

SCRABBLE PATTERNS

SUSAN THORPE

Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, England

thorped@hotmail.com

When the letters of the word SUPERMAN are assigned their Scrabble values, SUPE.RMAN becomes **1131.1311**, a palindromic numerical arrangement. SUPE.RMAN is what I call a **Scrabble Palindrome**. Similarly, GAR.DEN is a **Scrabble Tautonym** (**211.211**), whilst RU.IN (**11.11**) is **both a Scrabble Palindrome and a Scrabble Tautonym**. The Scrabble totals of the letters of the first and second halves of the word are equal, in the above cases **6.6**, **4.4** and **2.2** respectively.

In the game of Scrabble, the values of the letters are:

A E I L N O R S T U (1) D G (2) B C M P (3) F H V W Y (4) K (5) J X (8) Z Q (10)

No letters have Scrabble values of 6, 7 or 9.

In order for the Scrabble totals of the two halves of a word to each be 1 (represented by **1.1**), the word can only be constructed from Scrabble letters in **one way**, specifically from letters with a Scrabble value of 1. Such words include AT, IN etc. (see below).

Scrabble totals higher than **1.1** can all be constructed from Scrabble letters in **two, or more, ways**. Thus, **2.2** can be achieved using the pattern **2.2** or the pattern **11.11**. The patterns 2.11 and 11.2 are not admitted as they are not palindromic or tautonymic.

Some patterns fail to produce any words. This is mainly because all 5 of the major vowels (a, e, i, o u) have the same Scrabble value (1). Hence, for example, no Scrabble Palindromes were found with the patterns 23.32 and 32.23 or Scrabble Tautonyms with the patterns 23.23 and 32.32.

In the lists below, the **numbers on the left (starting with 1.1)** are the Scrabble totals of the letters of the two halves of the words. The numbers in italics are the Scrabble values of the individual letters.

Most of the words can be found in the Oxford English Dictionary, Second Edition.

Other references: *Cham* = Chambers English Dictionary *Dor* = Dorland's Medical Dictionary *LAE* = Longman's Illustrated Animal Encyclopedia *NZ* = Nomenclator Zoologicus *Sted* = Stedman's Medical Dictionary *TNWD* = The New Welsh Dictionary by Evans & Thomas *W2* = Webster's Second Edition

BOTH SCRABBLE PALINDROMES AND SCRABBLE TAUTONYMS

The pattern **4.4*** is worthy of note in being the only 2-digit pattern, apart from **1.1**, for which words were found. This is possible because the '6th vowel' Y has a Scrabble value of 4.

Words which are letter palindromes or letter tautonyms are not admitted.

1.1 **1.1** an as at in is it lo no on or so to us

2.2 **11.11** ea.st li.st ru.le se.nt st.en to.ur

3.3 **111.111** ant.ler enl.ist ins.ole lea.rnt lin.ers neu.ral orn.ate res.ult sul.tan urs.ine

4.4 **4.4*** h.y (haste) v.y (in card-playing, a challenge)

121.121 adi.uge (adjudge)

1111.1111 seno.rita insu.late urin.ates rela.tion Tiro.lean outr.aise (an 'aeiou' word)

5.5 **131.131** amo.eba opt.ics scr.ape scr.ipt spl.ice spr.uce

212.212 dod.ged dog.ged gad.ded gag.ged

11111.11111 Lauri.eston (in UK) Neola.tirus (mollusc - NZ)

- 6.6** **141.141** Eve.lyn shr.ift shr.ive shr.ove thr.ive thr.own
2112.2112 ding.-dong drag.gled dred.ging drud.ging
111111.111111 teleos.aurian
- 7.7** **151.151** ska.lke ski.nke skr.ike (a screech) sku.lke
313.313 mob.cap (contains just one each of the letters with a value of 3, ie. B C M P, as does 'upclimbs'* below)
11311.11311 impor.table unpoe.tical
1111111.1111111 neutral.isation trilate.ralness unilate.ralists
- 8.8** **11411.11411** unfes.tival
1331.1331 upcl.imbs * **3113.3113** plum.bism clip.-clop
1111111.1111111 antinati.onalists internat.ionalise translit.eration
- 9.9** **11511.11511** enkli.tikos (Gk. 'inclined' – *Cham*)
414.414 fly.way
11111111.11111111 antisensa.tionalist
- 10.10** **4114.4114** half-view
113311.113311 rumble.-tumble timber.-topper **131131.131131** obtume.scence
- 11.11** **14141.14141** swive.l-weft **41114.41114** wroth.fully

SCRABBLE PALINDROMES

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>3.3 12.21 ed.ge</p> <p>4.4 13.31 im.ps</p> <p>5.5 14.41 Rh.yz (a surname)</p> <p>6.6 15.51 ek.ka (one-horse vehicle in India) ok.ka (an)</p> <p>7.7 115.511 tik.kle (tickle) luk.kin (to lock)</p> | <p>21.12 di.ng du.ng go.ad go.ld gr.id</p> <p>31.13 ba.lm bu.rp ca.lm cl.ub cu.rb</p> <p>211.112 din.ing dos.ing gus.ted</p> <p>41.14 ho.ly vi.ew wa.ry</p> <p>311.113 pur.ism cat.nip bur.lap Put.nam</p> <p>2111.1112 dera.ting gris.tled</p> <p>1211.1121 i-gro.unde (ground = <i>past part.</i> of grind)</p> <p>51.15 ki.nk ki.rk</p> <p>411.114 hea.rty fou.rth fur.low van.ish</p> <p>3111.1113 botu.lism coli.seum plat.inum</p> <p>1311.1131 scle.roma</p> <p>11112.21111 strag.glier nonad.dress</p> <p>11121.12111 Laude.rdale landl.adies</p> <p>312.213 pig.dom</p> <p>511.115 kar.luk (Russian isinglass)</p> <p>1411.1141 over.lays shoe.-lift over.lift</p> |
| <p>112.211 lod.ger nig.gle rid.den rid.ges</p> <p>1112.2111 sled.gers slud.gier stod.gier</p> <p>1121.1211 indu.lger orga.ndie ungi.rdle</p> <p>113.311 arm.pit lim.ber rum.ble tom.cat</p> <p>1112.21111 sled.gers slud.gier stod.gier</p> <p>1121.12111 indu.lger orga.ndie ungi.rdle</p> <p>114.411 eth.yls sty.ful (\Egyptian weight)</p> <p>1113.3111 stum.bles tram.pler</p> <p>1131.1311 copi.able supe.rman</p> <p>2111.11112 deton.ating grouse.eland</p> <p>12111.11121 adela.ntado (a Spanish grandee)</p> <p>2121.1212 degr.aded</p> <p>213.312 gam.bed gim.ped</p> <p>1141.1411 lavi.sher unfl.ower</p> | <p>11112.21111 strag.glier nonad.dress</p> <p>11121.12111 Laude.rdale landl.adies</p> <p>312.213 pig.dom</p> <p>511.115 kar.luk (Russian isinglass)</p> <p>1411.1141 over.lays shoe.-lift over.lift</p> |

7.7 contd.

1114.4111 Lath.yrus outw.hine tray.fuls **4111.1114** flou.rish hone.stly hear.tily
11113.31111 intem.poral resum.ption **31111.11113** centr.alism psalt.erium
11131.13111 urocl.epsia (*Dor*) **13111.11131** Apote. riums (shrubs)
211111.111112 desali.nating gutter.alised
11121.121111 soundi.ngness
111211.112111 nonger.undial (*W2*)
214.412 daw.yng (dawning)

8.8 1115.5111 trek.kers

1114.41111 tarif.fless insuf.flate **41111.11114** Faunt.leroy harei.ously(aeiou word)
14111.11141 overs.trewn evalu.ative **11141.14111** univa.lvate (*W2*) out-fl.avour
11113.311111 unslum.berous (*W2*) **31111.11113** conson.antism bilate.ralism
11131.131111 strept.obiose (*Sted*)
111311.113111 neo-cri.ticist
111112.2111111 autosug.gestion **113111.111311** uncons.olable recons.tructs
111121.1211111 neurode.ndrites (*W2*) nonsegr.egation (*W2*)
111211.1121111 aerogeo.logists (*W2*)
3131.1313 caps.icum
2113.31112 disem.pired **31112.21113** blood-group (*Cham*)
21131.13112 descr.ibing
1412.2141 shad.dowe **4121.1214** fadi.ngly hidingly
314.413 may.hem **413.314** hum.bly wob.bly

9.9 81.18 ji.nx

11151.15111 snake.skins
11114.4111111 interw.histle ninety.firsts **411111.11114** fortui.tously frater.nality
11141.1411111 earthe.nwares **141111.111141** tystio.laethu (Welsh: to testify – aeiou word - *TNWD*)
114111.111411 Stylos.anthes (pencilflower)
111411.114111 self-an.alysis traver.se-wise
311111.1111113 proleta.rianism bioastr.onautic
111311.1131111 eriocau.laceous (*W2*) teleconnection
113111.1111311 Romano-E.truscan superlu.natical (*W2*)
2111111.1111112 disease-r.esisting
21113.311112 distem.pering **211131.131112** delacr.imated
211311.113112 deobstr.ucted discon.nected disbal.ancing
311121.121113 pseudo.rganic mesodu.odenum
311211.112113 Macdon.aldism

- 10.10** **311131.131113** panspe.rmatic preope.rculum metaco.umari
113131.131311 albumo.scopes (*W2*) recipr.ocable **131311.113131** spectr.oscope
311311.113113 precri.ticism(*W2*) propes.simism(*W2*) **313111.111313** macros.eismic
- 11.11** **1131113.3111311** superem.pirical supraum.bilical superim.posable
3131111.1111313 bacteri.otropic
4412.2144 Whig.gify
- 12.12** **111144.441111** Nantyf.fyllon (Wales)
114114.411.411 safety.-valves
411141.141114 fortys.eventh
141114.411141 overref.fusive

SCRABBLE TAUTONYMS

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>3.3 12.12 ag.ed eg.ad</p> <p>4.4 13.13 sc.ab sc.am
 112.112 Ing.rid rid.ing sid.ing</p> <p>5.5 14.14 sh.ow
 113.113 rec.oup unc.lip
 1112.1112 tang.ling targ.eted uned.ited
 1121.1121 Eldo.rado rede.sign unde.rage</p> <p>6.6 15.15 sk.ek (a petty raid)
 114.114 inf.low lav.ish new.ish saf.ety
 1113.1113 neop.lasm sunc.ream
 1131.1131 nume.rics reclaims supe.ract
 1112.11112 strid.elong (with legs wide apart)
 11121.11121 rende.rings ale-gr.ounds</p> <p>7.7 115.115 unk.irk Sok.ulk (an Indian of a
 \Shahaptian tribe - <i>W2</i>)
 1114.1114 outflash seaf.orth slov.enly
 1141.1141 rift.-sawn sove.rayn unwr.ithe
 1113.1113 Leioc.ranum (an Arachnid - <i>NZ</i>)
 11131.11131 turbu.lence
 11112.11112 interd.ealing nitrog.enised triang.ulated</p> <p>211111.211111 Darlin.gtonia (a pitcherplant - <i>Cham</i>)</p> <p>111211.111121 autode.alings</p> <p>111211.111211 single-loader Sooglo.ssidae (Order of frogs - <i>LAE</i>)</p> <p>112111.112111 audiol.ingual Euglen.oidina (Order of unicellular organisms)</p> <p>21211.21211 Dugon.gidae (a family of aquatic herbivorous mammals)</p> <p>412.412 fig.hed</p> | <p>21.21 da.go di.gs do.ge go.ds gr.id</p> <p>31.31 ca.me mi.ce mo.bs pa.ce</p> <p>211.211 dan.ger dra.gon gar.den gol.den</p> <p>41.41 ha.ve</p> <p>311.311 pin.cer</p> <p>2111.2111 dele.gate desi.gner gran.dson</p> <p>1211.1211 Adin.idan (the Adinida are Protozoans)</p> <p>51.51 ka.ke (cake) ka.ki (Chinese date plum)</p> <p>411.411 fat.her hit.her vie.wer vin.yls</p> <p>3111.3111 cons.pire peli.cans pole.mist</p> <p>1311.1311 abno.rmal obst.acle</p> <p>21111.21111 dotin.gness geolo.gists giran.doles</p> <p>12111.12111 ideol.ogist iguan.odont</p> <p>511.511 kin.kle kra.ken</p> <p>4111.4111 flas.hier</p> <p>1411.1411 over.thin shri.eval swea.tful</p> <p>31111.31111 broil.ments (disturbances)</p> <p>13111.13111 Acten.obius (beetle - <i>NZ</i>)</p> <p>121111.121111 adstri.ngents</p> <p>Teague.lander (an Irishman)</p> <p>Euglen.oidina (Order of unicellular organisms)</p> |
|---|--|

- 8.8** **134.134** sch.emy
1115.1115 tink.tank
11114.11114 antif.elony north.ernly relev.antly
41111.41111 fallo.wness fetis.hists fores.hores
11141.11141 nonfe.stive **14111.14111** overi.nvest tylos.tylus
11113.11113 leptoc.entric neuro-c.entrum
31111.31111 biarti.culate maleru.ptions (*W2*) Petalo.crinus (an echinoderm - *NZ*)
11131.11131 insect.ariums nonobe.isance unrepe.ntance
11131.111311 neocla.ssical surmou.ntable unobta.inable
11311.11311 Nemato.librus (a beetle - *NZ*)
13111.13111 ecrust.aceous (*W2*) scatte.rbrain (*Cham*)
111112.111112 autoreg.ulating
211111.211111 deutera.gonists disinte.grators gastroa.denitis (*W2*)
- 9.9** **18.18** Aj.ax **81.81** ja.xe (a privy)
51111.51111 kalli.krein (an enzyme)
- 10.10** **811.811** jin.xer
- 11.11** **11144.11144** oathw.orth
- 14.14** **41144.41144** wishy.-washy

SCRABBLE TRIPLE TAUTONYMS

- | | | | | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 3.3.3 | 12.12.12 | i-g.od.ed (ME ‘good’) | 21.21.21 | dé.ga.gé (unembarrassed) |
| 4.4.4 | 13.13.13 | ic.ec.ap (<i>Cham</i>) | 31.31.31 | pu.mi.ce |
| 5.5.5 | 14.14.14 | sh.if.ty | 41.41.41 | fi.ft.hs |
| 6.6.6 | 15.15.15 | Sk.ok.ak (Yugoslavia) | 51.51.51 | ko.ka.ko (New Zealand Wattle-bird) |

SCRABBLE QUADRUPLE TAUTONYM

- 5.5.5.5** **41.41.41.41** fi.ft.y-t.wo

Scrabble Palindromes and Scrabble Tautonyms are not the sole genres of Scrabble Pattern words. A **Scrabble Miami** (pattern ‘abcab’), for example, is found in Wight (Isle of), fight and highs (all with the pattern **41241**), yacht (**41341**) and Bryce (**31431**).