

LONG ISOGRAMS (PART 2)

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Pair Isograms

As defined in the first part of this article, pair isograms are words containing exactly two of each letter. Those 7 pair isograms in the following lists which exhibit an accidental first-half/last-half symmetry or balance are asterisked for the reader's convenience.

14-Letter Examples

ALMS MALIGNINGS. Acts or instances of slandering the donations given to or accepted by the poor or needy.

AN OLDER LEONARD. An older and, just possibly, a wiser one.

ARCORESONANCES. The sound reinforcements and prolongations caused by the vibrations of bowstrings immediately after the bows of which they form parts have been used to shoot arrows.

ARE INTEGRATING. The second person singular and plural present progressive active indicative* form of the verb to integrate ("you are integrating").

BERTHA'S BREATHS. Short ones, since she has just completed the 1500-meter run in the United States indoor track and field events, in the record-breaking time of 3 minutes, 31.7 seconds.

CADMIEL-CLAIMED. Taken as its rightful owner by someone named Cadmiel. A case in point is the Cadmiel of the Apocrypha (1 Esdras 5:26) claiming his various birthrights.

*COMA INSOMNIACS. Hypnophobiacs - individuals with a morbid fear of falling asleep - who are terrified of lapsing into a coma while asleep: one from which they will never emerge.

COUNTERTROUNCE. To flog or thrash someone in retaliation for that individual's inflicting a like punishment on one first.

DRESSER, INDIANA. A small community in Vigo County, Indiana, west of Terre Haute. It is also known as Taylorville.

ENDODONTISTISE. The British spelling of endodontistize: to confer the degree of endodontist on a candidate specializing in the treatment of diseases of the tooth pulp.

*GOAT PHYTOPHAGY. The habit of feeding on plants, as that habit is exemplified by goats.

GRANITE-TEARING. Using immense force, possibly of supernatural origin, to pull blocks of even the hardest granite apart.

INACCIDENTATED. United with the material qualities remaining in the sacramental bread and wine after their miraculous transformation into the body and blood of Christ: a vintage term for a theological obscurity on which I am unprepared to expatiate.

LEONARD NORDALE. An English name - one which some antebellum

Southern slave may well have adopted.

MARTINE REITMAN. Another English name - possibly, the stage name of an actress whose real name is something like Mathilda Rhijnvis.

MELINDA IDLEMAN. A third English name - conceivably, one bestowed on a foundling whose parentage has remained an impenetrable mystery.

MIRACLE CLAIMER. Someone who asserts that he or she has experienced, witnessed, or performed a miracle or miracles.

NO-NO MA'AMSELLES. Prudish young women who invariably say "no" to eager young men.

NORTH HELLERTON. An English-language place name, available for immediate use in a work of fiction.

NORTH HEXXERTON. Another English-language place name, distinguished for its double X and recommended for some community about to be founded or established.

NO SOUTH HOUSTON. The verified absence of a community named South Houston, in any state or province - Hawaii or Quebec, for example - which does not have any locality bearing that name.

NOTIDANOIDEATE. Characterized by the presence of an order (also a suborder) of sharks, including the cow sharks among others, having embolomorous or diplospondylic vertebrae - a curious phenomenon that readers are welcome to explore further. Certain seas or oceans are Notidanoideate.

ORLÉANS-SALERNO. An adjective describing the route from Orléans, in north-central France (a city with a population exceeding 100 thousand) to Salerno, in southern Italy (a city with a population exceeding 150 thousand). The airline distance between the two cities is approximately 825 miles. Have there been any recent terrorist incidents along the Orléans-Salerno route?

*PHILADELPHIADE. The Gallicized name for an epic or quasi-epic poem about Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - Gallicized, perhaps, because its author is a Frenchman by birth.

*PTERIDOPTEROID. Both fernlike and winglike.

PTEROPTERIDOID. Both winglike and fernlike. Despite the subtle distinction between this term and the preceding one, the two words are mutual transposals.

RACHEL'S CHARLES. That Charles who happens to be Rachel's live-in lover.

RAYMOND ORMANDY. Still another English name - not implausibly, that of some relative of Eugene Ormandy, the noted longtime music director of the Philadelphia Orchestra.

SCINTILLESCENT. Sparkling or twinkling somewhat faintly.

SECTION NOTICES. Notices generated by, addressed to, or posted in the individual sections, divisions, or departments of some government or business organization.

SHIRLEY HILYERS. Once again, an English name - one currently obscure but as likely as not to burst into national or even international prominence at some future time. The surname Hilyers, incidentally, has the same ending as Conyers, Salyers, and various other English surnames.

STUMBLEBUMLETS. Clumsy, incompetent, and insignificant individuals: a highly informal term.

SUIT POTPOURRIS. The diversified arrays of suits worn by fops or jack-a-dandies.

SWING WINGETTES. Miniaturized airplanes which are constructed so as to assume an arrowlike planform at high speeds.

*TAENIODONTIDAE. A family of extinct (Lower Eocene) edentates (placental mammals such as the living New World sloths, armadillos, and anteaters) characterized by cheek teeth having roots and enamel.

*TAVERN SERVANTS. Subordinate helpers performing typically menial services in taverns.

UNCONSTRUCTORS. Individuals reversing or undoing a process of construction: those who tear down what others have laboriously erected.

UNSUFFICIENCES. Conditions of want or insufficiency.

Of the 38 pair isograms just presented, only 6 are known to be recognized by standard reference works: ARE INTEGRATING; DRESSER, INDIANA; INACCIDENTATED; SCINTILLESSENT; TAENIODONTIDAE; and UNSUFFICIENCES. What a sad commentary on reference works!

16-Letter Examples

*ANTIPERSPIRANTES. The French equivalent of the English adjective antiperspirant - its feminine plural form. Previously-published comments describing the word as coined assumed that antiperspirant is recognized only as a noun by English-language dictionaries. Such is not the case - The World Book Dictionary (larger than the unabridged Random House) identifies antiperspirant as an adjective. What exists in English can be translated into French!

ANTITRANSVERSIVE. Tending to make longitudinal; opposite to that which tends to make transverse.

COUNTERUNCORSETS. Removes someone else's corset by way of reciprocating the favor that the other individual performed in removing one's own corset.

DAEMONIC COMEDIAN. A comedian of extraordinary genius.

DEMONIAC COMEDIAN. A comedian seemingly possessed by an evil spirit - probably as a consequence of his audience's indifference to his jokes. This pair isogram is a transposal of the preceding one. What a semantic difference changing the position of one letter, the A, can make!

GINERVA GRANVILLE. Yet another English name: one typical of motion-picture and television actresses. In addition to being the Italian name for Geneva, Switzerland, Ginerva is the name of a lady in Lodovico Ariosto's chivalric epic poem Orlando Furioso, published in 1532. The name is also a transposal of vinegar.

GRADING READINESS. The mental and emotional readiness of very young schoolchildren to be graded on their academic performance: a useful pedagogic concept.

INDIAN REDROOT TEA. According to Webster's Third Edition, the term Indian redroot is synonymous with redroot, which is synonymous with New Jersey tea, a shrub from the leaves of which the American colonists made a tea substitute during the Revolution-

ary War. As an examination of Webster's Second Edition establishes, the verbal equation is totally spurious, but why quarrel with the self-styled "final English language authority of its time"?

LEAST GIN-STEALING. The superlative form of the compound adjective gin-stealing, in an inverted comparison of that adjective. Someone characterized as least gin-stealing pilfers less of that alcoholic liquor than does anyone else. An inverted comparison is, parenthetically, also known as a descending, diminishing, or downward comparison.

MALINTERTERMINAL. Carried on or taking place between terminals, but badly or wrongfully.

NO PHARYNGOGRAPHY. The absence of a description of the pharynx.

ORIENTAL RELATION. A Chinese or Japanese cousin.

SOLITARY ROYALIST. A colonial supporter of King George III of Great Britain during the American Revolution, surrounded by troops of the Continental army.

STEPHANO STANHOPE. An English name, just once more. Stephano is an inebriated butler in The Tempest, and a servant and messenger in The Merchant of Venice, both by William Shakespeare.

TEACHING CHEATING. Instruction in dishonesty. Charles Dickens's Fagin, in Oliver Twist, who trains boys and girls to be pickpockets, would assuredly approve of such instruction.

TELEPHILOSOPHIST. A philosopher, sophist, or rationalist who expounds his views on television - a counterweight of sorts to today's electronic preachers.

TRAMLINE TERMINAL. Either end of a streetcar line, frequently including a passenger station, a yard, and offices.

W. NORTH HELLERTOWN. Situated in Northampton County, Pennsylvania, 8 miles east-southeast of Allentown, is the borough of Hellertown, noted among other things for its molding-sand quarry. One of several possible futures has Hellertown mushrooming and acquiring a suburb by the name of North Hellertown. A smaller community called West North Hellertown then springs up next to it. On most maps, its name is shown as W. North Hellertown. This pair isogram has provided for that particular future.

Of the 18 pair isograms just presented, only ANTIPERSPIRANTES, a French example, is in the category of a "dictionary" word. English-language reference works have struck out completely.

18-Letter Examples

COPRAETERPOLITICAL. Surpassing political considerations, or the political sphere of action, jointly with something else. Praeter- is a variant of the prefix preter-.

FLORENCE, CALIFORNIA. A community in the Los Angeles area, between Watts and Huntington Park.

MASCULINE CALUMNIES. False accusations, made maliciously by men, designed to injure the reputations of women: instances of male chauvinism.

REDDER SHANGHALINGS. Instances in which trickery is used to place individuals in undesirable positions, which instances are

more Communist-inspired than formerly - a natural consequence of the fact that the city of Shanghai has been in Communist hands since 1949.

MASTERING MAN TIGERS. The next challenge for those who have succeeded in mastering werewolves and uturuncus.

STAMMERING INGRATES. Thankless persons so embarrassed by their ingratitude for the kindnesses which others have extended them that their speech is adversely affected.

STREAMING EMIGRANTS. Refugees from politically inhospitable nations such as East Germany, Cuba, or Afghanistan, migrating in large numbers to other countries. Note that streaming emigrants is a transposal of both mastering man tigers and stammering ingrates, above.

ULTRATRANSLUCENCES. Transparencies: states of being extraordinarily translucent.

Only one of these 8 pair isograms - FLORENCE, CALIFORNIA - is familiar to standard reference works.

20-Letter Example

GOOD STEPGRANDPARENTS. The antitheses of bad stepgrandparents. The word stepgrandparent is not in Webster's Second Edition, even though both stepgrandfather and stepgrandmother have been included. On the other hand, the dictionary lists both stepgrandchild and stepgrandson but omits stepgranddaughter. Since the six words occupy identical statuses, one may ask all sorts of questions. If stepgrandson, why not stepgranddaughter? If stepgrandchild, why not stepgrandparent? If stepgrandmother, why not stepgranddaughter? If stepgrandmother and stepgrandfather, why not stepgrandparent? The answer to all questions: lexicographic arbitrariness, capriciousness, and/or slipshodness. The responsible noematologist cannot be so careless or whimsical.

22-Letter Example

MOTHERLANDS' ENTHRALDOMS. The multifarious states or conditions that our native lands, the lands of our ancestors, induce in us, charming us, captivating us, holding us spellbound. The term has, thus far, eluded dictionary notice.

24-Letter Example

PSEUDAUTOHERMAPHRODITISM. A self-induced condition of simulated androgyny. This definition is of such extraordinary quality that probing beneath its glittering surface could serve only to diminish the awe that it inspires in us.

The dictionaries have goofed again, omitting the word from their repertoires.

Trio Isograms

All 23 of the following trio isograms have somehow been overlooked by standard reference works.

12-Letter Examples

ANTI-TITANIAN. Opposed to the Titans of ancient Greek mythology.

A PREAPPEARER. Someone who appears on the scene in advance. The term is a transposal of rapparee rape, which see below.

DENA EDNA DEAN. An English first, middle, and last name, yours for the asking. Dena means "from the valley."

LEDA DELA DALE. Another such name. In Greek mythology, Leda was the mother of Helen of Troy. Dela is a diminutive of Cordelia, one of King Lear's daughters in the Shakespearean play of that name.

METATEAMMATE. A teammate going beyond or transcending the usual kind of teammate; someone good to have on your side.

RAPPAREE RAPE. Violent seizure or robbery committed by Irish 17th-century irregular soldiers or freebooters. The term is a transposal of a preappearer, which see above.

SENNETT'S NEST. A bird's nest watched over and tended by George Burritt Sennett, the American ornithologist (1840-1900).

*SHIPPISH HIPS. An inevitable accompaniment of sea legs: a bodily adjustment to the motion of a ship, indicated by freedom from seasickness and the ability to sway one's hips just as on land. As the asterisk points out, shippish hips is the only known accidentally balanced or symmetrical trio isogram.

SOME MESOSOME. An unspecified one of a number of cell organelles serving as localization sites for respiratory enzymes. Try figuring that one out!

15-Letter Examples

LEONA ENOLA O'NEAL. A third English first, middle, and last name available to whomever may need one. Enola, which means "the enobled one," is a reversal of alone.

MONIMOLIMNION'LL. The contraction of monimolimnion will, as in "the monimolimnion'll always be found below the chemocline." The monimolimnion is the lower, denser, and noncirculating layer of a lake undergoing incomplete circulation at the fall overturn, whatever that means!

NORMA MORNA MORAN. A fourth complete English name, feminine like its three predecessors. Morna means "soft or gentle."

RATED RETARDATED. Officially classified as mentally retarded: a psychiatrically and juridically useful term.

18-Letter Examples

GRADGRINDIAN DARING. Boldness as a result of excessive zeal in the pursuit of practicality - an audacity beyond the reach of less practical individuals.

INTRATRANSNISTRAS. Transnistria was a Romanian administrative division organized by the Germans in the occupied portion of the Ukraine, during World War II. Sections of the division, entirely within Transnistria, were consequently Intertransnistras.

NONPERSON OPPRESSER. A Communist functionary in the Soviet Union who oppresses those whom the state has relegated to a con-

dition of nonexistence by classifying them as nonpersons.

RONALD LANDOR ARNOLD. A fifth complete English name, and the first masculine one. Landor is variously interpreted as meaning "launderer," "owner of a grassy plain," or "fame of the land."

21-Letter Examples

AN OLDER LEONARD NORDALE. The older (and possibly wiser) Leonard whom we met earlier in this article is now more fully identified for us.

LEONARD ROELAND NORDALE. A sixth complete English name, and the second masculine one. Roeland is a form of Roland, remembered in history, legend and song as Charlemagne's nephew and paladin who died at Roncesvalles in northern Spain, in 778, while fighting the Saracens.

24-Letter Examples

CORNELIA CAROLINE COLERAIN. A seventh complete English name, and the fifth feminine one. Colerain and Coleraine are mutual variants both as surname and as place names. Note, for instance, Colerain, North Carolina and Colerain, Ohio, but Coleraine, Massachusetts and Coleraine, Minnesota. The Massachusetts name, included in various gazetteer published between 1841 and 1873, is now spelled Colrain, a third variant of the same name.

RATIONED INDIAN REDROOT TEA. The Indian redroot tea discussed earlier in this article, suddenly short in supply, and being doled out to those presenting ration cards.

TRIANGLE/INTEGRAL-ALERTING. Changing the shape of a mathematical triangle and of the integral functions corresponding to it, as changing mathematical data requires doing.

30-Letter Example

CHATTAHOOCHEE'S NIL, NIL COASTLINES. Chattahoochee is a town in Gadsden County, in northwestern Florida. It is definitely not on the shore of any lake, sea, or ocean. It therefore has no coastline. The multiplicity of conjectured coastlines requires a particularly emphatic, repeated denial.

Tetrad Isograms

Shown below are 11 tetrad isograms. Because this is the very first presentation of such isograms, all known examples, including palindromic and tautonymic ones, are included. Those six terms culled from published reference works are asterisked.

4-Letter Example

*ZZZZ. The sound of snoring, often used to symbolize sleep. The word is both a palindrome and a tautonym, and the alphabetically last English word.

8-Letter Examples

*AY! AY! AY! AY! Each of four consecutive lines of verse compri-

sing the final refrain of "South of the Border (Down Mexico Way)," a song by Jimmy Kennedy and Michael Carr, published in 1939 by the Peter Maurice Music Company Limited and popularized by singing-cowboy motion-picture star Gene Autry. The line is a tautonym.

DEDEEDED. Rescinded the transfer of property by deed. The word is a palindrome.

*FOFO FOFO. A town in the independent nation of Papua, New Guinea, about 65 miles north-northwest of Port Moresby, the capital. The name is a tautonym.

*KUKUKUKU. A people inhabiting parts of Morabe and Papua, on the island of New Guinea. The name is a tautonym.

12-Letter Examples

*ANGANG-ANGANG. One of the names of the gong angang-angang or gong kemodong, a Javan gong consisting of two large bronze or iron bars, suspended on cords over a hollow frame. The name angang-angang is one of those used in Banyumas or Banjoemas, a town in central Java about 75 miles west-northwest of the Indonesian capital of Jakarta. The term is a tautonym.

*KINNIK-KINNIK. An alternate spelling of kinnikinnik, a mixture of bark and leaves smoked by both Indians and pioneers in the Ohio Valley and Great Lakes region. The word is both a palindrome and a tautonym, and one of the longest English words using only three different alphabetic letters.

16-Letter Examples

ANTI-ANTI-TITANIAN. Opposing those who opposed the Titans of ancient Greek mythology. Examples of dictionary words doubling the anti- prefix include anti-antibody, anti-anticlimax, and anti-anti-Communism.

SENNETT'S TEN NESTS. We pay ornithologist George Burritt Sennett another visit, observing that he is now tending to ten different bird's nests.

24-Letter Example

INTRATRANSNISTRIA'S TRAINS. The trains operating in any of the geographic areas designated Intratransnistria and defined above.

28-Letter Example

AN OLDER LEONARD ROELAND NORDALE. Leonard, ever older and wiser, returns in his final, 28-letter glory.

Higher-Order Isograms

The only higher-order isogram I have uncovered is the hexed isogram SENNETT'S TEN NESS STENT NETS, the specially-anchored nets used by an individual bearing the surname Sennett when fishing in the river cutting through a headland. The last two words are a palindrome, and the entire term is a univocalic tongue twister. Readers are invited to provide additional examples.