

# Spellebration 2018

**enfranchise** (*en-fran-chahyz*) **verb**

**French**

Definition: grant freedom to, as from slavery or servitude 2. to endow with municipal or parliamentary rights

Example: The Twenty-sixth Amendment enfranchised all citizens over 18 years of age.

**laissez faire** (*les-ey-fair; French le-sey-fer*)  
**adjective**

**French**

Definition: a doctrine that government should not interfere in commerce

Example: If the police adopted a laissez-faire attitude and allowed people to do whatever they wanted, the city would be in chaos.

**hemoglobin** (*hee-muh-gloh-bin, hem-uh-*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: a hemoprotein that gives red blood cells their color

Example: If your blood didn't contain any hemoglobin, it wouldn't be red in color.

**gamete** (*gam-eet, guh-meet*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: a mature sexual reproductive cell

Example: Reproduction occurs when a female's gamete joins with a male's gamete.

**lexicon** (*lek-si-kon, -kuh n*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: a reference book containing an alphabetical list of words

Example: Rappers often create new words their fans use as lexicon in their own conversations.

**nomenclature** (*noh-muh n-kley-cher*)  
**noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a system of words used to name things in a discipline

Example: In law school, students spend years learning legal nomenclature so they will be prepared to work as attorneys.

**chromosome** (*kroh-muh-sohm*) **noun**

**German**

Definition: a threadlike strand of DNA that carries genes

Example: We have 23 chromosomes that help make up our DNA.

**homogenous** (*huh-moj-uh-nuh s, hoh-*)  
**adjective**

**Greek**

Definition: all of the same or similar kind of nature

Example: At my school, the smartest students are placed in homogenous classes so they can challenge each other.

# Spellebration 2018

**circumlocution** (*sur-kuh m-loh-kyoo-shuh n*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: an indirect way of expressing something

Example: Circumlocution causes an average book or essay to become excessively lengthy.

**antebellum** (*an-tee-bel-uh m*) **adjective**

**latin**

Definition: belonging to a period before a war

Example: Widespread slavery ended in the 1800s antebellum period.

**kowtow** (*kou-tou, -tou, koh-*) **verb and noun**

**Chinese**

Definition: bend the knees and bow in a servile manner, a special custom of Chinese culture

Example: If Jason does not kowtow to the boss, he will never get a promotion at work.

**impeach** (*im-peech*) **verb**

**Anglo-french**

Definition: bring an accusation against

Example: Believing that he had exaggerated his qualifications, the students look to impeach their professor.

**facetious** (*fuh-see-shuh s*) **adjective**

**French**

Definition: cleverly amusing in tone

Example: While Aaron thought he was being funny, he did not realize his remarks came across as facetious.

**nihilism** (*nahy-uh-liz-uh m*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: complete denial of established authority and institutions

Example: Some of the best music genres were created as a result of musicians and singers using the principle of nihilism to create original sounds.

**fatuous** (*fach-oo-uh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: devoid of intelligence

Example: Buying a car without negotiating down the price is a fatuous move.

**gerrymander** (*jer-i-man-der, ger-*) **noun and verb**

**American**

Definition: divide voting districts unfairly and to one's advantage

Example: The group that can gerrymander districts will have the opportunity to earn the most congressional seats.

# Spellebration 2018

**lugubrious** (*loo-goo-bree-uh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: excessively mournful

Example: Just because I'm a bit down today doesn't mean I'm in a lugubrious mood!

**loquacious** (*loh-kwey-shuh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: full of trivial conversation

Example: Since the employees knew their manager was in a loquacious mood, they predicted the meeting would be a long one.

**deleterious** (*del-i-teer-ee-uh s*) **adjective**

**Greek**

Definition: harmful to living things

Example: The drug has no deleterious effects on young patients.

**bellicose** (*bel-i-kohs*) **adjective**

**late mid-english**

Definition: having or showing a ready disposition to fight

Example: John had a bellicose personality which made him a fierce competitor during wrestling competitions.

**incontrovertible** (*in-kon-truh-vur-tuh-buh l, in-kon-*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: impossible to deny or disprove

Example: Failing grades revealed an incontrovertible fact - no student properly studied for the test.

**irony** (*ahy-ruh-nee, ahy-er-*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: incongruity between what might be expected and what occurs

Example: In an irony of war, the soldiers destroyed the country they were supposed to save.

**interpolate** (*in-tur-puh-leyt*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: insert words into texts, often falsifying it thereby ...>>>

Example: Today many singers interpolate their own words and music into classic songs in order to create new tunes.

**jejune** (*ji-joon*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: lacking interest or significance or impact

Example: The man's 2006 computer is jejune when compared to my 2017 model.

# Spellebration 2018

**gauche** (*gohsh*) **adjective**

**Germanic**

Definition: lacking social polish

Example: His gauche table manners make me cringe, especially when he tries to talk with his mouth full.

**abstemious** (*ab-stee-mee-uh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: marked by temperance in indulgence

Example: Abstemious in his habits, he possessed great physical endurance

**nonsectarian** (*non-sek-tair-ee-uh n*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: not restricted to one school or party

Example: The nonsectarian holiday parade is attended by people of all races and religions.

**moiety** (*moi-i-tee*) **noun**

**French-Latin**

Definition: one of two approximately equal parts

Example: A moiety of fifty dollars is twenty-five dollars.

**hubris** (*hyoo-bris, hoo-*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: overbearing pride or presumption

Example: Filled with hubris, the rabbit lost the race to the turtle.

**fiduciary** (*fi-doo-shee-er-ee, -dyoo-*) **noun and adj.**

**Latin**

Definition: relating to or of the nature of a legal trust

Example: Although the ten-year-old actor was a millionaire, he still needed a fiduciary to manage his financial matters.

**kinetic** (*ki-net-ik, kahy-*) **adjective**

**Greek**

Definition: relating to the motion of material bodies and their forces

Example: A simple definition of kinetic energy is power in movement or motion.

**abrogate** (*ab-ruh-geyt*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: revoke formally

Example: The ministry proposed to abrogate the electoral law of 1850, and restore universal suffrage

# Spellebration 2018

**deciduous** (*dih-sij-oo-uh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: shedding foliage at the end of the growing season

Example: We observed the bare branches of our yard's deciduous maple tree.

**diffident** (*dif-i-duh nt*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: showing modest reserve

Example: A good entertainer cannot have a diffident nature or personality.

**acumen** (*uh-kyoo-muh n, ak-yuh-*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: shrewdness shown by keen insight

Example: Capable lawyers with business acumen are valuable to any firm.

**metamorphosis** (*met-uh-mawr-fuh-sis*)  
**noun**

**Greek**

Definition: striking change in appearance or character or circumstances

Example: From birth to death, the human body goes through many stages of metamorphosis.

**inculcate** (*in-kuhl-keyt, in-kuhl-keyt*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: teach and impress by frequent repetitions or admonitions

Example: When my puppy chewed up my slippers, I realized how difficult it was to inculcate obedience in a young dog.

**evanescent** (*ev-uh-nes-uh nt*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: tending to vanish like vapor, fleeting

Example: Beauty can be as evanescent as a rainbow.

**infrastructure** (*in-fruh-struhk-cher*)  
**noun**

**French**

Definition: the basic features of a system or organization

Example: The aging infrastructure of the cities roads, tunnels and bridges are in urgent need of repair.

**hegemony** (*hi-jem-uh-nee, hej-uh-moh-nee*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: the dominance or leadership of one social group over others

Example: When the dictator was chased out of the country, his hegemony over the people came to an end.

# Spellebration 2018

**mitosis** (*mahy-toh-sis*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: the process by which a cell divides into two smaller cells

Example: Each cell that results after mitosis has a complete set of chromosomes.

**hypotenuse** (*hahy-pot-n-oos, -yoos*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: the side of a right triangle opposite the right angle

Example: Using the Pythagorean Theorem, the mathematician was able to find the triangle's hypotenuse as well as its shorter sides.

**chicanery** (*shi-key-nuh-ree, chi-*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: the use of tricks to deceive someone

Example: Helen wasn't above using chicanery to win extra votes in the election.

**circumnavigate** (*sur-kuh m-nav-i-geyt*)

**verb**

**Latin**

Definition: travel around, either by plane or ship

Example: Christopher Columbus hoped to circumnavigate the world and spread Spanish culture and Christianity to new lands.

**enervate** (*verb en-er-veyt; adjective ih-nur-vit*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: weaken mentally or morally

Example: Surgery can often enervate a patient for several weeks.

**auspicious** (*aw-spish-uh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: with favorable circumstances and good luck

Example: Seeing that his first test grade was a D, Leo realized he was not off to an auspicious start in 11th grade chemistry class.

**incognito** (*in-kog-nee-toh, in-kog-ni-toh*) **adj., adv., noun**

**Latin/Italian**

Definition: without revealing one's identity

Example: Even stars who go out incognito are often recognized by the public and hounded by the paparazzi.

**epiphany** (*ih-pif-uh-nee*) **noun**

**Latin-Greek**

Definition: a divine manifestation

Example: Seeing her estranged father after 30 years was an epiphany that changed the way she viewed her childhood.

# Spellebration 2018

**EURO** (*yoo r-oh, yur-*) **noun**

**Ngajuri (Australian Aboriginal Lang.)**

Definition: the basic monetary unit of most members of the European Union (introduced in 1999); in 2002 twelve European nations (Germany, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Greece, Austria, Finland) adopted the euro as their

Example: Britain uses a currency known as "pounds" instead of the Euro.

**churlish** (*chur-ish*) **adjective**

**Middle English**

Definition: marked by a lack of civility or graciousness

Example: it would be churlish for a dinner guest to express anything but gratitude for his host's generous hospitality.

**feckless** (*fek-lis*) **adjective**

**Scottish/Mid English**

Definition: generally incompetent and ineffectual

Example: The feckless smuggler was easily captured when he delivered the goods to the undercover FBI agents.

**abjure** (*ab-joo r, -jur*) **verb**

**Middle English**

Definition: formally reject or disavow a formerly held belief

Example: He was asked whether certain books had been written by him and whether he was prepared to maintain or to abjure what he had written.

**obsequious** (*uh b-see-kwee-uh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: attempting to win favor from influential people by flattery

Example: The princess had obsequious servants who showered her with attention.

**notarize** (*noh-tuh-rahyz*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: authenticate by someone empowered to witness signatures

Example: The contract is not legal and binding because you did not have anyone notarize it.

**belie** (*bih-lahy*) **verb**

**old english**

Definition: be in contradiction with

Example: His calm demeanor belied his inner sense of guilt.

# Spellebration 2018

**filibuster** (*fil-uh-buhs-ter*) **noun and verb**

**Spanish from the word filibustero**

Definition: a tactic for delaying legislation by making long speeches

Example: The senator will filibuster to prevent a vote on the bill.

**equinox** (*ee-kwuh-noks, ek-wuh-*) **noun**

**Medieval Latin**

Definition: when the sun crosses the plane of the earth's equator

Example: The autumnal equinox marks the first day of autumn in the northern hemisphere.

**expurgate** (*ek-sper-geyt*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: to edit by omitting or modifying parts considered indelicate

Example: The rapper was told that if he did not expurgate the offensive lyrics from his new song, it would never be played on the radio.

**bowdlerize** (*bohd-luh-rahyz, boud-)* **verb**

**English**

Definition: edit by omitting or modifying parts considered indelicate

Example: Old libraries used to bowdlerize classic novels by removing offensive language.

**kilometer** (*kih-lom-i-ter*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: metric unit of length equal to 1000 meters

Example: Running a five kilometer in record time was the next goal for the budding athlete.

**jaunty** (*jawn-tee*) **adjective**

**French**

Definition: having a cheerful, lively, and self-confident air

Example: The jaunty music made everyone feel cheerful.

**bizarre** (*bih-zahr*) **adjective**

**French**

Definition: conspicuously or grossly unconventional or unusual

Example: On her trip around the world, Bridgett found the custom of eating snake quite bizarre.

**camouflage** (*kam-uh-flahzh*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: an outward semblance misrepresenting the nature of something

Example: As a defensive measure, some lizards can camouflage by changing colors to blend into their environments.

# Spellebration 2018

## **gargoyle** (*gahr-goil*) **noun**

### **French**

Definition: an ornament consisting of grotesquely carved figure

Example: From a distance, the gargoyle on the roof's edge looked like a wild beast with a gruesome human face

## **maneuver** (*muh-noo-ver*) **noun & verb**

### **French**

Definition: 1. (noun) a movement or series of moves requiring skill and care; a large scale military operation of troops, warships, and other forces. 2. (verb) to move skillfully; carefully guide or manipulate to achieve a certain end

Example: During the holiday sales, it is often impossible to maneuver your shopping cart through the crowded store aisles.

## **antibody** (*an-ti-bod-ee*) **noun**

### **German**

Definition: a protein that produces an immune response

Example: Phil's body became accustomed to the antibody, rendering it ineffective at killing the virus.

## **guerrilla** (*guh-ril-uh*) **noun & adjective**

### **Germanic**

Definition: a member of an irregular army that fights a stronger force

Example: The guerrilla assault was planned by a group of anti-government rebels.

## **protagonist** (*proh-tag-uh-nist*) **noun**

### **Greek**

Definition: the principal character in a work of fiction

Example: A protagonist usually has an antagonist opposing his goals.

## **eclectic** (*ih-klek-tik*) **adjective**

### **Greek**

Definition: selecting what seems best of various styles or ideas

Example: The painter's recent work is an eclectic collection of landscapes she has recently visited.

## **enthusiastic** (*en-thoo-zee-as-tik*) **adjective**

### **Greek**

Definition: having or showing great excitement and interest

Example: Howard is an enthusiastic teacher who is always looking for new ways to excite his students.

## **labyrinth** (*lab-uh-rinth*) **noun**

### **Greek**

Definition: complex system of paths in which it is easy to get lost

Example: The casino was designed as a labyrinth to keep gamblers trapped inside.

# Spellebration 2018

## **hologram** (*hol-uh-gram, hoh-luh-*) **noun**

### **Greek**

Definition: a pictograph for reproducing a three-dimensional image

Example: In order to see the hologram, the art students used a laser to display the picture.

## **OZONE** (*oh-zohn*) **noun**

### **Greek**

Definition: a colorless gas that is a screen for ultraviolet radiation

Example: Because of the high amount of pollution in the area, the ozone layer is being depleted.

## **chronology** (*kruh-nol-uh-jee*) **noun**

### **Greek/Latin**

Definition: the determination of the temporal sequence of past events

Example: The biographical film highlights the chronology of the civil rights leader from his birth to his death.

## **guru** (*goo r-oo, goo-roo*) **noun**

### **Hindi**

Definition: a Hindu or Buddhist religious leader and spiritual leader

Example: The tech guru's last software invention sold for over two billion dollars.

## **boycott** (*boi-kot*) **noun & verb**

### **Irish, New English**

Definition: refusal to have commercial dealings with some organization

Example: Since the employees have had their insurance demands met, they have ended the boycott and are now returning to work.

## **quarantine** (*kwawr-uh n-teen*) **noun**

### **Italian**

Definition: isolation to prevent the spread of infectious disease

Example: As long as John is in quarantine, he will not be able to contaminate anyone else.

## **pulverize** (*puhl-vuh-rahyz*) **verb**

### **Late-Latin**

Definition: make into a powder by breaking up or cause to become dust

Example: The culinary students will use a grinder to pulverize the fresh herbs.

## **nocturnal** (*nok-tur-nl*) **noun & adjective**

### **Late-Latin**

Definition: 1. (adj) of or relating to the night, active at night 2. (noun) an astrolabe for telling time at night or for determining latitude by the position of certain stars in reference to polaris

Example: Because I sleep all night, I do not consider myself to be a nocturnal person.

# Spellebration 2018

**despondent** (*dih-spon-duh nt*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: without or almost without hope

Example: Because I just won a huge lottery, I am no longer despondent about my financial concerns.

**Alliteration** (*uh-lit-uh-rey-shuh n*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: use of the same consonant at the beginning of each word

Example: Can you hear the alliteration when you say the tongue twister, Betty Baker bought butter biscuits baked by Benny Butler?

**Accentuate** (*ak-sen-choo-eyt*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: To stress or single out as important

Example: During the programming interview, make sure you accentuate your familiarity with coding languages.

**sacrifice** (*sak-ruh-fahys*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: the act of killing in order to appease a deity

Example: We thanked the veteran for his sacrifice in serving this country.

**quandary** (*kwon-duh-ree*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: state of uncertainty in a choice between unfavorable options

Example: Mark is in a quandary about whether or not he should keep the money he found in the park.

**decorum** (*dih-kawr-uh m, -kohr-*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: propriety in manners of conduct

Example: John's lewd behavior showed he was unfamiliar with decorum.

**aspire** (*uh-spahyuh r*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: have an ambitious plan or a lofty goal

Example: No one should aspire to profit from the misfortune of others.

**exult** (*ig-zuhlt*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: feel extreme happiness or elation

Example: You must exult over your victories and move forward through your defeats.

# Spellebration 2018

**introspection** (*in-truh-spek-shuh n*)  
**noun**

**Latin**

Definition: contemplation of your own thoughts and desires and conduct

Example: Perhaps if you indulged in a little introspection, you would stop repeating the same bad habits

**commemorate** (*kuh-mem-uh-reyt*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: call to remembrance

Example: We will commemorate the president's legacy by placing his image on the new coin.

**parasite** (*par-uh-sahyt*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: an animal or plant that lives in or on a host

Example: The flea is a parasite that survives by extracting nourishment from other organisms.

**quota** (*kwoh-tuh*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a prescribed number

Example: The fishing permit sets the catch quota at ten fish per person each day

**exponent** (*ik-spoh-nuh nt, ek-spoh-nuh nt*)  
**noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a notation of how many times to multiply a number by itself

Example: Michelle Obama was an exponent of healthy nutrition for young people.

**fallacy** (*fal-uh-see*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a misconception resulting from incorrect reasoning

Example: Having money makes you happy is a fallacy because happiness has nothing to do with wealth.

**nebula** (*neb-yuh-luh*) **noun**

**Latin-German**

Definition: an immense cloud of gas and dust in interstellar space

Example: I like to imagine living in a spaceship, drifting around in some massive nebula, lost forever in space.

**laconic** (*luh-kon-ik*) **adjective**

**Latin-Greek**

Definition: brief and to the point

Example: I don't have all day, so be laconic with your answers.

# Spellebration 2018

**polygon** (*pol-ee-gon*) **noun**

**Latin-Greek**

Definition: a closed plane figure bounded by straight sides

Example: Since it is a four-sided figure, the square can also be called a quadrilateral or a polygon.

**jovial** (*joh-vee-uh l*) **adjective**

**Medieval Latin**

Definition: full of or showing high-spirited merriment

Example: Even though I was not a rich person, the wealthy country club members surprised me with a jovial greeting.

**inference** (*in-fer-uh ns*) **noun**

**Medieval Latin**

Definition: drawing a conclusion on the basis of circumstantial evidence

Example: Since the committee had no facts or figures, they decided to refrain from making an inference about next year's budget.

**immune** (*ih-myoon*) **adjective**

**Mid English-Latin**

Definition: of the condition in which an organism can resist disease

Example: Vitamins and minerals from fruits and vegetables will make your body immune from certain illnesses

**flourish** (*flur-ish, fluhr-*) **verb**

**Mid English-Latin**

Definition: grow vigorously

Example: Fortunately, the bakery's weekly sales are allowing the store to flourish.

**formidable** (*fawr-mi-duh-buh l*) **adjective**

**Mid English-Latin**

Definition: extremely impressive in strength or excellence

Example: Be worried of your formidable opponent, because she is one smart cookie.

**deign** (*deyn*) **verb**

**Mid English-Latin**

Definition: do something that one considers to be below ones dignity

Example: The heiress would not deign to clean up her dog's mess.

**mutation** (*myoo-tey-shuh n*) **noun**

**Mid English-Latin**

Definition: a change or alteration in form or qualities

Example: In my hometown, a disease was rapidly spreading due to a viral mutation.

# Spellebration 2018

**impertinent** (*im-pur-tn-uh nt*) **adjective**

**Mid English-Latin**

Definition: 1. improperly forward or bold 2. not pertinent or relevant to the matter at hand

Example: Considering the applicant's impertinent response to a serious question, Mr. Bailey decided to take his name off of the short list of candidates.

**Renaissance** (*ren-uh-sahns*) **noun**

**Mid French & Latin**

Definition: period in European history at the close of the Middle Ages

Example: The arrival of a large number of immigrants into the community is likely to create a cultural renaissance in food and music.

**boisterous** (*boi-ster-uh s, -struh s*) **adjective**

**Middle English**

Definition: full of rough and exuberant animal spirits

Example: The boisterous crowd gave a standing ovation after #56 scored a touchdown.

**mosaic** (*moh-zey-ik*) **noun & adjective**

**Middle English**

Definition: design made of small pieces of colored stone or glass 2. (adj) composed of a combination of diverse elements

Example: The little girl was fascinated by the colorful mosaic that comprised the church's window.

**heritage** (*her-i-tij*) **noun**

**Mid-English**

Definition: that which is inherited

Example: It can be exciting to explore your heritage and see where your ancestors came from.

**outrageous** (*out-rey-juh s*) **adjective**

**Mid-English**

Definition: greatly exceeding bounds of reason or moderation

Example: My stern mother does not tolerate outrageous behavior at the dinner table.

**COWER** (*kou-er*) **verb**

**Mid-English**

Definition: crouch or curl up

Example: Believing that no one was his equal, the king insisted that everyone cower before him.

**nuisance** (*noo-suh ns*) **noun**

**Mid-English**

Definition: anything that disturbs, endangers life, or is offensive

Example: The bee was a huge nuisance as it kept buzzing around the picnic table.

# Spellebration 2018

**dialogue** (*dahy-uh-lawg, -log*) **noun**

**Mid-English**

Definition: a conversation between two persons

Example: Because Kelly does not listen well, it is hard to establish a dialogue with her.

**divulge** (*dih-vuhlj, dahy-*) **verb**

**Mid-English Latin**

Definition: make known to the public information previously kept secret

Example: Doctors must be careful to not divulge confidential information about their patients.

**random** (*ran-duh m*) **adjective**

**Mid-English-French**

Definition: made, or occurring without definite aim, reason or pattern

Example: To fairly choose the winner, the store owner pulled a random slip out of a hat full of numbered papers.

**repose** (*ri-pohz*) **noun and verb**

**Old French**

Definition: the state of reposing or being at rest, 2. to lie peacefully and restfully

Example: Sometimes, when I don't want anyone to bother me, I go to the public library, my favorite place of repose

**bamboozle** (*bam-boo-zuh l*) **verb**

**ORIGIN UNKNOWN**

Definition: conceal ones true motives from

Example: The swindler would bamboozle wealthy women by selling them fake jewelry at hefty prices.

**embargo** (*em-bahr-goh*) **noun & verb**

**Spanish/Latin**

Definition: a government order imposing a trade barrier

Example: The embargo on transporting fresh fruits and vegetables into our country was enacted to prevent the spread of diseases and harmful insects.

**renegade** (*ren-i-geyd*) **noun**

**Spanish-Medieval Latin**

Definition: someone who rebels and becomes an outlaw

Example: In the movie, the hero was a renegade who refused to believe he was inferior simply because of the color of his race.

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Example: Can you hear the alliteration when you say the tongue twister, Betty Baker bought butter biscuits baked by Benny Butler?

# Spellebration 2018

**decorum** (*dih-kawr-uh m, -kahr-*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: propriety in manners of conduct

Example: John's lewd behavior showed he was unfamiliar with decorum.

**jovial** (*joh-vee-uh l*) **adjective**

**Medieval Latin**

Definition: full of or showing high-spirited merriment

Example: Even though I was not a rich person, the wealthy country club members surprised me with a jovial greeting.

**mutation** (*myoo-tey-shuh n*) **noun**

**Mid English-Latin**

Definition: a change or alteration in form or qualities

Example: In my hometown, a disease was rapidly spreading due to a viral mutation.

**Renaissance** (*ren-uh-sahns*) **noun**

**Mid French & Latin**

Definition: period in European history at the close of the Middle Ages

Example: The arrival of a large number of immigrants into the community is likely to create a cultural renaissance in food and music.

**mosaic** (*moh-zey-ik*) **noun & adjective**

**Middle English**

Definition: design made of small pieces of colored stone or glass 2. (adj) composed of a combination of diverse elements

Example: The little girl was fascinated by the colorful mosaic that comprised the church's window.

**divulge** (*dih-vuhlj, dahy-*) **verb**

**Mid-English Latin**

Definition: make known to the public information previously kept secret

Example: Doctors must be careful to not divulge confidential information about their patients.

**random** (*ran-duh m*) **adjective**

**Mid-English-French**

Definition: made, or occurring without definite aim, reason or pattern

Example: To fairly choose the winner, the store owner pulled a random slip out of a hat full of numbered papers.

**embargo** (*em-bahr-goh*) **noun & verb**

**Spanish/Latin**

Definition: a government order imposing a trade barrier

Example: The embargo on transporting fresh fruits and vegetables into our country was enacted to prevent the spread of diseases and harmful insects.

# Spellebration 2018

**renegade** (*ren-i-geyd*) **noun**

**Spanish-Medieval Latin**

Definition: someone who rebels and becomes an outlaw

Example: In the movie, the hero was a renegade who refused to believe he was inferior simply because of the color of his race.

**impeach** (*im-peech*) **verb**

**Anglo-french**

Definition: bring an accusation against

Example: Believing that he had exaggerated his qualifications, the students look to impeach their professor.

**loquacious** (*loh-kwey-shuh s*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: full of trivial conversation

Example: Since the employees knew their manager was in a loquacious mood, they predicted the meeting would be a long one.

**incontrovertible** (*in-kon-truh-vur-tuh-buh l, in-kon-*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: impossible to deny or disprove

Example: Failing grades revealed an incontrovertible fact - no student properly studied for the test.

**fiduciary** (*fi-doo-shee-er-ee, -dyoo-*) **noun and adj.**

**Latin**

Definition: relating to or of the nature of a legal trust

Example: Although the ten-year-old actor was a millionaire, he still needed a fiduciary to manage his financial matters.

**metamorphosis** (*met-uh-mawr-fuh-sis*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: striking change in appearance or character or circumstances

Example: From birth to death, the human body goes through many stages of metamorphosis.

**mitosis** (*mahy-toh-sis*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: the process by which a cell divides into two smaller cells

Example: Each cell that results after mitosis has a complete set of chromosomes.

**lute** (*loot*) **noun**

**Middle English**

Definition: a stringed instrument with a pear-shaped body

Example: Sweet music was being played on the lute.

# Spellebration 2018

**canon** (*kan-uh n*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: piece of music in which a melody is imitated in other parts

Example: 'A canon for two voices using one line of melody is called a canon two in one, three voices with one melody a canon three in one, and so on.

**quartet** (*kwawr-tet*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a musical composition for four performers

Example: A barbershop quartet is a group of four singers who sing music in the barbershop

**annotation** (*an-uh-tey-shuh n*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: the act of adding notes

Example: A few highly recommended entries that I have not seen appear without annotation.

**adagio** (*uh-dah-joh, -zhee-oh*) **adjective**

**Italian**

Definition: (in a) slow and leisurely (manner): often used as a musical direction

Example: A masterpiece of an adagio, it has a somber, moving and melancholic quality.

**amplify** (*am-pluh-fahy*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: increase the volume of

Example: Actress, activist and African American: Danai Gurira believes in the power of using her voice to amplify African storytellers.

**xylophone** (*zahy-luh-fohn*) **noun**

**Greek**

Definition: a percussion instrument with wooden bars played with mallets

Example: After much thought and reflection, I have decided to pursue my first loves--modern dance and the xylophone.

**masterpiece** (*mas-ter-pees*) **noun**

**German**

Definition: the most outstanding work of a creative artist or craftsman

Example: Although some may disagree, I find the song "Wheels on the Bus" to be a masterpiece in children's music.

**atonal** (*ey-tohn-l*) **adjective**

Definition: having no established musical key

Example: American Idol's eccentric, atonal auditioners make us laugh—and then whenever we see them again.

# Spellebration 2018

**avant-garde** (*uh-vahnt-gahrd*) **adjective**

**french**

Definition: radically new or original

Example: an avant-garde composer

**ballet** (*bal-ey*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: a theatrical performance of a story by trained dancers

Example: an ice-skating ballet

**analog** (*an-l-awg*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: having an output that is proportional to the input

Example: analog computers have been used experimentally for theoretical projections of results.

**coda** (*koh-duh*) **noun**

**latin**

Definition: the closing section of a musical composition

Example: And then the joke in the last verse of watching Walter Cronkite deliver the coda

**dance** (*dans*) **verb**

**german**

Definition: taking a series of rhythmical steps in time to music

Example: And with the dance sequence, we wanted something very physical.

**leitmotif** (*lahyt-moh-teef*) **noun**

**German**

Definition: a melodic phrase that accompanies a person or situation

Example: Ashton has other ways of creating a leitmotif to link incidents pertinent to the plot throughout a ballet.

**bebop** (*bee-bop*) **noun**

**american**

Definition: an early form of modern jazz (originating around 1940)

Example: Bebop jazz was popular in the 1940s.

**tune** (*toon*) **noun**

**Middle English**

Definition: to calibrate something to a standard frequency

Example: Before their set, musicians like to tune their instruments

**bluegrass** (*bloo-gras*) **noun**

**american**

Definition: any of various grasses of the genus *Poa*

Example: Bluegrass is most common in the state of Kentucky.

# Spellebration 2018

## **binary** (*bahy-nuh-ree*) **noun**

### **latin**

Definition: of or pertaining to a number system having 2 as its base

Example: Both the original design and the modern version of one-time pads are based on the binary alphabet.

## **conga** (*kong-guh*) **noun**

### **cuban**

Definition: a Latin American dance of 3 steps and a kick by people in single file

Example: But the minute you file, the conga line dancing up the street to your competitors really gets going.

## **development** (*dih-vel-uh p-muh nt*) **noun**

### **french**

Definition: section of a composition where major themes are elaborated

Example: Children in households with more equitable participation of men show better health and development.

## **Chopin** (*chop-in*) **proper noun**

### **polish**

Definition: French composer and pianist of the romantic school

Example: Chopin created many great works of music in his short lifetime.

## **digital** (*dij-i-tl*) **noun**

### **latin**

Definition: of a circuit or device that represents magnitudes in numbers

Example: Consider, too, that in this digital age, making something public is not only easier but has greater reach.

## **courante** (*koo-rahnt*) **noun**

### **french**

Definition: a court dance of the 16th century

Example: Courante dancing was very popular in the renaissance era.

## **disjunct** (*dis-juhngkt*) **adjective**

### **latin**

Definition: progressing melodically by intervals larger than a major second

Example: disjunct : with head, thorax and abdomen separated by constrictions.

## **trumpet** (*truhm-pit*) **noun**

### **Middle English**

Definition: a brass musical instrument with a brilliant tone

Example: Dizzy Gillespie is probably one of the most well known Jazz trumpet players, for the way his cheeks puffed out when he played

# Spellebration 2018

**marimba** (*muh-rim-buh*) **noun**

**Portuguese**

Definition: a percussion instrument with wooden bars tuned to produce a chromatic scale and with resonators; played with small mallets

Example: Ed Sheeran's "Shape of You" is a popular song that uses the marimba to create its unique sound

**duet** (*doo-et*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: two performers or singers who perform together

Example: Even Prince himself turns up for a duet on The Electric Lady.

**volume** (*vol-yoom*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: the magnitude of sound, usually in a specified direction

Example: Even though its supposed to be quiet, sometimes the volume in the library can get a little loud.

**ukulele** (*yoo-kuh-ley-lee*) **noun**

**Hawaii**

Definition: a small guitar having four strings

Example: Every year, the Delray Beach Public Library has Ukelele lessons

**cymbal** (*sim-buh l*) **noun**

**greek**

Definition: a percussion instrument consisting of a concave brass disk

Example: Formerly the girls would dance to the sound of song and cymbal.

**chamber music** () **noun**

**english**

Definition: serious music performed by a small group of musicians

Example: He began to write more abstractly and concentrated on chamber music and works for small ensembles.

**brusque** (*brusk*) **adjective**

**french**

Definition: marked by rude or peremptory shortness

Example: He interrupted our conversation in a very brusque manner.

**accompaniment** (*uh-kuhm-puh-ni-muh nt*) **noun**

Definition: a musical part that supports other musical parts

Example: He played, but when he tried to sing to the accompaniment of the instrument, his feelings overcame him.

# Spellebration 2018

**woodwind** (*woo d-wind*) **noun**

Definition: any wind instrument other than the brass instruments

Example: He plays all the woodwind instruments very well.

**cadenza** (*kuh-den-zuh*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: a solo passage occurring near the end of a piece of music

Example: He takes up a treasured tradition by playing his own cadenzas in both concertos

**conservatory** (*kuh n-sur-vuh-tawr-ee*)  
**noun**

**latin**

Definition: a schoolhouse with special facilities for fine arts

Example: He used his savings for the voyage across the Atlantic, but was left with no tuition money to attend the conservatory

**alto** (*al-toh*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: the lowest female singing voice and the highest male voice

Example: He was the lead alto saxophone in the Missouri All-State Jazz Band this year.

**accelerando** (*ak-sel-uh-ran-doh*) **adverb, adjective**

**italian**

Definition: a gradual increase in tempo

Example: He sings like the fitful wind, one moment " accelerando," and the next "una poco moderato."

**rhythm** (*rith -uh m*) **noun**

**latin**

Definition: the pattern of regular or irregular pulses caused in music by the occurrence of strong and weak melodic and harmonic beats

Example: Hip-hop is music that uses rhyming speech in rhythm

**articulation** (*ahr-tik-yuh-ley-shuh n*)  
**noun**

**Middle English**

Definition: the action of producing a sound or word clearly, in speech or music.

Example: His articulation was wonderfully clear.

**dub** (*duhb*) **verb**

**english**

Definition: new sounds added to a soundtrack

Example: His friendship with Bill Clinton has prompted Barbara Bush to dub Clinton her fifth son.

# Spellebration 2018

**augmented** (*awg-ment*) **adjective**

**Middle English**

Definition: added to or made greater in amount or number or strength

Example: His salary was augmented by a small inheritance.

**baritone** (*bar-i-tohn*) **adjective**

**italian**

Definition: the second lowest adult male singing voice

Example: His voice seemed weak and high-pitched in comparison to the Hunter's baritone.

**basso** (*bas-oh*) **adjective**

**italian**

Definition: the lowest adult male singing voice

Example: His voice was basso.

**virtuoso** (*vir-choo-oh-soh*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a musician who is a consummate master of artistry

Example: I am sure members of the Beyhive consider Beyonce a virtuoso.

**choir** (*kwahyuh r*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a chorus that sings as part of a religious ceremony

Example: I had been invited to sing in a church choir by my friend, the organist's daughter.

**mandolin** (*man-dl-in*) **noun**

**Italian**

Definition: a stringed instrument related to the lute

Example: I love bluegrass, but the mandolin is a great instrument for lots of styles!

**concerto** (*kuh n-cher-toh*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: a composition for orchestra and a soloist

Example: I trembled and cried as he played our first—his first concerto in F minor.

**libretto** (*li-bret-oh*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: the words of an opera or musical play

Example: I own a CD, have heard it, and have read the libretto three or four times.

**a cappella** (*ah kuh-pel-uh*) **adverb, adjective**

**Italian**

Definition: without instrumental accompaniment: said of choral singing and of unaccompanied vocalists or vocal groups in popular music

Example: I'm going to be singing a cappella at a friend's wedding ceremony.

# Spellebration 2018

**clarinet** (*klar-uh-net*) **noun**

**french**

Definition: a single-reed instrument with a straight tube

Example: I'm learning to play the clarinet.

**diphthong** (*dif-thawng*) **noun**

**greek**

Definition: a sound consisting of two vowel sounds

Example: In English, moreover, the vowel sounds tend to become diphthongs, so that the symbol for the simple sound tends to become the symbol for that combination which we call a diphthong.

**banjo** (*ban-joh*) **noun**

**portugal**

Definition: a stringed instrument that has long neck and circular body

Example: In her down time, she plays the banjo

**aria** (*ahr-ee-uh*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: A solo vocal piece with instrumental accompaniment, as in an opera

Example: In the opera you get questionable characters singing exquisite arias

**baroque** (*buh-rohk*) **adjective**

**french**

Definition: relating to an elaborately ornamented style of art and music

Example: Inside, the club is built like a baroque theater, with a dance floor in the center and rows of loggias up the walls.

**cadence** (*keyd-ns*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: the close of a musical section

Example: It may seem that way, but their dialogue is not written for a particular cadence

**consonance** (*kon-suh-nuh ns*) **verb**

**french**

Definition: the property of sounding harmonious

Example: It was quite in consonance with his desires and his practices.

**concertina** (*kon-ser-tee-nuh*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: free-reed instrument played like an accordion by pushing its ends together to force air through the reeds

Example: It was Uncle Ben who played the concertina at the door of his hut in the evening.

# Spellebration 2018

## **zither** (*zith-er*) **noun**

### **Latin**

Definition: a musical instrument with strings over a flat sounding board

Example: It was exceedingly faint, like the distant thrumming of a zither.

## **waltz** (*'wɔl(t)s*) **noun**

### **German**

Definition: music composed in triple time for waltzing

Example: Johann Strauss wrote many beautiful waltzes

## **composition** (*kom-puh-zish-uh n*) **noun**

### **english**

Definition: a musical work that has been created

Example: John Luther Adams lives up to the title of his composition, capturing an oceanic torrent of sound in an awe-inspiring performance.

## **clef** (*klef*) **noun**

### **latin**

Definition: a musical notation written on a staff indicating the pitch of the notes following it

Example: Knowing the clef that the peice is in is very important.

## **vibrato** (*vi-brah-toh*) **noun**

### **Latin**

Definition: a way of making small, rapid changes in a musical note that you are singing or playing so that it seems to shake slightly

Example: Lady GaGa has a surprisingly impressive vibratto

## **chromatic** (*kroh-mat-ik*) **adjective**

### **greek**

Definition: based on a scale consisting of 12 semitones

Example: Learning the chromatic scale is very important for aspiring musicians.

## **Bollywood** (*bɔl'ē-wōod'*) **noun**

### **indian**

Definition: the film industry of India

Example: Many great movies have come from Bollywood.

## **octave** (*ok-tiv*) **noun**

### **Latin**

Definition: a level of eight notes found in a musical scale

Example: Mariah Carey is a singer with a very high octave range

# Spellebration 2018

**variation** (*vair-ee-ey-shuh n*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a repetition of a musical theme in which it is modified

Example: Melody, rhythm, and harmony are just a few ways that composers show variation in their music.

**diatonic** (*dahy-uh-ton-ik*) **adjective**

**greek**

Definition: based on or using the five tones and two semitones of the major or minor scales of western music

Example: Most songs follow the diatonic scale.

**inharmonic** (*in-hahr-mon-ik*) **adjective**

Definition: lacking in harmony

Example: My favorite inharmonic instruments are the gong and the triangle

**quintet** (*kwin-tet*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a musical composition for five performers

Example: One Direction is a famous quintet

**prelude** (*prel-yood*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: music that precedes a fugue or introduces an act in an opera

Example: Prelude music sets the tone for wedding celebrations

**presto** (*pres-toh*) **adverb**

**Latin**

Definition: at a very fast tempo (faster than allegro)

Example: Presto-chango is commonly said during magic shows

**accent** (*ak-sent*) **noun**

**Italian**

Definition: a diacritical mark used for stress or special pronunciation

Example: prominence of a syllable in terms of differential loudness, or of pitch, or length, or of a combination of these.

**ragtime** (*rag-tahym*) **noun**

**American English**

Definition: music with a syncopated melody (usually for the piano)

Example: ragtime, blues, country, jazz, soul, and rock and roll were all pioneered or inspired by black artists.

**conjunct** (*kon-juhngkt*) **adjective**

**english**

Definition: progressing melodically by intervals of a second

Example: Renaissance melodies are generally characterized by conjunct motion, with only occasional leaps of more than a fifth and then rarely anything but a sixth or octave.

# Spellebration 2018

**refrain** (*ri-freyn*) **verb**

**Middle English**

Definition: part of a song or poem that recurs at regular intervals

Example: Rihanna's song "Umbrella" has one of the most common refrains

**contralto** (*kon-truh-beys*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: the lowest female singing voice

Example: She had a beautiful contralto voice.

**unison** (*yoo-nuh-suh n*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: two or more sounds or tones at the same pitch or in octaves

Example: She found a way to make little kitten steps to the microphone in unison with the music.

**blues** (*blōōz*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a state of depression

Example: She's got the blues.

**classical** (*klas-i-kuh l*) **adjective**

Definition: traditional genre of music conforming to an established form

Example: Since filming the show, however, her relationship with classical music has obviously changed.

**operetta** (*op-uh-ret-uh*) **noun**

**Italian**

Definition: a short amusing opera

Example: Singing pirates, shipwrecks, masked costume balls, and young love are all elements of popular operettas.

**copyright** (*kop-ee-rahyt*) **noun**

**american**

Definition: the exclusive right to sell a work

Example: So what I always tell the kids is to be careful about signing to a label and always protect your copyright.

**troubadour** (*troo-buh-dawr*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: a singer of folk songs

Example: Some would consider Marvin Gaye a troubadour for the way he used his soulful voice and powerful lyrics to challenge the American society during hard times.

**improvise** (*im-pruh-vahyz*) **verb**

**Latin**

Definition: perform without preparation

Example: Sometimes I improvise and change the words because I forget them.

# Spellebration 2018

## chime (*chahym*) **noun**

### english

Definition: a percussion instrument consisting of a set of tuned bells that are struck with a hammer; used as an orchestral instrument

Example: Take off the cover to the chimes or bells and inspect the points that strike the chime or bell for dirt.

## recital (*ri-sahyt-l*) **noun**

Definition: performance of music or dance especially by soloists

Example: Taking part in a recital or performance helps dancers to overcome shyness, fear, anxiety and stage fright.

## cantabile (*kahn-tah-bi-ley*) **adjective**

### italian

Definition: smooth and flowing

Example: the beauty of the voice in the cantabile passages'

## cello (*chel-oh*) **noun**

### Latin

Definition: a large stringed instrument

Example: The cello looks like a giant violin

## clavichord (*klav-i-kawrd*) **noun**

### latin

Definition: an early stringed instrument like a piano but with more delicate sound

Example: The clavichord is not a very popular instrument anymore.

## conductor (*kuh n-duhk-ter*) **noun**

### latin

Definition: the person who leads a musical group

Example: The conductor signaled for the beginning of the orchestra.

## contrabass (*kon-truh-beys*) **noun**

### italian

Definition: largest and lowest member of the violin family

Example: The contrabass is one of the hardest intruments to learn.

## cornet (*kawr-net*) **noun**

### english

Definition: a brass musical instrument with a brilliant tone

Example: The cornet makes a beautiful sound, but not many people play it.

# Spellebration 2018

**musicology** (*myoo-zi-kol-uh-jee*) **noun**

**German**

Definition: the scholarly and scientific study of music

Example: the doctoral student in musicology at UCLA has increasingly collaborated with other instrumentalists

**Dorian** (*dawr-ee-uh n*) **noun**

**greek**

Definition: of or relating to the ancient Greek inhabitants of Doris, to their Doric dialect of Greek, or to their culture

Example: The dorians are an ethnic group that have been around for thousands of years.

**drumbeat** (*druhm-beet*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: the sound made by beating a drum

Example: The drumbeat and synth bass are as insistent as they are ominous.

**beat** (*beet*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: the basic rhythmic unit in a piece of music

Example: The drummer kept the beat for the song

**duo** (*doo-oh*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: two performers or singers who perform together

Example: The duo have five of these rogue installations under their belts, with another coming in early 2015.

**decrescendo** (*dee-kri-shen-doh*) **adverb**

**italian**

Definition: (music) a gradual decrease in loudness

Example: The end of the song usually consists of a decrescendo.

**drone** (*drohn*) **verb**

**english**

Definition: make a monotonous low dull sound

Example: The english teachers lecture droned on in the background.

**clavier** (*kluh-veer*) **noun**

**french**

Definition: a stringed instrument that has a keyboard

Example: The grand piano is an example of a clavier.

# Spellebration 2018

**chordophone** (*kawr-duh-fohn*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a stringed instrument of the group including harps, lutes, lyres, and zithers

Example: The group of musicians made up the chordophone.

**chord** (*kawrd*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a combination of three or more notes that blend harmoniously

Example: The guitar is tuned to E, and an E minor chord on a guitar just rings and rings forever.

**kazoo** (*kuh-zoo*) **noun**

**German**

Definition: a toy wind instrument that has a membrane that makes a sound when you hum into the mouthpiece

Example: The kazoo is an under-appreciated instrument.

**chorale** (*kuh-ral*) **noun**

**german**

Definition: a stately Protestant (especially Lutheran) hymn tune

Example: The Lutheran chorale became the sure spiritual foundation of Bach's output

**calando** (*kah-lahn-doh*) **adverb**

**italian**

Definition: gradually decreasing in tempo and volume

Example: The most dramatic piece of a musical work is led by a calando.

**bar** (*bahr*) **noun**

**french**

Definition: musical notation for a repeating pattern of musical beats

Example: the musician played a bar of the musical piece

**diminuendo** (*dih-min-yoo-en-doh*) **adjective**

**italian**

Definition: (music) a gradual decrease in loudness

Example: The orchestra ended with a beautiful diminuendo

**diction** (*dik-shuh n*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: the articulation of speech to be intelligible to an audience

Example: The prime minister has also reportedly paid for diction lessons to smooth out her rough Neapolitan accent.

# Spellebration 2018

**verse** (*vurs*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a line of metrical text

Example: The second verse is sung the same way as the first.

**dominant** (*dom-uh-nuh nt*) **adjective**

**latin**

Definition: (music) the fifth note of the diatonic scale

Example: The sharply tailored blazer and weighty jewelry that cling to her body hints at the dominant personality she possesses.

**bass** (*beys*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: the lowest part of the musical range

Example: The singer sings in a bass voice.

**crescendo** (*kri-shen-doh*) **noun**

**latin**

Definition: a gradual increase in loudness

Example: The sob stories are told without a full-blown, Titanic “My Heart Will Go On” crescendo.

**castrato** (*ka-strah-toh*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: a male singer who was castrated before puberty and retains a soprano or alto voice

Example: The sole extant example of the castrato voice dates from the dawn of recorded sound, and the singer in question was advanced in years at the time.

**tuba** (*too-buh*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: the lowest brass wind instrument

Example: The Super Mario Brothers theme is best played on the tuba

**vivace** (*vi-vah-chey*) **adverb, adjective**

**Italian**

Definition: lively, in music

Example: the tempo marking, Allegro vivace, conveys urgency

**orchestra** (*awr-kuh-struh*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a group of people who play musical instruments together

Example: The trumpet could be heard over all of the other instruments in the orchestra

# Spellebration 2018

**bow** (*bō*) **noun**

**dutch**

Definition: a curved piece of wood used in playing stringed instruments

Example: The violinist uses a very expensive bow when he preforms.

**brass instrument** (*bras in-struh-muh nt*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a wind instrument that consists of a brass tube (usually of variable length) that is blown by means of a cup-shaped or funnel-shaped mouthpiece

Example: the whole town was singing and dancing to the brass instrument band.

**andante** (*ahn-dahn-tey*) **adjective, adverb**

**italian**

Definition: at a moderately slow tempo

Example: The andante, in which the 'cellos are very lyrical, is a tender and musing mood

**turntable** (*turn-tey-buh l*) **noun**

Definition: a circular horizontal platform that rotates a phonograph record while it is being played

Example: The DJ mumbled a few words, then played whatever record wascued up on his turntable.

**pizzicato** (*pit-si-kah-toh*) **adjective**

**italian**

Definition: with a light plucking staccato sound

Example: The pizzicato tuning of a violin is heard through the window.

**requiem** (*rek-wee-uh m*) **noun**

**Middle English**

Definition: a song or hymn of mourning as a memorial to a dead person

Example: The requiem for the deceased priest will be held this Sunday at Sacred Hearts Catholic Church.

**ambient** (*am-bee-uh nt*) **adjective**

**Latin**

Definition: of the surrounding area or environment

Example: The tape recorder picked up too many ambient noises.

**vibration** (*vī-'brā-shan*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: the act of moving back and forth rapidly

Example: the vibration of the floor is caused by thundering feet in the hallway

# Spellebration 2018

**bugle** (*byoo-guh l*) **noun**

**latin**

Definition: a brass instrument without valves

Example: Their bugle sang again, but Dick did not know what the tune meant.

**dissonance** (*dis-uh-nuh ns*) **noun**

**latin**

Definition: disagreeable sounds

Example: There was no camp, kitsch, or dissonance to his pure love of Michael Jackson.

**bassoon** (*ba-soon*) **noun**

**italian**

Definition: a double-reed woodwind instrument that makes a low sound

Example: There were eight or ten singers, and they had a bassoon, a flute, and a clarinet

**ballad** (*bal-uh d*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a narrative poem of popular origin

Example: There were no longer any chord changes, and it was no longer a ballad

**composer** (*kuh m-poh-zer*) **noun**

**latin**

Definition: someone who writes music as a profession

Example: They sent me clips of music when they were hiring a composer.

**concertise** (*kon-ser-tahyz*) **verb**

**french**

Definition: give concerts; perform in concerts

Example: This ensemble began to concertize and tour in central Europe.

**monotone** (*mon-uh-tohn*) **noun**

**Frensh**

Definition: an unchanging intonation

Example: Tina Belcher speaks in a somewhat monotone voice

**trombone** (*trom-bohn*) **noun**

**Germanic**

Definition: a brass instrument with a long tube and a U-shaped slide

Example: Troy Andrews, also known by the stage name Trombone Shorty, is an American musician, producer, actor and philanthropist from New Orleans, Louisiana.

**whistle** (*hwis-uh l*) **verb**

**Middle English**

Definition: the sound made by something moving rapidly

Example: We could hear the low whistle of the wind through the trees

# Spellebration 2018

**bagpipe** (*bag-pahyp*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a tubular wind instrument

Example: We marched into the dining-room keeping step to the music of a bagpipe.

**carol** (*kar-uh l*) **noun**

**english**

Definition: a joyful song (usually celebrating the birth of Christ)

Example: we sang carols by candlelight

**overture** (*oh-ver-cher*) **Middle English**

**noun**

Definition: piece of music played at the beginning of an opera or musical play

Example: When he heard the overture begin to play, the actor immediately became nervous

**accordion** (*uh-kawr-dee-uh n*) **noun**

**German**

Definition: a portable box-shaped free-reed instrument

Example: When I travel to Europe, I hope to see someone playing the accordion in a public space.

**allegro** (*uh-ley-groh*) **adjective, adverb**

**Italian**

Definition: in a quick and lively tempo

Example: When she returned to Mr. B's class, across the floor she sped in a moving allegro combination, executing triple pirouettes.

**diminished** (*dih-min-ish*) **verb**

**latin**

Definition: reduction by a semitone of any perfect or minor interval

Example: With the right person in the right job, the need for on-the-job support is diminished.

**violin** (*vahy-uh-lin*) **noun**

**Italian**

Definition: bowed stringed instrument that is the highest member of the violin family; this instrument has four strings and a hollow body and an unfretted fingerboard and is played with a bow

Example: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is a very famous violin player

**ensemble** (*ahn-sahm-buh l*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: a group of musicians playing or singing together

Example: Diana Ross and the Supremes is a famous musical ensemble from the 1960s

# Spellebration 2018

**duple** (*doo-puh l*) **adjective**

**latin**

Definition: consisting of or involving two parts or components usually in pairs

Example: Most of our popular music, folk songs and things like that, are written in duple meter and in a major key.

**exposition** (*ek-spuh-zish-uh n*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: section of a movement where major musical themes first occur

Example: the exposition in a concerto often remains in the tonic key while played by the entire orchestra the first time through.

**etude** (*ey-tood*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: a short, technical composition for a solo instrument

Example: "Piano Etude " attaches great importance to the development of its performing skills.

**fandango** (*fan-dang-goh*) **noun**

**Spanish**

Definition: a Spanish courtship dance in triple time

Example: I looked all around for the fandango dancer to appear but she kept well clear.

**fanfare** (*fan-fair*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: a short lively tune played on brass instruments

Example: A fanfare of trumpets heralded the arrival of the King.

**falsestto** (*fawl-set-oh*) **noun, adjective, adverb**

**Italian**

Definition: a male singing voice with artificially high tones

Example: The lead singer has a falsestto voice.

**fortissimo** (*fawr-tis-uh-moh*) **adjective, adverb**

**Italian**

Definition: a direction in music; to be played very loudly

Example: Strings and woodwind steadily wander the said extensive third theme, attaining at last fortissimo.

**fiddle** (*fid-l*) **noun**

**Old English**

Definition: bowed stringed instrument that is the highest member of the violin family; this instrument has four strings and a hollow body and an unfretted fingerboard and is played with a bow

Example: He tried to bow his fiddle but always missed.

# Spellebration 2018

**flamenco** (*flah-meng-koh*) **noun, adjective**

**Spanish**

Definition: guitar music composed for dancing the flamenco

Example: She's a very good flamenco dancer.

**fugue** (*fyooog*) **noun**

**French**

Definition: a musical form consisting of a repeated theme

Example: I've finished my Toccata but I have no fugue .

**glissando** (*gli-sahn-doh*) **noun, adjective**

**Italian**

Definition: a rapid series of ascending or descending notes on the musical scale

Example: The glissando is so rapid that the repetitions of certain notes in it are not heard.

**harmonious** (*hahr-moh-nee-uh s*) **adjective**

**Greek**

Definition: exhibiting equivalence or correspondence among constituents

Example: A warm and harmonious song has accompanied us for three years.

**harmonica** (*hahr-mon-i-kuh*) **noun**

**Italian**

Definition: a small rectangular free-reed instrument having a row of free reeds set back in air holes and played by blowing into the desired hole

Example: That is a bluesy harmonica on the title track

**harp** (*hahrp*) **noun**

**Old English**

Definition: a chordophone with strings between the neck and the soundbox

Example: He played an Irish melody on the harp.

**harpsichord** (*hahrp-si-kawrd*) **noun**

**Latin**

Definition: a clavier with strings that are plucked by plectra mounted on pivots

Example: I can tune the harpsichord as well as play it.

**cantata** (*kuh n-tah-tuh*) **noun**

**Italian**

Definition: a musical composition for voices and orchestra

Example: The music of the song has been rearranged for the cantata.

# Spellebration 2018

**genre** (*zhahn-ruh*) **noun, adjective**

**French**

Definition: a kind of literary or artistic work

Example: Techno and punk rock are very different genres of music.