	A third-person omniscient narrator.
498	Ontology	Noun	The branch of metaphysics dealing with the nature of being.	Nevertheless, on the relative plane, Zen is this worldly and does not deny ethics, or ontology for that matter.
499	Opulent	Adjective	Ostentatiously costly and luxurious.	The opulent comfort of a limousine.
500	Orchestra	Noun	A group of instrumentalists, especially one combining string, woodwind, brass, and percussion sections and playing classical music.	London symphony orchestra is one of the most famous orchestras in the world.
501	Ordinarily	Adverb	Usually.	A person who is ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom.
502	Organization	Noun	An organized group of people with a particular purpose, such as a business or government department.	A research organization.
503	Orphanage	Noun	A residential institution for the care and education of orphans	The orphanage was too small to accommodate all the 36 children who had lost their parents during the war.
504	Ostentatiously	Adverb	In a pretentious or showy way designed to impress.	She was known for dressing ostentatiously in designer clothes.
505	Paleontology	Noun	The branch of science concerned with fossil animals and plants.	My love for knowledge of fossil animals inspired me to do a PhD in vertebrate paleontology.
506	Pamphlet	Noun	A small booklet or leaflet containing information or arguments about a single subject.	He published a spate of pamphlets on the subjects about which he felt



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

507	Paralysis	Noun	The loss of the ability to move (and sometimes to feel anything) in part or most of the body, typically because of illness, poison, or injury.	The fast-acting venom causes paralysis, breathing difficulties, and sometimes death.
508	Paramount	Adjective	More important than anything else; supreme.	The interests of the child are of paramount importance to the Family Advocate.
509	Paranoia	Noun	Unjustified suspicion and mistrust of other people.	Paranoia is a condition that affects many people who occupy senior positions in government.
510	Parasite	Noun	An organism, which lives in or on another organism (its host) and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense.	A tick is a parasite that normally sucks blood from cattle.
511	Parliament	Noun	A group of people who are elected to make and change the laws a country.	The parliament passed laws, which made it difficult to smuggle goods into the country.
512	Parquetry	Noun	Inlaid work of blocks of various woods arranged in a geometric pattern, especially for flooring or furniture.	Many-candled lusters reflected in the polished parquetry.
513	Parsimony	Noun	Extreme unwillingness to spend money or use resources.	A great tradition of public design has been shattered by government
514	Patriarchy	Noun	A system of society or government in which the father or eldest male is head of the family and descent is reckoned through the male line.	The thematic relationships of the ballad are worked out according to the conventional archetypes of the patriarchy.
515	Patriotic	Adjective	Having or expressing devotion to and vigorous support for one's country.	Today's game will be played before a fiercely patriotic crowd.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

516	Pedestrian	Noun	A person walking rather than travelling in a vehicle.	The speeding driver narrowly missed hitting the pedestrian who was crossing the road at the junction.
517	Penicillin	Noun	An antibiotic or group of antibiotics produced naturally by certain blue molds, now usually prepared synthetically.	Patients who are allergic to penicillin are given alternative antibiotics.
518	Perennial	Adjective	Lasting or existing for a long or apparently infinite time; enduring or continually recurring.	His perennial distrust of the media led to the highly publicized paparazzi chase.
519	Perlemoen	Noun	Abalone, a shellfish that can be eaten and whose shell contains mother of pearl.	It is illegal to fish for perlemoen in South Africa.
520	Permeate	Verb	To spread to every part of an object or place.	Although it rained heavily, it took time for water to permeate through the hard ground.
521	Permeating	Verb	spread throughout (something); pervade	You could smell the aroma of soup permeating the air.
522	Permissible	Noun	Permitted; allowed.	It is permissible to edit and rephrase the statement.
523	Perpetrator	Noun	A person who commits a crime or does something that is wrong.	The perpetrator of violence during the soccer match was arrested by police the following day.
524	Perpetuate	Verb	Make (something) continue indefinitely.	People who perpetuate violence should receive heavy punishment.
525	Perpetuation	Noun	The continuation or preservation of a situation, idea, etc.	We criticized the perpetuation of racial stereotypes.
526	Perseverance	Noun	Persistence in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success.	Medicine is a field which requires dedication and perseverance.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

527	Personification	Noun	The representation of objects or qualities as humans, in literature.	The poet uses personification when she describes the fire as angry.
528	Persuasive	Adjective	Good at persuading someone to do or believe something through reasoning or the use of temptation.	Her speech was so persuasive that even the opposition members agreed with her proposal.
529	Pessimist	Noun	A person who always expects bad things to happen or focuses on the negative side of life.	The pessimists predicted that South Africa would lose the rugby match.
530	Pesticide	Noun	A substance used for destroying insects or other organisms harmful to cultivated plants or to animals.	The farmer failed to identify the correct pesticide to control the pests that were attacking his crops.
531	Pharmacist	Noun	A person who is professionally qualified to prepare and dispense medicinal drugs.	Sipho is studying to become a pharmacist at the University of Limpopo.
532	Phenomenon	Noun	A fact or situation that is observed to exist or happen, especially one whose cause or explanation is in question.	Earthquakes are an interesting natural phenomenon.
533	Philanthropic	Adjective	(Of a person or organization) seeking to promote the welfare of others; generous and benevolent.	Philanthropic organizations often donate to poverty-stricken communities.
534	Phonemic	Adjective	Of or relating to phonemes.	A phonemic system refers to various linguistics systems in a language.
535	Photogenic	Adjective	(Especially of a person) looking attractive in photographs or on film.	A photogenic child will most likely win photo competitions.
536	Photographic	Adjective	Connected with photographs or photography.	The photographic equipment was damaged during the protest march.
537	Physique	Noun	The form, size, and development of a person's body.	His muscular physique enabled him to defeat all the wrestlers in the competition.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

538	Pictogram	Noun	A symbol representing a word or an idea.	A picture of an eye meaning the word "eye" in a message is an example of a pictogram.
539	Picturesque	Adjective	(Of a place or building) visually attractive, especially in a quaint or charming way.	Ruined abbeys and picturesque villages.
540	Pistachio	Noun	The edible pale green seed of an Asian tree.	Pistachio is my favorite ice cream flavor.
541	Pittance	Noun	A very small or inadequate amount of money.	He paid his workers a pittance and they protested.
542	Planetarium	Noun	A domed building in which images of stars, planets, and constellations are projected for public entertainment or education.	The teacher has organized a trip to the planetarium at Wits University for the Grade 8's stargazing excursion.
543	Plantation	Noun	An estate on which crops such as coffee, sugar, and tobacco are grown.	This plantation is the latest business venture of the rich Khosa family.
544	Pneumonia	Noun	Lung inflammation caused by bacterial or viral infection, in which the air sacs fill with pus and may become solid. Inflammation may affect both lungs (double pneumonia) and only one (single pneumonia).	Along with tuberculosis, pneumonia kills thousands of people every year in South Africa.
545	Poignant	Adjective	Evoking a keen sense of sadness or regret.	The sermon was a poignant reminder of the difficult life that grandfather had lived as a young man.
546	Poisonous	Adjective	(Of a substance or plant) causing or capable of causing death or illness if taken into the body.	Working with poisonous chemicals can cause harm to lungs.
547	Polysyllabic	Adjective	Using or characterized by words of many syllables.	Polysyllabic jargon can be confusing for certain audiences.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

548	Polyunsaturated	Adjective	(Of an organic compound, especially a fat or oil molecule) containing several double or triple bonds between carbon atoms.	My dietician told me that Soybean oil, corn oil, and sunflower oil are Polyunsaturated fats.
549	Porcelain	Noun	A white vitrified translucent ceramic; china.	I will use a porcelain bowl to serve the fruit salad.
550	Porpoise	Noun	A small toothed whale with a low triangular dorsal fin and a blunt rounded snout.	Although a porpoise looks like a dolphin, the two are not exactly the same.
551	Precinct	Noun	The area within the walls or perceived boundaries of a particular building or place.	He is a former MP who still works in the precincts of the House.
552	Precipitous	Adjective	Extremely steep, high and often dangerous.	The hikers found it extremely difficult to descend the precipitous slopes of the mountain.
553	Preconceived	Adjective	(Of an idea or opinion) formed before having the evidence for its truth or usefulness.	The same set of facts can be tailored to fit any preconceived belief.
554	Premonition	Noun	A strong feeling that something is about to happen, especially something unpleasant.	When his child did not return from the shops in time, the father had a premonition that he will never see her again.
555	Preposterous	Adjective	Contrary to reason or common sense; utterly absurd or ridiculous.	The entire community saw his suggestion that we walk the entire journey as preposterous.
556	Prerequisite	Noun	A thing that is required as a prior condition for something else to happen or exist.	Sponsorship is not a prerequisite for any of our courses.
557	Prerogative	Noun	A right or privilege exclusive to a particular individual or class.	In some countries, higher education is predominantly the prerogative of the rich.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

558	Presence	Noun	The state or fact of existing, occurring, or being present.	My presence in the flat made her happy.
559	Prestigious	Adjective	Inspiring respect and admiration; having high status.	The hardworking teacher got a job at the prestigious school in town.
560	Pretentious	Adjective	Attempting to impress by affecting greater importance or merit than is actually possessed.	Pretentious art films.
561	Preventable	Adjective	Able to be prevented or avoided.	Many of these ailments are preventable.
562	Primeval	Adjective	Of the earliest time in history.	We surveyed mile after mile of primeval forest.
563	Prism	Noun	Used to refer to the clarification or distortion afforded by a particular viewpoint.	They were forced to imagine the disaster through the prism of television.
564	Pristine	Adjective	In its original condition.	I bought a secondhand phone that was in pristine condition.
565	Privilege	Noun	A special right, advantage, or immunity granted or available only to a particular person or group.	In some countries, voting in national elections is a privilege enjoyed only by male members of the society.
566	Procrastinate	Verb	Delay or postpone action; put off doing something	I always put things off for later so it can be said that I like to procrastinate.
567	Professionally	Adverb	In a way that relates to a profession or career.	Professionally trained musicians handle themselves skillfully on stage.
568	Pronunciation	Noun	The way in which a word is pronounced.	Spelling does not determine pronunciation.
569	Prosecco	Noun	A sparkling white wine from the Veneto region of NE	My dad went to a wine tasting
570	Prescience	Noun	The act of looking forward; foresight.	Prescience is necessary for planning ahead and achieving goals.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

571	Prosthetics	Noun	An artificial body part; prosthesis.	It is impossible for the boy who lost both legs in the accident to walk without prosthetics.
572	Psalmist	Noun	The author or composer of a psalm, especially of any of the biblical Psalms.	The psalmist came to sing at our church last Sunday.
573	Pseudonym	Noun	A fictitious name, especially one used by an author.	I wrote the article under the pseudonym of Evelyn Hervey.
574	Psychology	Noun	The mental characteristics or attitude of a person or group.	Scientists have done many studies in attempts to understand the psychology of criminals.
575	Punctuality	Noun	Happening or doing something at the agreed or proper time.	The girl who always came to school on time was rewarded for her punctuality by the school principal.
576	Quadrant	Noun	An instrument used for taking angular measurements of altitude in astronomy and navigation, typically consisting of a graduated quarter circle and a sighting mechanism.	The astronauts used a quadrant to measure the distance from the sun to the Earth.
577	Quadruple	Adjective	Consisting of four parts or elements.	I only grasped the first and fourth sections of the quadruple events.
578	Quarrel	Verb	Have an angry argument or disagreement.	Stop quarrelling with your sister.
579	Quartzite	Noun	An extremely compact, hard, granular rock consisting essentially of quartz. It often occurs as	I found a quartzite today at the beach.
580	Querulous	Adjective	To be complaining in a whining manner.	His querulous personality made him unpopular with most people.
581	Questionnaire	Noun	A set of printed or written questions with a choice of answers.	To obtain the data she needed, she designed a questionnaire, which she asked a wide range of people to answer.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

582	Quiver	Verb	To tremble or shake with a slight rapid motion.	The growling dog made him quiver with fear.
583	Quotation	Noun	A group of words taken from a text or speech and repeated by someone other than the original author or speaker.	She started her speech with a quotation from Virginia Woolf and an explanation of what the words meant to her.
584	Rapturous	Adjective	Characterized by, feeling, or expressing great pleasure or enthusiasm.	He was greeted with rapturous applause.
585	Rebuttal	Noun	An instance of rebutting evidence or an accusation.	According to the judge, rebuttal without evidence is a serious offence.
586	Reconciliation	Noun	The restoration of friendly relations.	The apology led to reconciliation with my uncle.
587	Recuperate	Verb	Recover from illness or exertion.	She has been recuperating from a knee injury.
588	Recyclable	Adjective	Able to be recycled.	Using recyclable plastic bags for shopping is one way of caring for the environment.
589	Regurgitate	Verb	Bring (swallowed food) up again to the mouth.	Gulls regurgitate food for their chicks.
590	Reiteration	Noun	The action of repeating something, typically for emphasis or clarity.	People have been pointing to the reiteration of his campaign's promise to cut taxes.
591	Rejuvenation	Noun	The action or process of making someone or something look or feel better, younger, or more vital.	Plans for the rejuvenation of the area are underway.
592	Relinquish	Verb	Voluntarily cease to keep or claim; give up.	He relinquished his managerial role to become chief executive.
593	Reminisce	Verb	Indulge in enjoyable recollection of past events.	They reminisced about their summers abroad.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

594	Remittance	Noun	A sum of money sent in as payment or as a gift.	Complete your booking form and send it together with your remittance.
595	Remnant	Noun	A part or quantity that is left after the greater part has been used, removed, or destroyed.	The bogs are an endangered remnant of a primeval landscape.
596	Repatriation	Noun	The return of someone to his or her own country.	The voluntary repatriation of refugees will soon be phased out.
597	Repeatedly	Adverb	Over and over again; constantly.	They have been warned repeatedly with no effect.
598	Repercussion	Noun	An unintended consequence of an event or action, especially an unwelcome one.	The move would have grave repercussions for the entire region.
599	Reprimand	Noun	A formal expression of disapproval.	The golfer received a reprimand for a breach of rules.
600	Reservoir	Noun	A large natural or artificial lake used as a source of water supply.	The more water we use, the more land has to be flooded for reservoirs.
601	Resigned	Adjective	Being in a position of having accepted something unpleasant that one cannot do anything about.	My response is a resigned shrug of the shoulders.
602	Resultant	Adjective	To occur as a result or consequence of something.	If prices go up, the resultant cost of living will be too high.
603	Resuscitate	Verb	Revive (someone) from unconsciousness or apparent death.	The ambulance crew tried to resuscitate him.
604	Retrogression	Noun	The process of returning to an earlier state, typically a worse one.	Retrogression to 19th-century attitudes.
605	Reverberate	Verb	A loud noise repeatedly sounding as an echo.	Her laugh reverberates throughout the house.
606	Revolutionary	Adjective	Involving or causing a complete or dramatic change.	The changes she introduced made such a difference, they were described as revolutionary.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

607	Rheumatism	Noun	Any disease marked by inflammation and pain in the joints, muscles, or fibrous tissue	His rheumatism made it difficult for him to walk in his old age.
608	Rhythm	Noun	A strong, regular repeated pattern of movement or sound.	Ruth listened to the rhythm of his breathing.
609	Ricochet	Noun	A shot or hit that rebounds off a surface.	She was hit by a ricochet in the leg.
610	Ridiculous	Adjective	Deserving or inviting derision or mockery; absurd.	Take off that ridiculous tartan cap.
611	Rumpus	Noun	A noisy disturbance; a row.	He caused a rumpus with his flair for troublemaking.
612	Saxophone	Noun	A metal wind instrument used especially in jazz and dance music.	He plays the saxophone at the jazz club around the corner for small audiences.
613	Scarcity	Noun	The state of being scarce or in short supply; shortage.	There is a time of plenty and a time of scarcity.
614	Scenery	Noun	The natural features of a landscape considered in terms of their appearance, especially when picturesque.	The farm offers spectacular views of mountain scenery.
615	Skeptical	Adjective	Not easily convinced; having doubts or reservations.	I could see that though I had convinced some of the audience, many remained skeptical.
616	Scientific	Adjective	Based on or characterized by the methods and principles of science.	His paper was on the scientific study of earthquakes.
617	Scissors	Noun	An instrument used for cutting cloth, paper, and other material, consisting of two blades laid one on top of the other and fastened in the middle so as to allow them to be opened and closed by a thumb and finger inserted through rings on the end of their	As the fish swims, the tail lobes open and close in a slight scissor action.
618	Scrupulous	Adjective	(Of a person or process) careful, thorough, and extremely attentive to details.	The research has been carried out with scrupulous attention to detail.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

619	Seizure	Noun	The action of capturing someone or something using force.	The seizure of the Assembly building was considered a crime.
620	Semiquaver	Noun	A note having the time value of a sixteenth of a semibreve or half a quaver, represented by a large dot with a two-hooked stem.	She wrote two bars of accompanying semiquavers in the violas.
621	Sensationalism	Noun	The presentation of stories in a way that is intended to provoke public interest or excitement, at the expense of accuracy.	The article was so unbelievably violent that the newspaper that printed it was accused of sensationalism.
622	Septicemia	Noun	Blood poisoning, especially that caused by bacteria or their toxins.	She was diagnosed with septicemia during her pregnancy, and she was told it might endanger her baby.
623	Sequence	Noun	A particular order in which related things follow each other.	The content of the program should follow a logical sequence.
624	Serendipity	Noun	The occurrence and development of events by chance in a happy or beneficial way	It was pure serendipity that they should have met each other at exactly the right time.
625	Shriek	Verb	Utter a high-pitched piercing sound or words, especially as an expression of terror, pain, or excitement.	The audience shrieked with laughter.
626	Sincerity	Noun	The absence of pretense, deceit, or hypocrisy.	The sincerity of his beliefs is unquestionable.
627	Skirmish	Noun	An episode of irregular or unpremeditated fighting, especially between small or outlying parts of armies or fleets.	The unit was caught in several skirmishes and the commanding officer was killed.
628	Solitaire	Noun	A diamond or other gem set in a piece of jewelry by itself.	A diamond solitaire.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

629	Somnambulist	Noun	Sleepwalker	Last night we discovered that Betty is a somnambulist when we caught her outside the house.
630	Sophisticated	Adjective	Having, revealing, or involving a great deal of worldly experience and knowledge of fashion and culture.	His dressing showed a sophisticated sense of style.
631	Souvenir	Noun	A thing that is kept as a reminder of a person, place, or event.	The recording provides a souvenir of a great production.
632	Spacious	Adjective	(Especially of a room or building) having ample space.	The hotel has a spacious lounge and TV room
633	Sphinx	Noun	Figure with a lion's body and man's or animal head	The sphinx was a common sight in many cities of ancient Egypt.
634	Splendid	Adjective	Magnificent; very impressive	I got a splendid view of Windsor Castle.
635	Squalor	Noun	Dirty and unpleasant conditions.	Many people in Africa live in squalor.
636	Squeegee	Verb	Clean or scrape with a squeegee.	Squeegee the shower doors while the surface is still wet.
637	Stationary	Adjective	Not moving; not intended to be moved not changing in condition or quantity.	The bus remained stationary after the collision.
638	Stethoscope	Noun	An instrument that a doctor uses to listen to somebody's heart and breathing	The doctor carefully placed the stethoscope on the patient's chest.
639	Submerging	Verb	Cause (something) to be under water.	Houses had been flooded and cars submerged.
640	Subpoena	Verb	Summon (someone) with a subpoena.	The Queen is above the law and cannot be subpoenaed.
641	Succession	Noun	A number of people or things of a similar kind following one after the other.	She has been secretary to a succession of board directors.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

642	Summarization	Noun	The act of summarizing.	The teacher gave us a brief summarization on the history of Christmas day.
643	Superintendent	Noun	A person who manages or superintends an organization or activity.	The southern area superintendent called a meeting today.
644	Surreptitious	Adjective	Kept secret, especially because it would not be approved of.	Low wages were supplemented by surreptitious payments from tradesmen.
645	Surveillance	Noun	Close observation, especially of a suspected spy or criminal.	He found himself put under surveillance by British military intelligence.
646	Syllable	Noun	Any of the units into which a word is divided, containing a vowel sound of and usually one or more consonants.	My surname has three syllables when you spell it.
647	Symmetrical	Adjective	Made up of exactly similar parts facing each other or around an axis; showing symmetry.	The shape of that hill is smooth and symmetrical.
648	Symmetry	Noun	The exact match in size and shape between two halves, parts or sides of something	The center line made a clear symmetry of the sides of the ground, that each of the two opposing teams had to stand.
649	Sympathetic	Adjective	feeling, showing, or expressing sympathy	She was sympathetic towards staff with family problems
650	Symposium	Noun	A conference or meeting to discuss a particular subject.	The DBE organizes a Physical Education symposium every year.
651	Synchronization	Noun	the operation or activity of two or more things at the same time or rate	Lack of synchronization between the dancers made it look clumsy
652	Synonym	Noun	A word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language, for example shut is a synonym of close.	'The East' was a synonym for the Soviet Empire.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

653	Tambourine	Noun	A percussion instrument resembling a shallow drum with metal discs in slots around the edge, played by being shaken or hit with the hand.	She plays the tambourine in the band.
654	Tautology	Noun	The saying of the same thing twice over in different words, generally considered being a fault of style.	Tautology is a common problem in the essays of many high school pupils.
655	Technique	Noun	A way of carrying out a particular task, especially the execution or performance of an artistic work or a scientific procedure.	She introduced a new technique that reduced the risks of post- operation infection.
656	Tenacious	Adverb	With a firm hold of something; closely.	He tenaciously gripped the struts to keep from falling.
657	Testimony	Noun	A formal written or spoken statement, especially one given in a court of law.	The testimony of an eyewitness.
658	Therapeutic	Adjective	Relating to the healing of a disease or psychological affliction.	Many people with heavy troubles find art to be therapeutic.
659	Thesaurus	Noun	A book that lists words in groups of synonyms and related concepts.	A thesaurus is a very useful book when one wishes to avoid using the same term throughout the essay.
660	Thorough	Adjective	Complete with regard to every detail; not superficial or partial.	Planners need a thorough understanding of the subject.
661	Thousandth	Adjective	Last in order of a series of a thousand.	For the thousandth time, stop making noise.
662	Threatening	Adjective	Having a hostile or deliberately frightening quality or manner.	Her mother had received a threatening letter when she called the police.
663	Thyroid	Noun	A large ductless gland in the neck which secretes hormones regulating growth and development through the rate of metabolism.	The doctor did some blood tests to check if my thyroid is functioning properly.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

664	Tormenting	Adjective	Inflicting severe physical or mental suffering.	The confession granted him peace from his tormenting thoughts.
665	Tortoise	Noun	A slow-moving typically herbivorous land reptile of warm climates, enclosed in a scaly or leathery domed shell into which it can retract its head and thick legs.	I am naturally slow, so I am always called a tortoise.
666	Tournament	Noun	(In a sport or game) a series of contests between a number of competitors, competing for an overall prize.	Our company will hold the Annual Golf Tournament this coming weekend.
667	Trafficker	Noun	A person who deals or trades in something illegal.	The convicted drug trafficker will spend the rest of his life in jail.
668	Tranquility	Noun	The quality or state of being tranquil or calm.	An atmosphere of tranquility lay
669	Transparently	Adverb	In an honest and open manner.	She transparently articulated the thought process she has gone through
670	Trapezium	Noun	A quadrilateral with one pair of sides parallel.	Geometry is a lot of fun, today we learnt about the parallel sides of a trapezium.
671	Treasurer	Noun	A person appointed to administer or manage the financial assets and liabilities of a society, company, local authority, or other body.	Mr. Mkhize is the Treasurer of the local Football Club.
672	Tribulation	Noun	A cause of great trouble or suffering.	The tribulations of being a megastar.
673	Triceratops	Noun	A large quadruped herbivorous dinosaur living at the end of the Cretaceous period, having a massive head with two large horns, a smaller horn on the beaked snout, and a bony frill above the neck.	Unfortunately, triceratopses are now extinct.
674	Triumphant	Adjective	Having won a battle or contest; victorious.	Two of their Triumphant Cup team players will be travelling to another province for the celebrations.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

675	Trousseau	Noun	The clothes, linen, and other belongings collected by a bride for her marriage.	The bride started collecting her trousseau a year before her
676	Tuberculosis	Noun	An infectious bacterial disease characterized by the growth of nodules (tubercles) in the tissues, especially the lungs.	Also known as TB, tuberculosis can be treated over a six- month period, otherwise it can be fatal.
677	Turbulence	Noun	Violent or unsteady movement of air or water, or of some other fluid.	The plane shuddered as it entered some turbulence.
678	Turquoise	Noun	A greenish-blue color.	The turquoise waters of the bay.
679	Typhoid	Noun	An infectious bacterial fever with an eruption of red spots on the chest and abdomen and severe intestinal irritation.	Typhoid is a terrible disease that can wipe out communities if left unattended.
680	Ubiquitous	Adjective	Seeming to be everywhere or in several places at the same time.	The ubiquitous bicycle of university town.
681	Unanimously	Adverb	Agreement of all people involved without opposition.	The club members unanimously voted for her as president for the second time.
682	Unappetizing	Adjective	Not inviting or attractive; unwholesome.	They were all too polite to say how unappetizing the food looked.
683	Unceremonious	Adjective	To do something with a lack of courtesy or respect; rough or abrupt.	He found the unceremonious way she introduced herself to be extremely rude.
684	Uncountable	Adjective	Too many to be counted (usually in hyperbolic use).	She'd spent uncountable nights in
685	Unequivocally	Adverb	In a way that is clear and unambiguous.	He was unequivocally responsible for the missing money.
686	Unobtrusive	Adjective	Not conspicuous or attracting attention.	The service was unobtrusive and efficient.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

687	Unscrupulous	Adjective	Having or showing no moral principles; not honest or fair.	Unscrupulous landlords might be tempted to harass existing tenants.
688	Upholstery	Noun	Soft, padded textile covering that is fixed to furniture such as armchairs and sofas.	Leather upholstery is easy to clean.
689	Vaccination	Noun	Treatment with a vaccine to produce immunity against a disease; inoculation.	Vaccination against yellow fever is essential.
690	Vengeance	Noun	Punishment inflicted or retribution exacted for an injury or wrong.	The father is ready to exact vengeance on the culprits who beat his son.
691	Vertebrates	Noun	An animal of a large group distinguished by the possession of a backbone or spinal column, including mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fishes.	The kidneys of mammals are more compact and definite in form than those of other vertebrates.
692	Vicious	Adjective	Deliberately cruel or violent.	A vicious assault should be reported to the police.
693	Vicissitude	Noun	A variation in circumstances or fortune.	We are all victims to the vicissitude of time.
694	Vigorously	Adverb	In a way that involves physical strength, effort, or energy; strenuously.	She shook her head vigorously.
695	Visualize	Verb	Form a mental image of; imagine.	It is not easy to visualize the future.
696	Vociferous	Adjective	Expressing or characterized by vehement opinions; loud and forceful.	He was a vociferous opponent of the takeover.
697	Vulgarity	Noun	The state or quality of being vulgar.	His bad manners and offensive language gave him a reputation for vulgarity.
698	Vulnerable	Adjective	To be exposed to the possibility of being attacked or harmed, either physically or emotionally.	His sensitivity and trusting nature made him vulnerable.
699	Yachtsman	Noun	A person who sails a yacht for pleasure or as sport.	The yachtsman sailed around the world.



AALC 2020 SPELLING BEE

700	Yearning	Noun	A feeling of intense longing for something.	He felt a deep yearning for the home of his childhood.
-----	----------	------	---	--