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Our 26 letters allow 676 possible bigrams, and various searches have been made to find as many of these as possible in certain logical categories, particularly at the beginning and at the end of words. What follows is an attempt at discovering as many as possible of the 676 pairs straddling the hyphen in compound words. Webster’s Second Edition (NI2) viewed hyphenated words more favorably than Webster’s Third (NI3). In spite of the tendency to drop hyphens from the newer edition, it appears that our newest words, as found in the Addendum to NI3, have a greater likelihood of hyphenation than even NI2.

In this article, I have not allowed (1) entries with more than one hyphen (for example, jack-in-the-pulpit), (2) hyphenated pairs in which one member is only a single letter (for example, Susy-Q) or (3) hyphenated pairs in an entry with extra words (for example, red-headed pine sawfly. Furthermore, NI3 (and Addendum) words were used in preference to NI2 words. NI2 words are noted with an * and NI3 Addendum words with a +.

Eight proper names have been taken from the NI2 gazetteer. Since at most one pre-hyphen word was found to end in the letters J, Q or V, these three letters have been omitted from the columnar tabulation on the next four pages. Each column contains only 25 entries, for no post-hyphen words beginning with X were found. The only pre-hyphen words that I found ending in J or Q are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-hyphen</th>
<th>Post-hyphen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Absuj-Terna*</td>
<td>cinq-cents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The editor has noted that hyphenated words are actually rather rare in normal English text. In fact, in the Kucera-Francis corpus of one million words sampled from books, magazines and newspapers printed in the United States in 1961, only ten appeared more than 20 times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-hyphen</th>
<th>Post-hyphen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>long-range</td>
<td>anti-trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long-term</td>
<td>part-time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>so-called</td>
<td>twenty-five</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An eleventh word, Bang-Jensen, appeared 25 times, all in a single 2000-word sample.

Can readers fill in any of the holes using Websterian sources?
pine

COPYING

epressive

tered

I.

I.]

emic

led

~

tic - republican

ricken

eur

rcu*+

let*+

I*+

ed

bing

ar

green

ed

ger

rior

ification

it

ghting

ation

ant

nderstanding

ence

low*

201

gosh-awful

earth-ball

Yueh-chi

crash-dive

fish-eye+

flash-forward+

heath-game

witch-hunt

teach-in+

fish-joint
dough-kneading*

earth-lit

rough-machine

north-northwest

psych-out+

Dutch-process

high-quality*

high-rise+

earth-smoke

flash-type

fetch-up

lymph-vascular

heath-wren

reddish-yellow*

aleph-zero

semi-axis+

biilli-bi+

semi-comatose+

semi-double

ti-es

sci-fi+

Tupi-Guarani

Yi-hsing+

bi-lilac

quasi-judicial

Eshi-Kongo

quasi-legislative

bhakti-marga

twi-night

quasi-optical

quasi-public

quasi-reorganization

demi-sec

karri-tree

quasi-uplift*

demi-vierge

quasi-wicked*

ki-yi

anti-Zionism

sperm-aster

custom-built

vacuum-clean

jim-dandy

worm-eaten

cram-full

gum-gum

lyam-hound

Chatham-Island*

slim-jim

trim-kept

stem-line

quantum-mechanical

worm-nest

nee-ol

jam-pack

stem-root

drym-saghiz

arm-twisting+

jam-up

gram-variable

whim-wham

yum-yum
open-air
Franco-American+
up-anchor

wren-boy
go-by
up-bow
man-child
neo-Confucian
up-country
open-door
jo-darter
deep-draw
open-eared
retro-engine+
deep-etch
woman-grown
no-fault+
deep-focus
open-handled
go-go+
deep-grown
turn-in
yoo-hoo
hip-huggers+
op-ear
Aryo-Indian
drop-in+
pain-killer
jo-jotte
fast-jawed
in-line+
no-knock+
open-jaw
audio-lingual+
iron-free
wornan-grown
warp-knitted
garden-variety
open-handled
magico-religious
open-worked
cop-out+
fifteen-pounder
go-quaffing*
iron-nold
sharp-quilled*
gentlem-an-ranker
span-new
sharpc-nosed
sign-on+
cop-proof
fifty-five
open-tank
glass-paper
ego-trip*
glass-hard
go-quick
can-quaffing*
glass-eye
coop
non-Zionist*
slo-pitch+
ne-ne
open-jaw
magico-religious
wren-yen
cop-out+
on-ear
non-Zionist*
yo-yo
year-around
sharp-nosed
open-worked
zero-zero
games-all
glass-hard
open-handled
glass-vascular
glass-hair
water-jacket
hair-trigger
flat-knit
water-vessel
boxer-up
glass-eye
paper-white
paper-plate
quarter-yearly

by-hour
right-angle
by-alle
right-center
lay-by
gilt-edge
arty-cr
fast-food+
heavy-d
out-group
fifty-five
nitty-gr
watt-hour
fifty-five
set-in
jiggery.
first-name
forty-five
ready-v
put-on+
ready-n
judge-ry
forty-five
by-hour
out-Quixote*
by-alle
sheep-lace
abat-jour
foot-mouth
bazz
foot-tan
jo-jo
ready-v
put-on+
ready-v
judge-ry
by-hour
many-v

Targu-,
Namtus-
by-alle
Tu-chun
urucu-r
fu-yang
Tu-chun
wu-ts'a
fu-yang
you-all
ru-mu
T'u-lac
you-uns

by-alle
lay-by
arty-cr:
heavy-d
fifty-five
nitty-gr
by-hour
joy-juic
fifty-five
fly-kick
heavy-l
ready-n
fifty-five
by-hour
jiggery.

by-alle
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by-hour
jiggery.
chor
untry
draw
estch
focus
grown
jiggers+
n
wed
knitted
lice
nild
nosed
nt+
roof
quilled*
ooted
ea
ster
u-vase
waited
yielding*
ingle
ending
tch
e
d+g
up
ur
it
sid
uth
ime
cket
kote*
il
der
ix
st
ar
ne

you-all
you-all
know-all
know-all
ex-all

tu-chung
tu-chung
low-browed
low-browed
wax-billed

feu-duty
feu-duty
low-cut
low-cut
wax-chandler

limu-elele
limu-elele
low-down
low-down
six-day*

Chateau-Gontier*
Chateau-Gontier*
low-end
low-end
ox-eyed

Neu-Hannover*
Neu-Hannover*
low-frequency
low-frequency
tax-free

Ulu-juz
Ulu-juz
low-grade
low-grade
ax-grinder

limu-kohu
limu-kohu
know-how
know-how
mix-Hellene

T'u-lao
T'u-lao
low-intensity*
low-intensity*
sex-influenced

mu-meson
mu-meson
hollow-jawed*
hollow-jawed*
pyx-jury


Targu-Ocna*
Targu-Ocna*
show-off
show-off
ex-king*

Namtu-Panghai*
Namtu-Panghai*
low-pressure
low-pressure
sex-link

urucu-rana
urucu-rana
crow-quill*
crow-quill*
six-master

tau-sagy
tau-sagy
low-rate
low-rate
six-ounce*

wu-ts'ai+
wu-ts'ai+
low-set
low-set
six-pack

you-uns*
you-uns*
low-test
low-test
ex-quay*

wou-wou
wou-wou
slow-up
slow-up
six-room*

fu-yang*
fu-yang*
crow-victuals
crow-victuals
six-shooter

zou-zou
zou-zou
low-warp
low-warp
fox-trot

by-alley
by-alley
new-year
new-year
mix-up

lay-by
lay-by
whiz-bang
whiz-bang
ex-voto

arty-crafty
arty-crafty
topaz-colored*
topaz-colored*

heavy-duty
heavy-duty
quartz-diorite
quartz-diorite

fifty-eight
fifty-eight
laissez-faire
laissez-faire

fifty-five
fifty-five
topaz-green*
topaz-green*

nitty-gritty+
nitty-gritty+
Gunz-Mindel
Gunz-Mindel

by-hour
by-hour

buy-in+
buy-in+

joy-juice
joy-juice

fly-kick
fly-kick

heavy-laden
heavy-laden

ready-made
ready-made

fifty-nine
fifty-nine

fifty-one
fifty-one

jiggery-pokery
jiggery-pokery

jury-rigged
jury-rigged

forty-six
forty-six

forty-two
forty-two

lay-up
lay-up

many-valued
many-valued

ready-witted
ready-witted

yackety-yack
yackety-yack

topaz-yellow*
topaz-yellow*