**Spelling Bee Challenge Words 2nd& 3rd**

**inane**- [ih-**neyn**]-adj.-(Latin) lacking sense, significance, or ideas; silly: The college freshman asked inane questions.

**access**- [**ak**-ses]-noun-(Latin) the ability, right, or permission to approach, enter, speak with, or use; admittance:

They have access to the files.

**sultan**- [**suhl**-tn]-noun-(Arabic) the sovereign of an Islamic country.

The state of emergency places few limits on the sultan's power. 

**lilac**-[**lahy**-luhk, -lahk, -lak]-noun-(Arabic) any of various shrubs belonging to the genus*Syringa*,  of the olive family, as *S. vulgaris,*  having large clusters of fragrant purple or white flowers: the state flower of New Hampshire.  The lilac is an ornamental shrub with showy, fragrant blooms in spring and early summer.

**karma**- [**kahr**-m*uh*]-noun-( Asian) *Hinduism, Buddhism*. action, seen as bringing upon oneself inevitable results, good or bad, either in this life or in a reincarnation: in Hinduism one of the means of reaching Brahman.    If you lead your life the right way, the karmawill take care of itself.

**gunnysack**- [**guhn**-ee-sak]-(Asian) a sack made of gunny or burlap.   Each rabbit was put in a gunnysack or box and ferried to bunny mounds and other high ground.

**elite**- [ih-**leet**, ey-**leet**]-noun-(French) ( often used with a plural verb ) the choice or best of anything considered collectively, as of a group or class of persons.   They were ruled by militaristic warrior-priests, part of a small, wealthy elite.

**impasse**- [**im**-pas, im-**pas**]-noun-(French) a position or situation from which there is no escape; deadlock.   Attempts were made however to try to overcome the apparent impasse.

**strudel**- [**strood**-l]-noun-(German) a pastry, usually consisting of a fruit, cheese, or other mixture, rolled in a paper-thin sheet of dough and baked.     For dessert, try the warm apple strudelwith cinnamon ice cream.

**cobalt**- [**koh**-bawlt]-noun-(German) a silver-white metallic element with a faint pinkish tinge, occurring in compounds whose silicates afford important blue coloring substances for ceramics.   As cobaltdecays, it becomes less effective, so you have to monitor that.

**polka**- [**pohl**-kuh, **poh**-kuh]-noun-(Slavic) a lively couple dance of Bohemian origin, with music in duple meter.  Polka band music is performed throughout the festival, and there is a public dance each evening.

**sable**- [**sey**-b*uh* l]-noun-(Slavic) an Old World weasellike mammal, *Mustela zibellina*,  of cold regions in Eurasia and the North Pacific islands, valued for its dark brown fur.   She put on her sable fur coat.

**scrabble**- [**skrab**-*uh* l]-verb-(Dutch) to jostle or struggle for possession of something; grab or collect something in a disorderly way; scramble.   Preventive health care has already become neglected as the township hospitals   scrabbleto make ends meet.

**shrapnel**-[shrap-nl]-noun-(Eponym) Military-a hollow projectile containing bullets or the like and a bursting charge, designed to explode before reaching the target, and to set free a shower of missiles; named after Henry Shrapnel (1761–1842), English army officer, its inventor.  With dozens of bullet and shrapnel wounds, he knew he was lucky to have survived.

**coyote**- [kahy-oh-tee, kahy-oht]-noun-(New World) Also called prairie wolf; a buffy-gray, wolflike canid, Canis latrans, of North America, distinguished from the wolf by its relatively small size and its slender build, large ears, and narrow muzzle.  On the edges of a sheep farm, a coyote lurks, licking his chops.

**sushi**- [soo-shee]-(Japanese) noun-Japanese Cookery- cold boiled rice moistened with rice vinegar, usually shaped into bite-size pieces and topped with raw seafood or formed into a long seaweed-wrapped roll, often around strips of vegetable or raw fish, and sliced into bite-size pieces.   If you're a sushi lover, order a combo to sample a few different sushi selections.

**ramen**- [rah-muhn]-noun-(Japanese) Japanese Cookery- a bowl of clear soup containing noodles, vegetables, and often bits of meat. The hotel features four on-site restaurants, including a ramen shop, and hosts a karaoke lounge.

**balcony**- [bal-kuh-nee]-noun-(Italian) a balustraded or railed elevated platform projecting from the wall of a building.  If you live in a city, you might have a window box or a pot of tomatoes on your balcony.

**cafeteria**- [kaf-i-teer-ee-uh]-noun-(Spanish) a restaurant in which patrons wait on themselves, carrying their food to tables from counters where it is displayed and served. The camps are on college campuses, and so lunch is usually at the college cafeteria.

**metaphor**- [met-uh-fawr, -fer]-noun-(Greek) a figure of speech in which a term or phrase is applied to something to which it is not literally applicable in order to suggest a resemblance, as in “A mighty fortress is our God.” The ecosystem metaphor has become very popular, almost too popular.

**hearth**- [hahrth]-noun-(Old English) the floor of a fireplace, usually of stone, brick, etc., often extending a short distance into a room. He squatted at the hearth and went back to roasting his corn.

**yield**- [yeeld]-verb-(Old English) to give forth or produce by a natural process or in return for cultivation. This farm yields enough fruit to meet all our needs.

**gnat**- [nat]-noun-(Old English) any of certain small flies, especially the biting gnats or punkies of the family Ceratopogonidae, the midges of the family Chironomidae, and the black flies of the family Simuliidae. He would, however, confirm that the bug he swallowed was a gnat.

**cosmetic**- [koz-met-ik]-noun-(Greek) a powder, lotion, lipstick, rouge, or other preparation for beautifying the face, skin, hair, nails, etc. Hair tonics, perfumes, toilet waters and other cosmetic products were similarly exempt.

**paradox**- [par-uh-doks]-noun-(Greek) a statement or proposition that seems self-contradictory or absurd but in reality expresses a possible truth. The most troublesome paradox, and the most difficult to change, is that of education itself.

**fiesta**- [fee-es-tuh]-noun- (Spain and Latin America) a festive celebration of a religious holiday.

The three-day fiesta is a celebration dedicated to fond memories of the departed.

**Amarillo**- [am-uh-ril-oh]-noun-(Spanish) a city in NW Texas. Amarillo is located in the panhandle of Texas.

**caesar**- [see-zer]-noun -(Italian) a title of the Roman emperors from Augustus to Hadrian, and later of the heirs presumptive.  Caesar was an emperor and military leader.

**cavalry**- [kav-uh l-ree]-noun-Military-(Italian) the part of a military force composed of troops that serve on horseback.  At an early hour this morning the cavalry corps again moved forward.

**haiku**- [hahy-koo]-(Japanese) a major form of Japanese verse, written in 17 syllables divided into 3 lines of 5, 7, and 5 syllables, and employing highly evocative allusions and comparisons, often on the subject of nature or one of the seasons.  Not only has the studio whittled these movies down to haiku, but it's also a haiku with only two lines

**karate**- [kuh-rah-tee]-(Japanese) a method developed in Japan of defending oneself without the use of weapons by striking sensitive areas on an attacker's body with the hands, elbows, knees, or feet. But you understand that fingers are not used in boxing or karate.

**iguana**- [ih-gwah-nuh]-noun-(New World) a large, arboreal lizard, Iguana iguana, native to Central and South America, having stout legs and a crest of spines from neck to tail.  The iguana, which is not a true lizard, are vegetarians and are often found in trees.

**buccaneer**- [buhk-uh-neer]-noun-(New World) any of the piratical adventurers who raided Spanish colonies and ships along the American coast in the second half of the 17th century. The term buccaneer is now used generally as a synonym for pirate.

**boysenberry**- [boi-zuh n-ber-ee, -suh n-]-noun-(Eponym) a blackberry-like fruit with a flavor similar to that of raspberries, developed by crossing various plants of the genus Rubus; named after R. Boysen, 20th-century American botanist, who bred it.   A boysenberry is a cross between a raspberry,and the pacific blackberry.

**easel**- [**ee**-z*uh*l]-noun-(Dutch )a stand or frame for supporting or displaying at an angle an artist’s canvas, a blackboard, a china plate, etc. Mounted on rails, the camera faced a railmounted easel holding the print paper.

**paprika**- [pa**-pree**-k*uh*, p*uh*-, pah-, **pap**-ri-k*uh*]-noun-(Slavic) a red, powdery condiment derived from dried, ripe sweet peppers.     Pour melted butter and lemon juice over fish and sprinkle with paprika.

**streusel**-[ **stroo**-zuhl, **stroi**-]-noun-(German) a topping for coffeecake, consisting of crumbs of blended sugar, cinnamon, flour, butter, and chopped nutmeats.  The pie gets a sweet and crunchy topping, courtesy of almond streusel.

**chagrin**- [sh*uh*-**grin**]-noun-(French) a feeling of vexation, marked by disappointment or humiliation.  The real action, much to their chagrin, takes place elsewhere.

**guru**- [**goor**-oo, goo-**roo**]-noun-(Asian) Hinduism. a preceptor giving personal religious instruction; an intellectual or spiritual guide or leader.   Every generation get the self-help guru it deserves.

**azure**-[**azh**-er]-adj.-(Arabic) of or having a light, purplish shade of blue, like that of a clear and unclouded sky.

He was wearing an azure sweater and gray trousers.