

## PALINDROME (PALINGRAM)

The name “palindrome” derives from the Greek *palin* + *dromo*, which means “running back again.” The word *palindrome* is an established term in English used to refer to words or phrases which read the same in either direction. Simple examples are the word *noon*, or the phrase *live evil*, which have exactly the same form and meaning when read in reverse.

### Common English Palindromes

· Level	· Minim	· Civic	· Racecar	· Refer	· Reviver	
	· Rotator	· Sexes	· Stats	· Deed	· Eye	· Mum
	· Madam	· Malayalam	· Radar	· Pull-up	· PUT-UP	· Eve
	· Naan	· Redivider	· Toot	· Hannah	· Deleveled	·
Detartrated		· Dewed	· Kayak	· Redder	· Rotavator	· Rotor
	· Sagas	· Solos				

### Phrases and Sentences (Palindromes)

- ◆ Dennis and Edna sinned.
- ◆ Don't nod
- ◆ He lived as a devil eh?
- ◆ Nurses run
- ◆ I did, did I?
- ◆ Ma is as selfless as I am.
- ◆ Madam in Eden, I'm Adam. (Adam's introduction of himself to Eve)
- ◆ Name me man (Adam to his creator)
- ◆ Navy van
- ◆ Was it a car or a cat I saw?
- ◆ A man, a plan, a canal, Panama
- ◆ Able was I ere I saw Elba”, supposedly spoken by Napoleon, referring to his first sighting of Elba, the island where the British exiled him.

### Word Unit Palindromes

Word palindromes are sentences that are read in either direction word by word.

1. Dollars make men covetous, and covetous men make dollars.
2. Bores are people that say that people are bores.
3. Women understand men, few men understand women.
4. God knows man. What is doubtful is what man knows God.
5. You can cage a swallow, can't you, but you can't swallow a cage can you?

## SEMORDNILAP (REVERSIBLE WORDS)

If the word *palindromes* is itself read in reverse however, the result is **semordnilap**, a term coined in recent years to refer to words and phrases which make sense when read backwards, but have a different meaning from when they are read forwards.

The **semordnilap** of the word *evil* is *live*, and the **semordnilap** of the word *desserts* is *stressed*.

“Semordnilap” is itself “palindromes” spelt backwards. Lewis Carroll called this a **semordnilap** (“palindromes” spelled backwards)

**Examples:** able / Elba, blub / bulb, bonk / knob, buns / snub, buts / stub, dart / trad, darter / retrad, deed / deed, deep / peed, deeps / speed, deer / reed, deliver / reviled, dessert / tressed, devil / lived, dew / wed, dial / laid, doom / mood, door / rood, draw / ward, drawer / reward, edit / tide, emit / time, evil / live, flog / golf, flow / wolf, liar / rail, lived / devil, maps / spam, pans / snap, parts / strap, parts / strap, peels / sleep, pees / seep, pets / step, pots / stop, rats / star, rebut / tuber, redraw / warder, redrawer/rewarder, remit / timer, sleeps/ speels, snaps / spans, snips / spins, spat / taps, spot / tops, spots / stops, tap / pat, tool / loot

## PANGRAMS (HOLALPHABETIC)

Pangram is a phrase, clause, sentence, or other sequence of letters which contains **all the letters of the alphabet**. (Such sentences are also called *holalphabetic* sentences.)

The word **pangram** comes from the Greek word for **all letters** (**pan** = all + **grámma** = letter).

- ◆ A large fawn jumped quickly over white zinc boxes.
- ◆ All questions asked by five watch experts amazed the judge.
- ◆ Five or six big jet planes zoomed quickly by the tower.
- ◆ Pack my box with five dozen liquor jugs.
- ◆ Six of the women quietly gave back prizes to the judge.
- ◆ The explorer was frozen in his big kayak just after making queer discoveries.
- ◆ The five boxing wizards jump quickly.
- ◆ The public was amazed to view the quickness and dexterity of the juggler.
- ◆ The quick brown fox jumps over a lazy dog.
- ◆ Whenever the black fox jumped the squirrel gazed suspiciously.
- ◆ While making deep excavations we found some quaint bronze jewelry.

### Perfect Pangram

A Perfect Pangram is a 26-letter sentence containing every letter of the alphabet exactly once.

Example: - Mr. Jock, TV quiz PhD, bags few lynx.

## WORD PUZZLES & WORD QUIZ

1. Give two words that contain the first six letters of the alphabet, yet are only eight letters long.
2. In which word does the letter 'l' appear seven times.
3. Which word in English contains five different pronouns?
4. There is a word in Oxford English Dictionary which contains six Z's. What is the word?
5. Give a three word expression using only the first four letters of the alphabet.
6. Which is the word that contains four K's?
7. Write any five words that begin and end with 'A'.
8. Write any five words that begin and end with 'B'.
9. Write any five words that begin and end with 'C'.