

# Lesson #2: Buzzwords



A buzzword is a word or phrase that is technical or trendy in a particular field. Here are buzzwords related to spelling. In the Scripps Spelling Bee, students can ask for this type of information from the bee pronouncer.

**Definition:** A description or explanation about the meaning of a word. Some words have more than one definition.

**Context:** The parts of a sentence or passage that surround a word and can help a reader or listener understand what it means.

**Pronunciation:** The way the sounds of a word are produced when spoken. Dictionaries use symbols to illustrate the way or ways each word should be enunciated. Some of the symbols look like ä and ē.

**Parts of Speech:** The classes of words that are distinguished according to their function in a sentence. There are eight main parts of speech: nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, conjunctions and interjections.

**Etymology:** The history of a word based upon where the word was first known to be used, or based upon where the parts of the word were first used. For example, the word "etymology" is derived from the Greek word etumologia, which was formed by the words etumon, meaning "true sense," and logia, meaning "study of."

**ACTIVITY:** Solve this cryptogram by unscrambling these words associated with language and then using the number-letter key to reveal the secret word.

1) O C R I D I T A Y N

2) A D E R

— — — — —  
1 2

— — — — —  
3 2

3) G I I T S I L N S C U

4) O H N O P H E M O

— — — — —  
1 4

— — — — —  
5

The secret word (clue: a decimal point = a dot in place):

— — — — —  
2 1 2 4 3 2 5

**Educators:** October 15th is the last day to register your school to participate in the Scripps Spelling Bee without paying a late fee. Visit [nie.newsok.com/spellingbee](http://nie.newsok.com/spellingbee) today for more information!

Answers: 1) Dictionary; 2) Read; 3) Linguistics; 4) Homophone; Secret Word: Anagram