"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

Arabic Words
- azure: bright blue
- islamic: Muslim religion
- sultan: Muslim king
- artichoke: thistlelike vegetable
- mummy: well preserved dead body
- tarragon: an herb to flavor food
- adobe: dried mud & straw brick
- mohair: goat wool
- borax: mineral used as cleansing agent
- talc: soft mineral used in talcum powder
- arsenal: collection of weapons; place where weapons are made or stored
- lemon: yellow citrus fruit
- tuna: a large fish
- admiral: commander in the navy
- hazard: source of danger
- apricot: a pitted fruit
- carmine: bright red; a red lake used to make food coloring or cosmetics
- monsoon: season of heavy rains
- average: typical; a mid-point; a calculated mid-number
- gazelle: African horned animal
- crimson: red
- orange: a citrus fruit
- sequin: shiny metal decoration
- macramé: textile; tying knots for decoration
- algebra: branch of math
- guitar: stringed musical instrument
- nabob: important person
- giraffe: long neck animal
- mattress: bed material
- elixir: magical liquid medicine
- saffron: orange powder from a flower used to flavor food
- cotton: fabric from a plant
- albatross: large water bird
- zero: integer less than one
- safari: African hunting trip
- magazine: thin paper book; also bullets in a gun
- zenith: sun's highest point
- alfalfa: a plant as food for animals
- imam: Islamic prayer leader
- mosque: Islamic place of worship
- alcohol: strong liquid found in beer, wine, some medicines, etc.
- tariff: tax on imports & exports
- lilac: purple flower
- alcove: small recessed room
- massage: rubbing & pressing someone's body
- henna: brown hair/skin dye
- alchemy: medieval science seeking to create gold
- sugar: sweet substance from plants
- taj: a Muslim hat
- mahal: mansion, palace
- khan: rest house
- ghoul: story creature who eats dead bodies
- muslin: thin cotton cloth
- camphor: tough gumlike substance
- algorithm: steps in mathematical problem solving
- minaret: tall mosque tower for calling to prayer
- tamarind: date like fruit
- carafe: glass container to serve drinks
- julep: drink of bourbon, sugar, & mint
- marzipan: paste of almond, sugar, & eggs
- nenufar: water lily
- alcazar: Spanish palace
- tahini: paste of sesame seeds
- Qatari: citizen of Qatar
- alkali: salt of potassium or sodium carbonate
- serendipity: finding good things without looking for them
- nadir: lowest point
- douane: customhouse
- fennec: small Arabian fox
- hafiz: Muslim who memorized the Koran
- azimuth: arc of the horizon
- bezoar: medicine; magical intestinal stone
- halal: Muslim law for eating
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

alim: Muslim educated in religious matters
Swahili: an African language
serdab: cool basement living room
mihrab: chamber in a Mosque facing Mecca
salaam: greeting bow
mukhtar: head of the local government
khor: watercourse, ravine
foggara: underground conduit for water in the desert
diffa: a banquet; reception
coffle: train of slaves tied together
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

**Eponym Words**
- praline: candied almonds or pecans
- magnolia: tree w/ large flowers
- boysenberry: cross of blackberry & raspberry
- hosta: lily w/ attractive leaves
- poinsettia: Mexican plant w/ red bracts
- macadamia: Hawaiian nut
- salmonella: poisonous bacteria
- newton: measurement of force
- saxophone: musical instrument
- tortoni: almond/cherry ice cream
- greengage: green/yellow plums
- angstrom: microscopic measurement of length
- gardenia: large white flower
- melba: dessert
- tantalize: cause someone to want something they can't have
- zinnia: garden plant w/ showy flowers
- quisling: traitor; puppet ruler
- begonia: garden flower
- samaritan: one who helps people in trouble
- panglossian: overly optimistic
- quixote: foolish idealism; impractical
- jeremiad: constant complaint
- hector: a bully
- geronimo: battle cry when jumping out of a plane
- shrapnel: flying metal from a bomb
- vulcanize: treat something with hot chemicals to harden it
- frankenstein: monstrous creation that destroys its creator
- boswell: person who records every detail of a famous person's life
- ampere: unit of electric current
- cupid: person who loves money too much
- fletcherism: eat small bites & chew before swallowing
- yahoo: noisy, rude person
- diesel: type of engine & fuel
- bandersnatch: an extremely weird person
- crusoe: a surviving castaway
- mentor: giver of advice to a younger person
- dracula: person who saps the strength out of another
- forsythia: shrub w/ yellow flowers
- madeleine: shell shaped cake
- bromeliad: tropical plant w/ colorful bracts or flowers
- mercerize: process to improve color of cotton fabric
- fahrenheit: unit of heat measurement
- narcissistic: loving self too much
- dahlia: large garden flower
- baedeker: guidebook to a country
- philippic: angry rant or complaint
- guillotine: beheading machine
- bobadil: loud mouthed braggart
- mesmerize: hold someone's total attention
- gnathonic: deceitful flattering
- pasteurize: kill food germs w/ medium heat
- croesus: very wealthy person
- bragadocio: arrogant behavior
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

**Slavic Words**
gulag: soviet labor camp
parka: warm hooded jacket
Slav: central European person speaking
    a Slavic language
samovar: Russian tea urn
kremlin: soviet government leaders; also
    main government building in Moscow
troika: group of 3 equal government rulers
slave: person forced to work without pay
mammoth: huge giant
siberian: relating to the Russian region
    of Siberia
tundra: treeless arctic region
permian: a geological time period
kishke: Eastern European sausage
glasnost: policy of more open Soviet
    government
paprika: red pepper
sable: expensive fur of a Siberian marten
kasha: cooked buckwheat like oatmeal
nebbish: pitifully timid man
polka: quick dance of 4 steps
bolshevik: Russian communist political
    party
vampire: a dead person who drinks blood of
    a living person at night
sputnik: first Russian space satellite
knish: fried dumpling w/ filling
cravat: fabric worn around a man's neck
babushka: woman's head scarf; also a
    Russian grandmother
soviet: relating to the former soviet union
borzoi: large Russian dog
gopak: Ukrainian men's dance
cheka: Soviet secret police
sevruga: sturgeon fish from the Black Sea
trepak: men's Ukrainian dance w/ leg kicking
babka: Polish raisin coffee cake
purga: sudden removal of unwanted people;
    also ridding anything unwanted
baba: syrup soaked sponge cake
cossack: people of southern Russia

**Other Languages**
nelma: freshwater whitefish
kovsh: boot shaped drinking vessel
lokshen: Yiddish noodle
feldsher: rural health care worker
barabara: traditional Aluetian Island house
aul: mountain or desert settlement in the
    Caucasus
balalaika: Russian 3 stringed instrument
kielbasa: Polish smoked sausage
tchotchke: knicknacks
barukhzy: Afghan hound
perestroika: Soviet policy of economic reform
apparatchik: obedient member of an
    organization
commissar: one who controls public opinion
    and expression
tokamak: device for producing nuclear fusion
pogrom: organized killing of helpless
    people because of their race or religion
taiga: subarctic evergreen forest
beetewk: heavy draft horse
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

Dutch Words

cockatoo: an Australian parrot
ekessel: rebuke with severity; punishment by dragging someone under a ship’s keel
harpoon: barbed spear on a rope
furlough: leave of absence
bowery: Dutch plantation or farm
easel: a stand for holding an artist’s work
holster: holder for carrying a handgun
freebooter: pillage outside of declared warfare
waffle: fail to make up one’s mind
trawl: fishing with a net
uproar: loud disturbance
beleaguer: lay siege to
crueller: small fried cake
yacht: medium sized sailboat
wiseacre: a know-it-all; smart aleck
brackish: slightly salt water
decoy: imitation bird used by hunters
caboose: last car of the train used by employees
buckwheat: plant with starchy seeds milled for flour
walrus: large marine mammal w/ tusks
howitzer: short cannon
crimp: press something into ruffles
bluff: pretend in order to deceive; also an elevated coastline
stipple: paint with many small dots
floss: silk from silkworm’s cocoon; also clean between one’s teeth
cruiser: fast warship
hustle: move hurriedly
klompen: wooden shoes, clogs
polder: low land reclaimed from the sea
bundle: collection of things
catkin: flowering spike of trees
splice: join by weaving strands
Flemish: a Dutch Flanders language
grapple: search by feeling with hands
huckster: seller of small things
frolic: move about cheerfully
ravel: untangle something
tattle: report another’s wrongdoing
scum: layer of dirt on a liquid
trek: a long journey usually on foot
scrabble: scratch with fingers to find something
clapboard: long overlapping pieces of wood to cover outer walls of a building
gruff: abrupt in manner
isinglass: gelatin from fish used to make jellies
excise: tax on goods sold within a country
blister: bubble of skin filled with liquid
rabbit: long eared mammal
package: wrapped object
muddle: bring to a disordered state
handsome: good looking (man); also a good sum of money
foist: impose an unwelcome thing on
staple: bent wire used to fasten paper
gulden: money unit of Netherlands, same as a guilder
mart: a market
screen: moveable upright partition
guilder: money unit of Netherlands
etch: engrave metal, glass, or stone
Netherlander: citizen of Netherlands
dune: mound of sand
croon: sing in a soft, sentimental way
ticket: piece of paper that allows entrance
buckwagon: large strong wagon
hock: upper part of a horse’s hind leg
boodle: group or collection of people or money
guy: a man
daffodil: a spring flower
loiter: wait around without purpose
potash: alkaline potassium compound
scow: wide sailing boat
wintergreen: small evergreen shrub
trigger: small device pulled to fire a gun; also to cause something to happen
stripe: long narrow strip
bruin: a bear
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

skipper: captain of a ship
waywiser: surveyor’s wheel; device for measuring distance
spoor: the track of an animal
mizzle: light rain
school: place for education
pickle: small cucumber preserved in brine
snuff: put out a candle
mynheer: sir; mister
waterzooi: a Belgian stew
flense: slice the fat from a whale
muishond: south African weasel
witloof: chicory salad greens like lettuce
springbok: south African gazelle
maelstrom: powerful whirlpool
bobbejaan: a baboon
keeshond: a Dutch dog
voortrekker: 19th Century South African pioneer
uitlander: British immigrant to Dutch African colony who was denied citizenship
hollandaise: sauce made of eggs and butter with lemon
galjoen: south African sport fish
schipperke: a dog, a Belgian breed of dog
apartheid: South African racial segregation
hartebeest: large African antelope
keest: inner part of a body
wainscot: wooden paneling on the lower part of a wall
roodebok: African impala
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

Old English Words

quell: put an end to
barrow: a wheelbarrow
dearth: a lack of something
bower: shady place under a tree
paddock: place where horses exercise
blithe: cheerful attitude
keen: having eagerness or enthusiasm
mongrel: dog of no special breed
reckless: behaving without care of consequences
alderman: elected member of a city council
whirlpool: rapidly spinning water
belay: tie a rope around something to secure it
cleanser: a material used to clean something
dreary: depressing, gloomy
bequeath: leave personal possessions to someone
sallow: unhealthy yellow color of a face
dross: worthless rubbish, garbage
lithe: thin and graceful body; agile
gristle: tough tissue in meat
earwig: elongated insect with pincers
fickle: changing interest often
nestle: lie comfortably in something
fennel: feathery leaf plant similar to parsley
nostril: openings of the nose
abide: act according to the rule
behest: a person’s command or orders
slaughter: kill an animal for food; also violent killing of persons
gospel: Christian teachings about Jesus
furlong: 1/8 of a mile, 220 yards
linseed: flax seeds grown for oil used in paint and varnish
nether: lower in position
fathom: depth of water of 6 feet
nightingale: brown bird w/ a beautiful song
farthing: old coin of England
threshold: bottom of a doorway
kith: friends, relatives

want: disregard for others;
also immoral (woman)
loam: fertile soil
yield: to produce products; also give way to pressure
mattock: hand tool for digging & chopping
hawthorn: thorny, flowering tree
tithe: give 10% of one’s income
behoove: a duty for someone to do something
forlorn: pitifully sad, lonely
quiver: shake, tremble
hustings: a meeting where political candidates speak to voters
aspen: tree; a type of poplar tree
mermaid: sea creature w/ upper body of a woman and tail of a fish
anvil: heavy steel block used in hammering metal
barley: cereal grain grown for beer & bread
linden: soft timbered tree
hassock: padded cushion
orchard: land planted w/ fruit trees
hearth: floor of a fireplace
watery: containing water
fiend: an evil spirit
goatee: small beard on the chin
earthenware: pottery made of clay
windily: using too many words
dealership: business of selling another company’s product
bookkeeping: record business receipts and payables
fiery: burning strongly
learned: highly educated
nosiest: making the most noise
creepy: causing unpleasant feelings
errand: short trip to deliver or get something
daily: every day
gnat: a very small fly
broadleaf: a wide flat leaf
stringy: made of many strings
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

dairy: made from milk; also the place where milk is prepared
workmanship: the quality of work done
newfangled: different from what one is used to;
timely: happening at the right time
dogged: will not stop trying
mootable: open to debate
womanly: female qualities
manhandle: treat roughly
folksiness: in the style of the common people or culture, usually fake
worrisome: causing worry
roughhewn: cut roughly without a fine finish or refinement
knavery: dishonesty
hurdle: obstacle to be jumped over
kipper: to smoke fish or meat
hundredth: ordinal number 100
icicle: hanging piece of ice
pinafore: sleeveless apron
yieldable: can bend without breaking
hue: a shade of a color
heifer: a young cow that has not yet had a calf
mistletoe: parasitic plant w/ white winter berries
salve: healing ointment for the skin
kirtle: woman’s gown
Wiccan: religion of magical powers
shrieval: relating to a sheriff
chary: reluctant to do something
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

New World Words
condor: large vulture
iguana: large lizard
hurricane: tropical cyclone storm
kahuna: wise man; master of religious lore
hogan: Navajo log hut
jerky: sudden starts and stops; also a strip of dried meat
muskrat: large water rodent
hominy: coarsely ground corn
wigwam: dome shaped Indian hut
pampas: S. American treeless plains
caribou: reindeer
toboggan: sled
persimmon: sweet fruit like a tomato
quinine: bitter compound for making tonic water to cure malaria
powwow: American Indian ceremony w/ dancing, singing, & feasting
bayou: marshy river
coyote: dog-like animal
tamale: Mexican dish of meat & cornmeal
poi: Hawaiian dish of taro root
cashew: nut from tropical America
luau: Hawaiian feast
totem: spiritually important natural object
mahimahi: edible Hawaiian fish
hickory: N. American tree w/ useful timber, nuts, & barbecue smoke
cacao: beans for making chocolate
kona: Hawaiian winter wind
malihini: Hawaiian tourist
wikiwiki: quick, fast	
tuckahoe: nickname of a person from Virginia; also root eaten by N. American Indians
pecan: nut similar to walnut
chocolate: food made from cacao beans
muumuu: Hawaiian dress
puma: mountain lion

maraca: gourd shaped percussion instrument
petunia: garden flower
jaguar: large spotted S. American cat
buccaneer: a pirate
llama: S. American animal of camel family
succotash: dish of corn & lima beans
cacus: a desert plant
wampum: N. American Indian beads strung
molé: Mexican chocolate sauce
toucan: tropical bird w/ huge bill
opossum: American marsupial
terrapin: eastern American edible turtle
ocelot: medium-sized wild cat
hoomalimali: decoration to attract attention
coati: racoonlike animal
jacamar: tropical American bird
ipeca: drug used to cause vomiting
menhaden: large herring fish
sachem: leader of a political party
tomato: a red fruit
### Spell It: Words from Other Languages

#### Japanese Words
- **ninja**: martial arts warrior
- **sushi**: dish of raw fish & rice
- **tofu**: soybean curd
- **shogun**: war lord
- **honcho**: person in charge
- **karate**: unarmed martial arts
- **samurai**: member of military caste
- **teriyaki**: dish of grilled meat & soy sauce
- **sashimi**: dish of raw fish w/ wasabi
- **tsunami**: wave caused by earthquake
- **haiku**: 17 syllable poem
- **futon**: quilted floor mattress
- **mikado**: title of the emperor
- **hibachi**: small grill
- **origami**: folded paper art
- **geisha**: hostess to entertain men
- **wasabi**: paste like horseradish
- **ramen**: noodles
- **kudzu**: vine
- **banzai**: war cry
- **tycoon**: powerful businessman
- **sumo**: heavyweight wrestling
- **koan**: Buddhist riddle
- **satori**: Buddhist sudden spiritual awakening
- **tatami**: straw mat floor covering
- **kami**: sacred power; Shinto divine being
- **sukiyaki**: dish of fried meat & vegetables
- **kuruma**: car or any other vehicle
- **Meiji**: historical period of modernization during reign of Emperor Mutsuhito
- **Romaji**: writing using Roman alphabet
- **odorii**: aromatics in a recipe
- **miso**: soup made with soybean paste
- **kabuki**: bizarre, elaborate, stylized drama
- **geta**: Japanese wooden shoe
- **sayonara**: goodbye
- **karaoke**: singing w/ prerecorded backing music
- **issei**: living in U.S., born in Japan
- **nisei**: born in U.S. w/ parents from Japan
- **sansei**: born in U.S., grandparents from Japan
- **kibei**: born in U.S., educated in Japan, then returned to the U.S.
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

Greek Words
- lethargy: lack of energy
- android: robot that looks human
- chronic: always happens
- biopsy: remove body tissue & examine it
- irony: opposite of what was expected
- enthusiasm: strong excitement
- synopsis: short summary
- homogeneous: all of the same kind
- odyssey: long journey of adventure
- megalopolis: large city
- acme: highest point or highest stage
- synonym: words w/ similar meanings
- orthodox: traditional beliefs
- aristocracy: highest social class
- calypso: style of singing
- patriarch: oldest man of the family
- hierarchy: rank order of authority
- character: someone's personality
- isobar: line on a map showing barometric pressure
- asterisk: star shaped character in printed text (*)
- eclectic: choosing best of many styles
- melancholy: depressed spirits
- stoic: does not complain
- chronology: in time order
- eulogy: speech about someone dead
- didactic: intended to teach
- cosmetic: to make something look better
- Spartan: self-discipline & self-denial
- geothermal: heat from inside the earth
- cynical: distrustful
- homonym: words sound the same but mean different things
- cryptic: having secret meaning
- hypothesis: theory that needs study
- academy: school for training & education
- pentathlon: sports contest of 5 events
- antibiotic: kills germs
- diatribe: angry, critical speech
- etymology: history of a word
- hydraulic: operated by fluid pressure
- trauma: serious physical or emotional injury
- hygiene: keeping yourself clean
- semantics: study of word meanings
- thesaurus: book of word synonyms
- phenomenon: observable facts
- cosmos: universe
- protagonist: main character in a story
- acronym: word formed by the first letter of each word in a phrase
- paradox: saying two opposite things but is still true
- synchronous: happening at the same time
- misanthropy: hatred of people
- sarcasm: words that mean the opposite of what you really want to say
- ephemeral: lasting a very short time
- polygon: closed figure with straight lines
- nemesis: worst enemy
- syntax: how words make sentences
- eureka: express excitement about discovery
- topography: map making showing shape of the land
- panic: extreme fear
- apostrophe: mark (') used to show a missing letter
- geranium: garden flower
- metaphor: show similarity of two things without "like" or "as"
- spherical: shaped like a ball
- xylophone: tune metal bars musical instrument
- dynamic: showing active energy
- myriad: large number of things
- epiphany: sudden awakening
- apathy: lack of interest
- synergy: combined action
- amnesia: loss of memory
- philanthropy: goodwill toward people
- democracy: people choose government leaders
- strategy: plans to achieve a goal
- diagnosis: identify a disease
- topical: related to a topic; also apply to skin
- topical: related to a topic; also apply to skin
matriarch: oldest woman in the family
endemic: common to an area
analysis: careful study
rhetoric: the art of speaking
eponym: named after a person
agnostic: person who is not sure something is true; not sure there is a god
dogma: unquestioned group belief
idiom: expression which has its own separate meaning
thermal: heat
dyslexia: condition making it hard to learn to read
Olympian: athlete in Olympic games
allegory: story where characters stand for ideas about life
pragmatic: deal with problems in a logical way
adamant: unyielding opinion
protocol: rules of formal behavior
tragic: strong feelings of sadness
hydrology: science of water
polymer: a chemical compound
notochond: long rod of cells
biblical: from the Bible
ergonomic: designing for easy use
mathematics: science of numbers
tachometer: measures how fast something turns
protein: important human food
rhinoceros: thick skin animal with 2 horns
hyphen: punctuation mark (-)
autopsy: examination of dead body
pyre: pile of wood to burn a dead body
herpetology: study of reptiles & amphibians
angelic: like an angel
tritium: radioactive isotope of hydrogen
androcentric: masculine point of view
demotic: everyday speech
gemode: stone w/ crystals inside
hedonism: pleasure is the goal of life
periscope: viewing tube used to look above something
geponics: science of cultivating the earth
asthmogenic: causing asthma attacks
monotonous: boring because it's always the same thing repeated
amphibious: adapted to land & water
symbiosis: cooperative relationship; must live together
macron: mark (') placed over a long vowel
periphery: outside edge
dichotomy: difference between two contradictory groups
misogynist: hates women
hypocrisy: say one thing, do the opposite
diphthong: two vowels glide together in one syllable (oy)
mnemonic: memory strategy
anomaly: something different from the rule
zephyr: gentle breeze
hippopotamus: large water mammal
euphemism: replace an unpleasant word with a more pleasant word (dead/gone to heaven)
anachronism: things out of place for the times
metamorphosis: major physical change
hyperbole: big exaggeration
arachnid: animal w/ 8 legs, 2 body parts
paradigm: group of ideas on what to think
Eocene: a geological time
gynarchy: government by women
pneumatic: using air pressure
heremocallis: daylily
cynosure: center of attraction
philhellenism: love of all things Greek
euthanasia: kill to end suffering
philately: stamp collecting
cacophony: unpleasant loud noise
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

**German Words**

- angst: a feeling of anxiety, worry
- pretzel: thin bread usually salted
- waltz: three step dance
- haversack: bag worn over one shoulder
- nosh: to eat food; also a light meal
- sauerbraten: pot-roast marinated in vinegar
- hinterland: area not close to any city; remote area
- verboten: forbidden
- liverwurst: liver sausage
- streusel: cake w/ crumbly topping
- umlaut: two dots over a vowel to indicate pronunciation
- wanderlust: strong desire to travel
- eiderdown: downy feathers from ducks used in warm clothing
- lederhosen: leather shorts w/ suspenders
- kohlrabi: type of cabbage w/ a round stem
- sitzmark: mark left in the snow when a skier falls
- langlauf: long distance ski race
- autobahn: expressway
- Backstein: cheese shaped like a brick
- inselberg: isolated mountain
- gestalt: general quality or character of something
- einkorn: grain having one seed spikelets
- kitsch: low quality but enjoyable things
- gestapo: feared secret police
- schloss: castle
- knapsack: bag strapped on the back
- rucksack: same as a knapsack
- echt: genuine, true
- bratwurst: fresh pork sausage for frying
- feldspar: common rock mineral
- poltergeist: ghost that makes strange noises & causes things to move
- noodle: flour & egg paste formed into a ribbon; also the head, noggin; also a stupid person
- spareribs: trimmed ribs of pork
- Meistersinger: member of a guild for cultivation of music & poetry
- pumpernickel: dark rye bread
- Bildungsroman: novel about moral growth of the main character
- strudel: thin pastry dough rolled up and baked
- bagel: bread roll shaped like a ring
- hamster: small rodent often kept as a pet
- cobalt: hard silver-white metal often mixed w/ other metals to make an alloy
- nachtmusik: night music
- vorlage: forward leaning position on skis
- graupel: small snow pellets
- Wagnerian: like the music of opera composer Wagner
- cringle: loop at the corner of a sail to which a line is attached
- fife: small flute
- glitz: fancy and attractive quality
- homburg: man’s felt hat
- kuchen: coffee cake
- pitchblende: black/brown mineral and source of uranium
- spritz: spray
- prattle: talk a long time about unimportant things
- zwinger: fortress wall protecting a city
- spitz: dog w/ heavy coat & curled tail
- realschule: school for practical education
- panzer: German tank of WWII
- stollen: dessert bread w/ fruit & nuts
- dachshund: dog w/ short legs & long body
- seltzer: carbonated water w/ bubbles
- schadenfreude: enjoyment of seeing the trouble of others
- dreidel: 4 sided top for playing a Hanukkah game of chance
- weimaraner: dog, large shorthaired pointer
- ersatz: an imitation, artificial copy of something
- fräulein: young girl, unmarried woman, miss
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

blitzkrieg: fast, sudden military attack, lightning warfare

gesundheit: saying “good health” to someone who sneezed

pfeffernuss: spiced Christmas cookie

edelweiss: herb w/ woolly white flowers

glockenspiel: musical instrument w/ flat metal bars

rottweiler: dog, large, powerful guard dog

schottische: slow polka round dance

anschluss: Germany & Austria combining to form one country

wedel: ski by moving left and right

springerle: anise Christmas cookie
w/ embossed design

zeitgeber: event that sets the biological clock of an organism

pickelhaube: spiked German soldier’s helmet

schnecke: rolled-up cinnamon bun

Weissnichtwo: an imaginary place; “know not where”
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

**Italian Words**

- **staccato**: short musical notes not sounding connected
- **ballot**: piece of paper used to vote
- **confetti**: small pieces of paper thrown at celebrations
- **semolina**: wheat flour to make pasta
- **influenza**: flu virus
- **cavalry**: army on horses (past); in vehicles & helicopters (present)
- **piazza**: open public area surrounded by buildings
- **cadenza**: difficult musical solo near the end of a piece
- **pistachio**: small green nut
- **spinet**: small piano, organ, or harpsichord
- **cantata**: music for singers and instruments in sections, usually religious
- **incognito**: with a secret identity
- **vendetta**: long fight between 2 groups
- **contraband**: things brought into a country illegally
- **mascara**: makeup for eyelashes
- **graffiti**: pictures or words painted on a wall to deface it
- **credenza**: sideboard, bookcase patterned after a Renaissance credence
- **parapet**: low wall
- **falsetto**: high voice used by male singers
- **ditto**: two marks underneath a word to show the word is repeated
- **provolone**: a white Itatian cheese
- **extravaganza**: an exciting show or event
- **scampi**: dish of large shrimp in garlic sauce
- **belladonna**: poisonous nightshade plant w/ bell-shaped flowers
- **gondola**: long boat use in Venice canals; also part of an airship where passengers are carried; also vehicle on a cable carrying passengers up a mountain
- **rotunda**: round room covered by a dome
- **cauliflower**: vegetable plant w/ large white edible flowers
- **galleria**: roofed & enclosed promenade
- **regatta**: race between boats
- **crescendo**: gradual increase in loudness of music
- **balcony**: raised platform connected to the side of a building
- **portfolio**: set of pictures presented in a folder; also a flat case with documents
- **antipasto**: plate of meat & veggies served as first course of a meal
- **libretto**: words of an opera or musical
- **virtuoso**: very skillful musician
- **harmonica**: small musical instrument played with the mouth
- **maestro**: expert at writing, conducting, or teaching music
- **bravura**: performance on stage of great skill and energy
- **fresco**: painting on wet plaster
- **stucco**: plaster used to cover outside walls of a house
- **inferno**: large fire
- **ballerina**: woman ballet dancer
- **malaria**: serious disease
- **grotto**: small cave
- **harpichord**: keyboard instrument like a piano but strings are plucked like a harp
- **allegro**: perform music in a quick, lively way
- **virtuosa**: (woman) very skillful musician
- **spaghetti**: long, thin strings of pasta
- **piccolo**: smaller than usual; very small flute
- **ravioli**: square pasta filled with cheese, meat, or vegetables
- **vibrato**: making small changes in singing or playing with slight vibrations of pitch
- **pesto**: sauce made with fresh basil, garlic, oil, and cheese
- **aria**: song in an opera sung by one person
- **bambino**: baby, child
- **salami**: large spicy dry sausage
- **Parmesan**: hard Italian cheese
- **oratorio**: large piece of music for group of singers, usually religious
- **finale**: end of a musical performance
scenario: description of what could happen
contrapuntal: 2 or more melodies sounded together
illuminati: people who claim to be specially enlightened or have special knowledge
concerto: piece of music for one or more instruments and an orchestra
macaroni: small curved tubes of pasta
palmetto: low growing fan leafed palm
bandit: criminal who steals from travelers
fiasco: a complete disaster; also a straw covered bottle for wine
cameo: a gem carved in relief; also a brief theatrical role
sonata: music for 1 or 2 instruments
coloratura: elaborate embellishment of vocal music
scherzo: lively, humorous music played quickly
adagio: in a slow manner
segue: proceed from one musical number to another without pause
zucchini: dark green squash w/ thin skin
capricious: changing often & quickly
archipelago: a group of islands
charlatan: person who pretends to be something in order to deceive
maraschino: sweet dessert cherry
paparazzo: photographer who follows famous people to take a picture
fantocciini: puppet show
mozzarella: moist white cheese
garibaldi: a woman’s blouse
ocarina: simple wind instrument
prosciutto: spicy Italian ham
trattoria: restaurant
vivace: music in a brisk tempo
cappelletti: pasta shaped like little pointed hats
pizzicato: play music by plucking strings
intaglio: image carved below the surface
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

Spanish Words

burrito: rolled tortilla w/ filling
embargo: government prohibition on trade
chimichanga: rolled tortilla w/ filling, fried
gazpacho: spicy cold soup
mariachi: street band w/ guitars & trumpets
sombrero: hat w/ very wide brim
alligator: large reptile
canasta: card game w/ 2 decks of cards
bonanza: produces very good results; also a large amount of something
chinchilla: S. Am. rodent w/ soft fur
machismo: attitude of man being very strong and aggressive
enchilada: rolled tortilla w/ filling covered w/ sauce
pueblo: flat roofed dwelling of SW U.S.
hacienda: large estate
fandango: fast Spanish dance
quesadilla: rolled tortilla w/ filling, fried
flotilla: fleet of ships
tornado: swirling storm w/ powerful winds
flamenco: fast Spanish Gypsy dance
vigilante: person who is not police but captures and punishes criminals
adios: goodbye
cabana: small simple building usually at a pool or beach
gordita: corn meal dough w/ filling, fried
peccadillo: small mistake or fault
filibuster: make a long speech to prevent voting in congress
tortilla: Mexican flat bread
vanilla: food flavoring from vanilla bean
cilantro: coriander leaves used in cooking
fiesta: public celebration
anchovy: small salty fish
mesa: hill with a flat top
ramada: roofed shelter w/ open sides
junco: bird of the finch family

cafetería: place where people get food from a counter and carry it to the table
bongo: small connected drums
castanets: 2 pieces of hard wood fastened to the thumb; percussion instrument
mantilla: scarf worn over head and shoulders
oregano: green leaf herb used in cooking
lariat: light rope w/ running noose
chalupa: fried corn tortilla
buffalo: large wild bison
renegade: person who leaves a group to join the enemy; also trouble maker who cannot be controlled
langosta: lobster
alamo: an aspen type tree
barrio: Mexican neighborhood in a city
cedilla: pronunciation mark under the letter “c” ( ç )
argetine: silver; silvery; also could mean “from Argentina”
bolívar: unit of money in Venezuela
amarillo: yellow
cordovan: soft leather
desperado: desperate violent criminal not afraid of getting hurt
empánada: sweet or savory turnover
tomatillo: Mexican ground cherry
diablo: devil
pochismo: one who claims to be bilingual but cannot speak Spanish correctly
sierra: mountains sharply pointed
olio: mixture
bolero: Spanish dance
junta: group controlling the government after a military take-over
duena: elderly woman who chaperones younger women
sassafras: a tall tree, bark is used as a flavoring
sarsaparilla: sweet bubbly drink made with sassafras
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

comandante: officer in charge of soldiers
embarcadero: pier or landing place on an inland waterway
rejoneador: bull fighter on horseback
novillero: person learning to become a bull fighter but is not yet a matador
picaresque: fictional story of a main character who is a rascal
conquistador: 16th Century Spaniard who conquered the Americas
rasgado: sweep guitar strings with thumb
vaquero: cowboy
caballero: horseman
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

Latin Words

inane: stupid; silly
relevant: important to the subject
impetuous: act quickly without thought
ambivalent: being both for and against something
dejected: feeling down; sad
postmortem: after death
incriminate: show proof of guilt
access: a way of getting near
plausible: seems believable
interrupt: speak when another is speaking
alliteration: words that begin with the same sound
refugee: one who seeks safety from danger
amicable: polite and friendly
lucid: thinking clearly
percolate: trickle through something
meticulous: to be very accurate
fastidious: always being neat
trajectory: curved path something moving through the air
animosity: strong hatred
implement: (n.) something used to do work (v.) to carry out a task
ambiguity: can be understood more than one way
curriculum: educational courses
omnivorous: eats both plants and meat
bellicose: starts fights & arguments
electoral: how people are elected
crescent: shape of a quarter moon
obsequious: too eager to help
transect: cut across something
precipice: steep cliff
susceptible: easily affected or harmed
condolences: express sympathy especially after a death
benefactor: one who helps by giving money
candidate: one who tries to be elected; one who is considered for a job
bugle: brass instrument w/ no keys
formidable: difficult to defeat; awesome

canary: yellow song bird
subterfuge: deceive to get something
abdicate: give up the throne
lunatic: insane person
carnivore: meat eater
gregarious: enjoy company of others
ostentatious: display wealth to make others jealous
prosaic: ordinary; dull
herbivore: plant eater
prodigal: careless w/ money
magnanimous: generous & kind spirit
benevolent: do good for others
mercurial: changing quickly & often
simile: compare two unlike things using "like" or "as"
jovial: full of joy
ridiculous: extremely silly
innate: inborn; natural
obstinately: refuse to change behavior
discern: see or notice something difficult
mediocre: not very good
insidious: gradually harmful
rupture: crack or break in something
precipitate: cause to separate
erudite: having knowledge from study
colloquial: informal style
intractable: not easily managed
exuberant: happy, energetic
ingenious: very smart, inventive, original
retrospective: looking back to the past
ominous: something bad is going to happen
vulnerable: easily hurt; open to attack
omnipotent: all powerful
consensus: when most people agree
discipline: a branch of learning; behavior that follows the rules
alleviate: take away pain
spectrum: complete range of colors
prescription: doctor's note for medicine
capitulation: give up, surrender
incredulous: not able to believe
affinity: attraction; feeling close
necessary: must have; absolutely needed
adjacent: close; sharing a border
dissect: cut into parts to study it
conjecture: opinion without proof
imperative: very important
predicate: part of a sentence with the verb
corporal: of the body; also a low ranking military officer
patina: thin layer on something shows it was used for a long time
capricorn: a zodiac sign
participant: person involved in an event
library: collection of books
cognition: mental activity, thinking
primal: basic; original
filament: thin wire in a light bulb
unity: oneness; together making a whole
ventilate: let fresh air enter
aquatic: living in water
igneous: formed from hot liquid rock
reptile: cold blooded animal w/ scales
providence: God’s care
message: communication
foliate: leaf shaped
nasal: of the nose
opera: musical drama
renovate: bring back to good condition
credentials: skill/knowledge that makes someone qualified for a job
temporal: earthly life
canine: dog
measure: amount of something
credible: believable
femininity: quality of a female
confidence: believing in success
triumvirate: three people share power
popularity: being liked by many
diary: book of daily thoughts and activities
humble: not thinking you are better than other people
vivisection: scientific experiments on live animals
strict: rule that must be obeyed
prosecute: hold a trial against a person
contiguous: things that touch each other
French Words
peloton: main group in a bicycle race
barrage: constant artillery fire; throwing many things at once
chagrin: frustrated because of failure
pacifism: believing all war is wrong
manicure: fingernail treatment
altruism: unselfish benefit of others
bureaucracy: large group of people running part of government by the rules
mascot: a symbol to represent a team
parfait: ice cream, fruit, syrup, whipped cream
mystique: what is interesting about a person
layette: complete baby outfit
boutique: small fashion shop
dressage: horse dancing
croquet: lawn ball game
gorgeous: very beautiful
denture: false teeth
mirage: water seen but not really there
denim: blue cotton cloth
cachet: quality of approval
neologism: a new word
beige: light brown
diplomat: person who speaks for his country in a foreign country
motif: a repeated design
suave: relaxed social behavior
foyer: house entrance room
clementine: a small orange
ambulance: hospital emergency vehicle
rehearse: practice a performance
leotard: tight clothing worn by dancers
prairie: large flat land with few trees
diorama: miniature scene
entourage: group of people that go with an important person
fuselage: body of an airplane
boudoir: woman's bedroom
collage: art made up of collection of different materials

Amenable: agreeable to do something asked for
Expertise: special skill or knowledge
Matinee: afternoon movie
Plateau: high flat land
Sortie: sudden attack; attack by one plane
Croquette: fried breaded ball of meat
Physique: size & shape of a body
Elite: wealthiest, most successful people
Deluxe: best quality; most expensive
Nougat: nut or fruit chocolate candy
Rouge: red powder for cheeks
Escargot: snail prepared as food
Crochet: make cloth with needle and hook
Regime: a government
Doctrinaire: one who will not accept anyone's opinion but his own
Tutu: ruffled ballet skirt
Bevel: slanted surface
Menu: restaurant's list of food
Egalitarian: all people having equal status
Quiche: egg & cheese pie
Fatigue: extreme tiredness
Garage: building where a car is kept
Morgue: where dead bodies are kept
Stethoscope: instrument for listening to the heart
Vogue: in fashion
Musicale: musical entertainment
Palette: board for mixing artist's paint
Flamboyant: attracts attention
Baton: musical conductor's stick
Souvenir: item kept as remembrance
Impasse: no possible progress
Finesse: skilled handling a situation
Maladroit: awkward, not skilled
Gauche: bad social manners
Rapport: friendly relationship
Camouflage: a covering that makes something hard to see
Genre: a category of literature
Virgule: a slash
Debacle: great disaster
fusillade: many shots fired at same time
saboteur: person who destroys on purpose
renaissance: a time of great science & art
activity
chauvinism: attitude that men are always better
recidivist: habitual criminal
chassis: frame of a car
détente: relaxed tension between countries
raconteur: good story teller
mayonnaise: white sauce of egg, oil, vinegar
surveillance: close watch
repertoire: list of everything a person can perform
dossier: detailed records of a person
taupe: brownish-gray color
poignant: causing strong sadness
garçon: a waiter
croissant: flaky crescent roll
ecrù: pale yellow
lieutenant: military, fire, or police officer below a captain
protégé: young person taught by an experienced person
mélange: mixture of different things
blasé: not excited or interested
fête: large celebration
ingénue: innocent young girl
rendezvous: a meeting place
"Spell It" Words from Other Languages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asian Words</th>
<th>Other Languages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dugong: aquatic mammal similar to a manatee</td>
<td>chintz: shiny cotton fabric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>guru: Hindu teacher, spiritual guide</td>
<td>gymkhana: horseback competitive games</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cushy: very easy and pleasant</td>
<td>basmati: long rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>seersucker: cloth w/ uneven surface</td>
<td>gingham: cotton cloth w/ square pattern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jungle: tall tropical forest</td>
<td>mandir: Hindu temple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oolong: a type of tea</td>
<td>bhalu: sloth bear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nirvana: state of perfect happiness</td>
<td>gourami: fish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bangle: stiff ring of wrist jewelry</td>
<td>masala: blend of Indian spices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>patel: headman of a village</td>
<td>raita: Indian side dish of yogurt &amp; cucumber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cummerbund: wide silk cloth worn around a man’s waist</td>
<td>asana: yoga posture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>juggernaut: powerful force that cannot be stopped</td>
<td>batik: method of printing fabric</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pangolin: toothless scaly anteater</td>
<td>charpoy: rope bed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mahatma: person respected for being good, wise, &amp; holy</td>
<td>durwan: doorkeeper; porter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rupee: unit of money in India</td>
<td>mahout: elephant driver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mongoose: small, very fast animal that eats snakes &amp; rodents</td>
<td>prabhu: Lord, Chief</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shampoo: wash hair or carpet; type of soap</td>
<td>Buddha: founder of buddhism; also statue of Buddha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>typhoon: hurricane</td>
<td>topeng: pantomime performance in masks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bamboo: tall hollow stemmed plant</td>
<td>tanha: desire for life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jackal: wild dog</td>
<td>lahar: moving fluid made of volcanic debris and water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dungaree: blue denim</td>
<td>jnana: knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bungalow: a one story house</td>
<td>Holi: Hindu spring festival</td>
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<tr>
<td>gunnysack: large burlap bag</td>
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<tr>
<td>chutney: thick sweet/sour sauce</td>
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<tr>
<td>karma: Hindu belief, force of one’s actions causes good or bad to happen to that person</td>
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<tr>
<td>jute: fiber for making rope &amp; cloth</td>
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<tr>
<td>yamen: headquarters of Chinese government official</td>
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<tr>
<td>raj: time of British rule in India</td>
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<tr>
<td>kama: enjoyment of the senses</td>
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<tr>
<td>pundit: expert who expresses opinion</td>
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<tr>
<td>loot: something stolen</td>
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<tr>
<td>kavya: poem in Sanskrit</td>
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<tr>
<td>jiva: vital energy of life</td>
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<tr>
<td>pandit: wise man in India</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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