



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Spelling Bee 7-9th Junior High Practice Word List

Updated 8/26/25

- The 7-9th Grade Finals on **Wednesday, December 3, 2025**, will be a **written** competition.
- At the final competition on **Wednesday, December 3, 2025**, the spell master will read the word, use it in a sentence and then read the word again. Definitions will be provided by the spell master upon request.
- Pronunciations and meanings have been eliminated from this word list to encourage the use of a dictionary, or other sources you deem appropriate.
- The words for Rounds 1 & 2 will be selected from this practice list.

Junior High Spelling Bee Practice Word List

abbreviate	abdicate	abode
abstraction	abundant	abusive
abyss	accomplice	accordion
accumulate	acerbate	acetone
acme	acolyte	acoustic
acquittal	acumen	adequacy
adroitness	advocate	affidavit
affluent	aggregate	agitation
agriculture	agronomy	aisle
alabaster	alkaline	allay
allegory	alleviate	alliance
alligator	alloy	alluvium
almanac	alpinist	alteration
amateur	ambrosia	amiable
analyze	anarchy	anchovy
angstroms	anomaly	antenna
antics	antonym	anxiety
aortic	appreciate	arrogance
arsenal	aspersion	austere
axiom	bachelor	bailiff
basalt	basilica	bastion
battalion	bauble	bayonet
bayou	beatific	bedazzle
behemoth	beneficence	beret
berserk	betrothal	bevy
bibelot	bifurcate	bilious
blatant	blithe	blunder

boar	bogus	boloney
bolshevism	bonhomie	brogan
brouhaha	buoyant	bureaucracy
burgundy	buttress	cachet
calibrate	calypso	candor
caramel	carbine	careen
caribou	caricature	castanets
cathartic	cauliflower	chambray
champagne	chapeau	charisma
chateau	chic	chimera
chivalry	choreographer	chromatic
cicada	clairvoyance	clavicle
clemency	coincidence	collage
collateral	colloquial	cologne
colossal	comatose	concierge
confabulate	confetti	confidence
conspiracy	constraint	construe
consultant	contagious	contempt
contour	contradict	contrary
contrive	convoluted	corrupt
countenance	covenant	cranium
crimson	crotchety	crucible
cruelty	crypt	cuckoo
cyanide	dazzle	declination
decrepit	delirious	delta
despotism	deterrent	detonate
detriment	dexterous	dichotomy
diesel	digit	disintegration
dismantle	disquietude	dissident
distraught	diversify	dormancy
dour	druid	ductile
dungeon	duplicate	duress
elocution	elysian	emancipation

embassy	embellish	embodiment
embryonic	emollient	emphasis
emphatic	emporium	emulate
enamel	endorse	enmity
enthusiasm	enumerate	environment
epidermis	equanimity	equestrian
equivocation	erratic	espionage
ethnic	euphoric	exaggerate
exhilarated	exhume	exigent
exodus	exotic	expatriate
expertise	expiate	explicit
exponential	extinguish	extortion
extraneous	fabricate	facile
factitious	falderal	fallacy
feasible	fedora	felicitation
femur	ferocity	festoon
fidelity	filament	filibuster
finesse	flagrant	flourish
fluctuate	fluid	flummery
foppish	forfeit	formulation
forte	fractious	fragility
franchise	fraternize	friar
frivolous	frugal	fumigate
galaxy	galleon	garlic
garrison	garrote	gauche
gendarme	germane	ghastly
gladiator	globule	googol
gossamer	gradient	graffiti
gratitude	gravitate	grievance
guarantee	hacienda	halcyon
harbinger	haughtily	heifer
heirloom	hemisphere	hermit
hilarity	homburg	hooligan

horde	howitzer	huckleberry
humorous	hurricane	hyphenate
hysterical	icicle	igneous
ignominy	immaculate	impasse
impassive	impenetrable	impertinent
impromptu	impropriety	improvisational
impulse	inaugural	incendiary
incisiveness	incoherent	incongruous
incredulous	indelible	indigent
indivisible	indolent	indulgent
inept	infatuation	infectious
innate	inorganic	interference
interrogate	intimidate	intrepid
jaundice	jealousy	jeopardy
jettison	jocund	jostle
jubilant	kerosene	kinesiology
knavery	kudos	lambaste
languid	lantern	larceny
largesse	lassitude	league
legume	lightning	liturgy
loafer	loathe	lobster
localize	lubricate	lucrative
lummoX	luster	macabre
magenta	magisterial	malediction
malicious	malleable	mandible
manganese	mantilla	marathon
marionette	marzipan	massacre
masticate	mauve	mediocre
melancholy	melanoma	meliorate
metamorphosis	migratory	mimeograph
mimic	miscellaneous	misconception
miserable	mitigate	monotonous
multiplier	nectar	negativism

negligence	nettlesome	neurologist
nocuous	nomad	nomenclature
nonchalant	notorious	nourishment
nullify	oblivion	occupancy
occurrence	ocelot	odious
odometer	officious	ointment
oligarchy	onus	optimistic
oscillation	ostrich	outrageous
oxidize	oxymoron	pachyderm
palaver	palfrey	palooka
panache	paprika	paralyze
parenthesis	pastry	pathetic
patrician	patriotism	pavilion
peccadillo	pecuniary	pedigree
peculate	pellucid	peninsula
penury	perceptible	perennial
perilous	perpetrator	perplex
pertinence	peruse	pessimistic
pheasant	piteous	placard
placid	plateau	platitude
plausible	plebeian	plenitude
pliancy	plutonic	pneumatic
podiatrist	poignant	poltroon
polymer	pomegranate	pomposity
porcelain	portentous	posthumous
postulate	pragmatic	praline
precipitation	predator	predecessor
predicament	predilection	premonition
primitive	privy	procrastinate
procurement	prodigal	progeny
prognosis	prologue	promontory
prompt	pronouncement	propaganda
propolis	prosaic	protoplasm

psyche	pugilist	pullet
pulpit	pursuit	purulence
purveyor	queasy	quench
querulous	quintet	quintuplet
quorum	raiment	rampant
ramshackle	raspberry	reassurance
receptacle	rectitude	redolent
regalia	reggae	regurgitate
remnant	renegade	repatriate
repertoire	reprisal	reprobate
requiem	residue	resonance
restitution	reticence	retrieval
rhetoric	rheumatic	rhizome
rhythm	ridiculous	rigorous
risotto	sabotage	sacrifice
satirical	sayonara	scaffold
scald	sciatica	scrawny
selenium	sentry	sepia
serviceable	shrapnel	shrewd
siege	simplicity	simulate
sinew	singular	sirloin
skirmish	sojourn	solemn
sorcerer	souvenir	spasmodic
spatula	spigot	sporadic
squalid	stagnant	stalwart
stenography	stevedore	strafe
strategy	stratocumulus	strictly
stroganoff	sublimation	subservience
subsidiary	sumo	superstition
suspensory	suspiciously	syndrome
tabernacle	talisman	tarantula
tenacious	testimony	theatrical
therapeutic	thievery	threshold

timbre	timorous	topaz
tragedy	tranquilizer	transparent
treacherous	trepidation	triceratops
trough	turban	turbulence
turret	tutelage	typhoid
ulcerated	ullage	ultimatum
ululate	umbrage	upholstery
urbane	urgency	usurer
usurper	utility	utopian
valedictory	vandalism	velocity
vestibule	veterans	viable
vigil	vindicate	virago
viscera	viscous	visualization
vocalize	vocation	vogue
volunteer	voracity	vortex
vulgarity	vulpine	wainscot
wallop	waltz	wampum
weevil	wheelbarrow	whimsical
wizardry	wreckage	wrought
yearling	zealot	zeppelin
zilch	zodiac	zoologist
zwieback	zygote	zymurgy