

# The 1200 Most Frequently Used Words in the English Language

This list is from Rebecca Sitton's "Spelling Sourcebook," pages 77-82. It is a "cross-referenced compilation" of several massive word studies, including the American Heritage Word Frequency Study (Carroll, Davies, Richman), and several other studies, including the work of Gates, Horn, Rinsland, Greene and Loomer, Harris and Jacobsen.

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|----------|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. the   | 36. we    | 71. no       | 106. good      |
| 2. of    | 37. there | 72. make     | 107. new       |
| 3. and   | 38. can   | 73. than     | 108. write     |
| 4. a     | 39. an    | 74. first    | 109. our       |
| 5. to    | 40. your  | 75. been     | 110. me        |
| 6. in    | 41. which | 76. its      | 111. man       |
| 7. is    | 42. their | 77. who      | 112. too       |
| 8. you   | 43. said  | 78. now      | 113. any       |
| 9. that  | 44. if    | 79. people   | 114. day       |
| 10. it   | 45. do    | 80. my       | 115. same      |
| 11. he   | 46. will  | 81. made     | 116. right     |
| 12. for  | 47. each  | 82. over     | 117. look      |
| 13. was  | 48. about | 83. did      | 118. think     |
| 14. on   | 49. how   | 84. down     | 119. also      |
| 15. are  | 50. up    | 85. only     | 120. around    |
| 16. as   | 51. out   | 86. way      | 121. another   |
| 17. with | 52. them  | 87. find     | 122. came      |
| 18. his  | 53. then  | 88. use      | 123. come      |
| 19. they | 54. she   | 89. may      | 124. work      |
| 20. at   | 55. many  | 90. water    | 125. three     |
| 21. be   | 56. some  | 91. long     | 126. must      |
| 22. this | 57. so    | 92. little   | 127. because   |
| 23. from | 58. these | 93. very     | 128. does      |
| 24. I    | 59. would | 94. after    | 129. heart     |
| 25. have | 60. other | 95. words    | 130. even      |
| 26. or   | 61. into  | 96. called   | 131. place     |
| 27. by   | 62. has   | 97. just     | 132. well      |
| 28. one  | 63. more  | 98. where    | 133. such      |
| 29. had  | 64. her   | 99. most     | 134. here      |
| 30. not  | 65. two   | 100. know    | 135. take      |
| 31. but  | 66. like  | 101. get     | 136. why       |
| 32. what | 67. him   | 102. through | 137. help      |
| 33. all  | 68. see   | 103. back    | 138. put       |
| 34. were | 69. time  | 104. much    | 139. different |
| 35. when | 70. could | 105. go      | 140. away      |

141. again	186. often	231. night	276. five
142. off	187. together	232. picture	277. himself
143. went	188. asked	233. being	278. usually
144. old	189. house	234. study	279. money
145. number	190. don't	235. second	280. seen
146. great	191. world	236. soon	281. didn't
147. tell	192. going	237. story	282. car
148. men	193. want	238. since	283. morning
149. say	194. school	239. white	284. I'm
150. small	195. important	240. ever	285. body
151. every	196. until	241. paper	286. upon
152. found	197. form	242. hard	287. family
153. still	198. food	243. near	288. later
154. between	199. keep	244. sentence	289. turn
155. name	200. children	245. better	290. move
156. should	201. feet	246. best	291. face
157. home	202. land	247. across	292. door
158. big	203. side	248. during	293. cut
159. give	204. without	249. today	294. dome
160. air	205. boy	250. however	295. group
161. line	206. once	251. sure	296. true
162. set	207. animal	252. knew	297. half
163. own	208. life	253. it's	298. red
164. under	209. enough	254. try	299. fish
165. read	210. took	255. told	300. plants
166. last	211. for	256. young	301. living
167. never	212. head	257. sun	302. black
168. us	213. above	258. thing	303. eat
169. left	214. kind	259. whole	304. short
170. end	215. began	260. hear	305. United States
171. along	216. almost	261. example	306. run
172. while	217. live	262. heard	307. book
173. might	218. page	263. several	308. gave
174. next	219. got	264. change	309. order
175. sound	220. earth	265. answer	310. open
176. below	221. need	266. room	311. ground
177. saw	222. far	267. sea	312. cold
178. something	223. hand	268. against	313. really
179. thought	224. high	269. top	314. table
180. both	225. year	270. turned	315. remember
181. few	226. mother	271. learn	316. tree
182. those	227. light	272. point	317. course
183. always	228. country	273. city	318. front
184. show	229. father	274. play	319. American
185. large	230. let	275. toward	320. space

321. inside	366. oh	411. already	456. snow
322. ago	367. person	412. warm	457. rain
323. sad	368. hot	413. gone	458. suddenly
324. early	369. anything	414. finally	459. easy
325. I'll	370. hold	415. summer	460. leaves
326. learned	371. state	416. understand	461. lay
327. brought	372. list	417. moon	462. size
328. close	373. stood	418. animals	463. wild
329. nothing	374. hundred	419. mind	464. weather
330. though	375. ten	420. outside	465. miss
331. idea	376. fast	421. power	466. pattern
332. before	377. felt	422. problem	467. sky
333. lived	378. kept	423. longer	468. walked
334. became	379. notice	424. winter	469. main
335. add	380. can't	425. deep	470. someone
336. become	381. strong	426. heavy	471. center
337. grow	382. voice	427. carefully	472. field
338. draw	383. probably	428. follow	473. stay
339. yet	384. area	429. beautiful	474. itself
340. less	385. horse	430. everyone	475. boat
341. wind	386. matter	431. leave	476. question
342. behind	387. stand	432. everything	477. wide
343. cannot	388. box	433. game	478. least
344. letter	389. start	434. system	479. tiny
345. among	390. that's	435. bring	480. hour
346. able	391. class	436. watch	481. happened
347. dog	392. piece	437. shell	482. foot
348. shown	393. surface	438. dry	483. care
349. mean	394. river	439. within	484. low
350. English	395. common	440. floor	485. else
351. rest	396. stop	441. ice	486. gold
352. perhaps	397. am	442. ship	487. build
353. certain	398. talk	443. themselves	488. glass
354. six	399. whether	444. begin	489. rock
355. feel	400. fine	445. fact	490. tall
356. fire	401. round	446. third	491. alone
357. ready	402. dark	447. quite	492. bottom
358. green	403. past	448. carry	493. check
359. yes	404. ball	449. distance	494. reading
360. built	405. girl	450. although	495. fall
361. special	406. road	451. sat	496. poor
362. ran	407. blue	452. possible	497. map
363. full	408. instead	453. heart	498. friend
364. town	409. either	454. real	499. language
365. complete	410. held	455. simple	500. job

501. music	546. length	591. oil	636. tail
502. buy	547. speed	592. modern	637. wait
503. window	548. machine	593. fun	638. difficult
504. mark	549. information	594. catch	639. general
505. heat	550. except	595. business	640. cover
506. grew	551. figure	596. reach	641. material
507. listen	552. you're	597. lot	642. isn't
508. ask	553. free	598. won't	643. thousand
509. single	554. fell	599. case	644. sign
510. clear	555. suppose	600. speak	645. guess
511. energy	556. natural	601. shape	646. forward
512. week	557. ocean	602. eight	647. huge
513. explain	558. government	603. edge	648. ride
514. lost	559. baby	604. soft	649. region
515. spring	560. grass	605. village	650. nor
516. travel	561. plane	606. object	651. period
517. wrote	562. street	607. age	652. blood
518. farm	563. couldn't	608. minute	653. rich
519. circle	564. reason	609. wall	654. team
520. whose	565. difference	610. meet	655. corner
521. correct	566. maybe	611. record	656. cat
522. bed	567. history	612. copy	657. amount
523. measure	568. mouth	613. forest	658. garden
524. straight	569. middle	614. especially	659. led
525. base	570. step	615. necessary	660. note
526. mountain	571. child	616. he's	661. various
527. caught	572. strange	617. unit	662. race
528. hair	573. wish	618. flat	663. bit
529. bird	574. soil	619. direction	664. result
530. wood	575. human	620. south	665. brother
531. color	576. trip	621. subject	666. addition
532. war	577. woman	622. skin	667. doesn't
533. fly	578. eye	623. wasn't	668. dead
534. yourself	579. milk	624. I've	669. weight
535. seem	580. choose	625. yellow	670. thin
536. thus	581. north	626. party	671. stone
537. square	582. seven	627. force	672. hit
538. moment	583. famous	628. test	673. wife
539. teacher	584. late	629. bad	674. island
540. happy	585. pay	630. temperature	675. we'll
541. bright	586. sleep	631. pair	676. opposite
542. sent	587. iron	632. ahead	677. born
543. present	588. trouble	633. wrong	678. sense
544. plan	589. store	634. practice	679. cattle
545. rather	590. beside	635. sand	680. million

681. anyone	726. quiet	771. hat	816. apart
682. rule	727. ancient	772. arm	817. path
683. science	728. stick	773. believe	818. careful
684. afraid	729. afternoon	774. major	819. narrow
685. women	730. silver	775. gray	820. mental
686. produce	731. nose	776. wonder	821. nine
687. pull	732. century	777. include	822. useful
688. son	733. therefore	778. describe	823. public
689. meant	734. level	779. electric	824. according
690. broken	735. you'll	780. sold	825. steel
691. interest	736. death	781. visit	826. salt
692. chance	737. hole	782. sheep	827. speech
693. thick	738. coast	783. I'd	828. forth
694. sight	739. cross	784. office	829. nation
695. pretty	740. sharp	785. row	830. knowledge
696. train	741. fight	786. contain	831. appear
697. fresh	742. capital	787. fit	832. ate
698. drive	743. fill	788. equal	833. dinner
699. lead	744. deal	789. value	834. hurt
700. break	745. busy	790. yard	835. spend
701. sit	746. beyond	791. beat	836. experiment
702. bought	747. send	792. inch	837. touch
703. radio	748. love	793. sugar	838. drop
704. method	749. cool	794. key	839. chair
705. king	750. cause	795. product	840. east
706. similar	751. please	796. desert	841. separate
707. return	752. meat	797. bank	842. truck
708. corn	753. lady	798. farther	843. sing
709. decide	754. west	799. won	844. column
710. position	755. glad	800. total	845. twice
711. bear	756. action	801. sell	846. particular
712. hope	757. pass	802. wire	847. shop
713. song	758. type	803. rose	848. unless
714. engine	759. attention	804. cotton	849. spot
715. board	760. gas	805. spoke	850. neither
716. control	761. kitchen	806. rope	851. met
717. spread	762. pick	807. fear	852. wheel
718. evening	763. scale	808. shore	853. none
719. brown	764. basic	809. throughout	854. hill
720. clean	765. happen	810. compare	855. television
721. wouldn't	766. safe	811. movement	856. bill
722. section	767. grown	812. exercise	857. solve
723. spent	768. cost	813. bread	858. pressure
724. ring	769. wear	814. process	859. report
725. teeth	770. act	815. nature	860. farmer

861. count	906. gun	951. member	996. discover
862. trade	907. entire	952. twelve	997. plain
863. chief	908. fruit	953. mine	998. usual
864. month	909. crowd	954. company	999. seat
865. clothes	910. band	955. current	1000. accept
866. doctor	911. wet	956. pound	1001. police
867. indeed	912. solid	957. valley	1002. consider
868. dance	913. northern	958. double	1003. dozen
869. church	914. flower	959. till	1004. baseball
870. original	915. star	960. match	1005. rubber
871. enjoy	916. feed	961. average	1006. symbol
872. string	917. wooden	962. die	1007. support
873. sister	918. sort	963. liquid	1008. exactly
874. familiar	919. develop	964. alive	1009. industry
875. onto	920. shoulder	965. stream	1010. they're
876. imagine	921. variety	966. provide	1011. beneath
877. blow	922. season	967. drink	1012. laugh
878. quick	923. share	968. experience	1013. groceries
879. law	924. jump	969. future	1014. popular
880. lie	925. regular	970. tomorrow	1015. thank
881. final	926. represent	971. drove	1016. quarter
882. rise	927. market	972. population	1017. climbed
883. loud	928. we're	973. finish	1018. continue
884. fair	929. flew	974. station	1019. potatoes
885. herself	930. finger	975. shook	1020. receive
886. slow	931. expect	976. stage	1021. design
887. noise	932. army	977. oxygen	1022. president
888. statement	933. cabin	978. poem	1023. charge
889. hungry	934. camp	979. solution	1024. mistake
890. join	935. danger	980. burn	1025. hospital
891. tube	936. purpose	981. cent	1026. remain
892. rode	937. breakfast	982. electricity	1027. service
893. empty	938. proper	983. everybody	1028. increase
894. twenty	939. coat	984. rat	1029. students
895. broke	940. push	985. dust	1030. insects
896. nice	941. express	986. worth	1031. address
897. effect	942. shot	987. community	1032. sincerely
898. paid	943. angry	988. captain	1033. dollars
899. motion	944. southern	989. bus	1034. belong
900. myself	945. dress	990. protect	1035. bottle
901. divide	946. bag	991. cook	1036. flight
902. supply	947. proud	992. raise	1037. forget
903. laid	948. neck	993. further	1038. bicycle
904. dear	949. breath	994. steam	1039. secret
905. surprise	950. strength	995. guide	1040. soldier

1041. silent	1086. serious	1131. message	1176. improve
1042. structure	1087. angle	1132. recently	1177. stomach
1043. height	1088. feather	1133. account	1178. collect
1044. observe	1089. determined	1134. physical	1179. prevent
1045. indicate	1090. dictionary	1135. neighbor	1180. courage
1046. railroad	1091. ordinary	1136. excited	1181. occur
1047. knife	1092. extra	1137. whisper	1182. foreign
1048. married	1093. rough	1138. available	1183. quality
1049. suggested	1094. library	1139. college	1184. terrible
1050. entered	1095. condition	1140. furniture	1185. instrument
1051. magazine	1096. arrived	1141. leather	1186. balance
1052. agree	1097. located	1142. husband	1187. ability
1053. fifty	1098. program	1143. principal	1188. arrange
1054. escape	1099. pencil	1144. medicine	1189. rhythm
1055. threw	1100. tongue	1145. excellent	1190. avoid
1056. planet	1101. title	1146. operation	1191. daily
1057. dangerous	1102. enemy	1147. council	1192. identity
1058. event	1103. garage	1148. author	1193. standard
1059. leader	1104. lose	1149. organize	1194. combine
1060. peace	1105. vegetable	1150. concern	1195. attached
1061. spelling	1106. parents	1151. barbecue	1196. frighten
1062. chapter	1107. style	1152. accident	1197. social
1063. swimming	1108. education	1153. disease	1198. factory
1064. opportunity	1109. required	1154. construction	1199. license
1065. immediately	1110. political	1155. motor	1200. recommend
1066. favorite	1111. daughter	1156. affect	
1067. settled	1112. individual	1157. conversation	
1068. telephone	1113. progress	1158. evidence	
1069. repeat	1114. altogether	1159. citizen	
1070. prepare	1115. activities	1160. environment	
1071. instance	1116. article	1161. influence	
1072. avenue	1117. equipment	1162. cancel	
1073. newspaper	1118. discuss	1163. audience	
1074. actually	1119. healthy	1164. apartment	
1075. employee	1120. perfect	1165. worse	
1076. review	1121. recognize	1166. transportation	
1077. convince	1122. frequently	1167. frozen	
1078. allowed	1123. character	1168. waste	
1079. nobody	1124. personal	1169. couple	
1080. details	1125. disappear	1170. function	
1081. muscles	1126. success	1171. connect	
1082. model	1127. traffic	1172. project	
1083. climate	1128. yesterday	1173. pronounce	
1084. coffee	1129. situation	1174. offered	
1085. whenever	1130. realize	1175. apply	