

Three Bee Study Words with Definitions for Eighth Grade

The School Spelling Bee Study List is broken down into three levels of difficulty: One Bee, Two Bee and Three Bee. Three Bee words include words appropriate for seventh and eighth grade.

The list below includes 100 challenging **eighth** grade words. If you learn the spellings and meanings of these words, you will be well prepared for your eighth-grade classroom bee. To prepare for a school spelling bee, ask your teacher for the full 450-word School Spelling Bee Study List, which includes these words, the remainder of the Three Bee words, and the One Bee and Two Bee words.

1	squalor	<i>noun</i>	the quality or state of being marked by filthiness and degradation usually from neglect.
2	memoirs	<i>plural noun</i>	histories or narratives composed from or stressing personal experience and acquaintance with the events, scenes, or persons described.
3	cylinders	<i>plural noun</i>	objects or forms having flat circular ends and straight sides.
4	ominous	<i>adjective</i>	indicative of future misfortune or calamity : causing anxiety and fear.
5	muffler	<i>noun</i>	any of various devices to deaden the noise of escaping gases or vapor.
6	syndrome	<i>noun</i>	a group of symptoms or signs typical of a disease, disturbance, or condition in animals or plants.
7	premises	<i>plural noun</i>	a building and the area of land it sits on.
8	safari	<i>noun</i>	a hunting or other expedition in east Africa especially on foot.
9	lasagna	<i>noun</i>	a baked dish containing layers of boiled pasta ribbons, cheese, a seasoned sauce of tomatoes, and meat or vegetables.
10	substantially	<i>adverb</i>	in a manner considerable in amount, value, or worth.
11	mercantile	<i>adjective</i>	of or relating to merchants or trading : appropriate to or characteristic of merchants : engaged in trade.
12	formidable	<i>adjective</i>	tending to inspire awe or wonder usually by reason of notable size, quantity, superiority or excellence.
13	propaganda	<i>noun</i>	the spreading of rumor, ideas or information for the purpose of either helping or injuring a person, institution or cause.
14	marquee	<i>adjective</i>	having the star power of someone who is famous.
15	proficient	<i>adjective</i>	well advanced in an art, an occupation, a skill, or a branch of knowledge.

Three Bee Study Words with Definitions for Eighth Grade

16	compunction	<i>noun</i>	remorse, reluctance, misgiving.
17	emphatically	<i>adverb</i>	in an insistent manner.
18	hyperventilated	<i>verb</i>	underwent excessive rate and depth of respiration leading to abnormal loss of carbon dioxide from the blood.
19	ostracism	<i>noun</i>	exclusion from common privileges or social acceptance.
20	onslaught	<i>noun</i>	an especially fierce attack.
21	ruefully	<i>adverb</i>	in a pitiable or woeful manner.
22	misanthrope	<i>noun</i>	one who hates or despises mankind.
23	prototype	<i>noun</i>	the first full-scale model of a new type or design of furniture, machinery, or vehicle.
24	cravenly	<i>adverb</i>	in a manner lacking even the rudiments of courage: contemptibly faintheartedly.
25	mulberry	<i>noun</i>	the edible usually dark purple fruit of a tree of the same name.
26	hypocritical	<i>adjective</i>	of or relating to the act or practice of pretending to be what one is not or to have principles or beliefs that one does not have.
27	chlorine	<i>noun</i>	a common nonmetallic element best known as a heavy greenish irritating toxic gas of disagreeable odor and used chiefly as a powerful bleaching, oxidizing, and disinfecting agent in water purification.
28	traumatic	<i>adjective</i>	of, relating to, or resulting from an injury or wound to the human body caused by the application of external force or violence.
29	receipts	<i>plural noun</i>	writings acknowledging the taking or accepting of goods or money delivered or paid.
30	solemnly	<i>adverb</i>	in a manner marked by grave sobriety and earnest serious sedateness : free from casualness or lighthearted levity.
31	begrudge	<i>verb</i>	to look upon or acknowledge with reluctance, hesitation, or disapproval.
32	contentious	<i>adjective</i>	marked by a wearisome tendency to disputes.
33	precocious	<i>adjective</i>	manifesting at an early age some of the mental or physical characteristics usually associated with maturity.

Three Bee Study Words with Definitions for Eighth Grade

34	ensemble	<i>noun</i>	a group of supporting players or the chorus.
35	cadre	<i>noun</i>	a nucleus or core group especially of trained personnel or active members of an organization who are capable of assuming leadership or of training and indoctrinating others.
36	lye	<i>noun</i>	a strong alkaline liquor that contains chiefly potassium carbonate obtained by leaching wood ashes with water and that has been used especially in soapmaking and washing.
37	belfry	<i>noun</i>	a bell tower.
38	lacrosse	<i>noun</i>	a game played with two teams of ten players each with each player using a long-handled stick to catch and throw a ball, and with the object being to throw the ball into the opponents' goal.
39	sluice	<i>noun</i>	a body of water pent up behind a floodgate or water gate.
40	cajolery	<i>noun</i>	the act or practice of alluring or inducing by soft words or flattery.
41	vigilance	<i>noun</i>	watchfulness in respect of danger or hazard.
42	residuals	<i>plural noun</i>	payments (as to an actor or writer) for each rerun especially of a commercial.
43	boutique	<i>noun</i>	a small retail store; especially : a specialty shop dealing in ladies' fashionable ready-to-wear clothes and accessories.
44	peroxide	<i>noun</i>	a binary compound containing a relatively high proportion of oxygen.
45	aristocracy	<i>noun</i>	an upper class usually made up of a hereditary nobility.
46	apocalypse	<i>noun</i>	something with the quality of a revelation by prophecy.
47	tuberculosis	<i>noun</i>	a communicable disease caused by a bacillus and characterized by toxic symptoms or allergic manifestations which in humans primarily affect the lungs.
48	barricade	<i>noun</i>	an object or objects placed so as to prevent entry or passage.
49	confreres	<i>plural noun</i>	colleagues : fellow workers (as in a profession or in a field of study).
50	anonymously	<i>adverb</i>	in a manner that is of unknown or unnamed source or origin.
51	unparalleled	<i>adjective</i>	having no equal or match.

Three Bee Study Words with Definitions for Eighth Grade

52	barrette	<i>noun</i>	a clip used to hold hair in place.
53	chassis	<i>noun</i>	the frame upon which is mounted the body (as of an automobile or airplane).
54	junket	<i>noun</i>	a pleasure trip or tour made by an official at public expense ostensibly for purposes of inspection, investigation, or other public business.
55	quandary	<i>noun</i>	a state of doubt or bewilderment : a dilemma.
56	Erie	<i>geographical entry</i>	a city and port on a lake in east central North America on the boundary between the U.S. and Canada; one of the Great Lakes.
57	gingham	<i>noun</i>	a clothing fabric usually of yarn-dyed cotton in plain weave made in solid colors, checks, plaids, and stripes.
58	silhouette	<i>noun</i>	a likeness of a person or thing showing only the outline, and that is typically filled in with black.
59	auxiliary	<i>adjective</i>	offering or providing help, assistance, or support especially by interaction.
60	thesaurus	<i>noun</i>	a book containing a store of words or of information about a particular field or set of concepts; specifically : a dictionary of synonyms.
61	patriarchs	<i>plural noun</i>	men regarded as fathers or founders (as of a race, science, religion or class of people).
62	chandelier	<i>noun</i>	a lighting fixture suspended from the ceiling and having two or more usually upcurving arms bearing lights, originally candles, or two or more hanging lights.
63	dulce	<i>noun</i>	sweetmeat, candy — used in the Southwest.
64	concierge	<i>noun</i>	an attendant at the entrance of a building : a doorkeeper.
65	latticework	<i>noun</i>	an assemblage of structures of wood or metal made by crossing thin strips so as to form a network.
66	hibiscus	<i>noun</i>	any plant or flower of a large widely distributed genus of herbs, shrubs or small trees with dentate or lobed leaves and large showy flowers.
67	tamale	<i>noun</i>	ground meat seasoned with chili or other filling, rolled up in cornmeal dough, wrapped in corn husks, and steamed.
68	maracas	<i>plural noun</i>	rattles of Latin American origin that are often made from a hollow gourd containing pebbles or dried seeds and that are used as a percussion instrument usually in pairs.

Three Bee Study Words with Definitions for Eighth Grade

69	gyroplane	<i>noun</i>	a fixed-wing aircraft balanced and supported by the aerodynamic forces acting on rapidly rotating horizontal or slightly inclined planes.
70	burpees	<i>plural noun</i>	conditioning exercises in which a person repeats a sequence of squats, push-ups, and vertical jumps.
71	Adriatic	<i>adjective</i>	of or relating to the sea that lies east of Italy.
72	piccolo	<i>noun</i>	a small shrill flute pitched an octave higher than the ordinary flute.
73	au revoir	<i>noun</i>	good-bye.
74	tulle	<i>noun</i>	a sheer and often stiffened machine-made net made with a usually hexagonal mesh and of silk, rayon, or nylon and used chiefly for veils, evening dresses, or ballet costumes.
75	boll weevil	<i>noun</i>	a grayish snout beetle about a quarter of an inch long that infests the cotton plant, puncturing and laying its eggs in the squares and pods or capsules.
76	camphor	<i>noun</i>	a tough gumlike substance obtained especially from the wood and bark of a tree of the same name and used as a stimulant in medicine and as an insect repellent.
77	Tucson	<i>geographical entry</i>	city in southeastern Arizona.
78	paparazzi	<i>plural noun</i>	free-lance photographers who aggressively pursue celebrities in order to take candid photographs.
79	pumpernickel	<i>noun</i>	a sourdough bread made with rye and wheat flours.
80	pogrom	<i>noun</i>	an organized massacre and looting of helpless people usually with the connivance of officials; specifically : such a massacre of Jews.
81	bursitis	<i>noun</i>	inflammation of a fluid-filled cavity in a joint of the body.
82	pâtisserie	<i>noun</i>	a shop that sells French pastry.
83	cycads	<i>plural noun</i>	any plants abundant in the Mesozoic but now reduced to a few localized and widely scattered tropical forms that have an unbranched trunk which is tall and arborescent or squat and tuberous with a large pith and starchy cortex and that bears a terminal cro
84	sarsaparilla	<i>noun</i>	a sweetened carbonated beverage similar to root beer with the predominant flavor from birch oil and sassafras.

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85	maître d'	<i>noun</i>	the head of the dining-room staff of a restaurant or hotel.
86	cannelloni	<i>noun</i>	tubes especially of pasta filled with a savory stuffing (as of meat).
87	boulangerie	<i>noun</i>	a bakery that specializes in bread and especially in French-style breads.
88	bronchitis	<i>noun</i>	acute or chronic inflammation of either of the two primary divisions of the trachea that lead respectively into the right and the left lung.
89	Oswego	<i>geographical entry</i>	city on Lake Ontario in northern New York.
90	diphtheria	<i>noun</i>	a contagious disease in children that causes a sore, swollen throat.
91	baklava	<i>noun</i>	a dessert made of thin pastry layered with nuts and honey.
92	corbels	<i>plural noun</i>	architectural elements which project from within a wall and support a superincumbent weight; especially : ones that are stepped upward and outward from a vertical surface.
93	trebuchets	<i>plural noun</i>	medieval military engines designed to hurl stones and similar missiles with great force by means of a heavy weight fastened to the short arm of a lever which raises the end of the long throwing arm with great velocity.
94	Kilimanjaro	<i>geographical entry</i>	a volcanic mountain in Tanzania near the border of Kenya whose central peak is the highest point in Africa.
95	fräulein	<i>noun</i>	a usually young unmarried woman especially of Germany.
96	protégé	<i>noun</i>	one who is protected or trained or whose career is furthered by a person of experience, prominence, or influence : pupil.
97	hors d'oeuvres	<i>plural noun</i>	any of various savory foods usually served as appetizers at the beginning of a meal.
98	maquisards	<i>plural noun</i>	French guerrilla fighters in World War II resisting the Nazis.
99	Aubusson	<i>noun</i>	a tapestry woven originally in the 16th century, noted for its figure and scenic designs, and used for wall hangings and upholstery.
100	Charolais OR Charollais	<i>noun</i>	a breed of large white cattle developed in France for draft purposes but now kept chiefly as a beef breed and important for crossbreeding.