

JADE

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I have two daughters, Jade Roxann, who was born in 1981, and Ellie Caroline, born in 1984. Over fifteen years ago, I wrote an article for *Word Ways* entitled "Caroline" which appeared in the May 1971 issue. That particular article examined a variety of wordplay based on the letters of the name CAROLINE. While that article preceded the appearance of my second daughter by over thirteen years, there has until now been no article related to either forename of my first daughter. As I am beginning to find that each daughter wants what the other has, I felt it was about time to generate an article for my elder daughter, celebrating either of her forenames. This, then, is the article which examines some of the wordplay that can be put in place round the name JADE. (I could have chosen ROXANN, but I felt that JADE offered more logical scope.) So, what can be done with the letters of JADE?

If the letters of the alphabet are assigned numbers equivalent to their positions (so that A = 1, B = 2, and so on), then JADE becomes 10-1-4-5. The sum of the last three letters equals the value of the initial letter. How many other forenames share that property? Perhaps that should remain a separate exercise for the reader.

The obvious starting point for pure letterplay, as opposed to numbers and letters, is to examine the transposability of JADE. The French word for 'already' is DÉJÀ, but this suffers from two accents not present in JADE itself. DÉJÀ also appears in a variety of two-word medical phrases. For example, Webster's Third has DÉJÀ VU(E), an illusory feeling of having previously experienced a present situation. My copy of Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary - the 24th edition - contains items such as DÉJÀ ENTENDU, DÉJÀ ÉPROUVE, DÉJÀ FAIT, DÉJÀ PENSE, DÉJÀ RACONTE, DÉJÀ VECU, and DÉJÀ VOULU. Perhaps somewhere in actual use the two accents are dropped, but I couldn't find any examples. To find an unaccented transposal of JADE, I searched a variety of dictionary sources. I finally discovered the verb JAE (meaning 'to dash, to surge-of water') in Chambers Scots Dictionary, originally published in 1911, but still available in Great Britain. The past tense of the verb is obviously JAED. If you want a source that is somehow more English, then turn to Joseph Wright's English Dialect Dictionary, which shows JAE as a Scots form of the word JAW (still meaning 'to dash, to surge'). Quite why a dictionary of English dialect shows Scots words, I don't know! But anyway, JAED is the only fully acceptable transposal of JADE which I have managed to find.

What transadditions of JADE can be found? In other words, what single letters can be added to JADE so that the resultant five let-

ters can be rearranged to spell a legitimate word or name? I have managed to add half the alphabet, thirteen letters, in turn to JADE to create new five-letter words. Here is my list:

+D	JADED	+H	JEHAD	+P	JAPED	+V	DJAVE
	JEDDA	+K	JAKED	+R	JARED	+W	JAWED
+E	JEEAD	+L	JALED	+S	JADES		
+G	JADGE	+O	OJEDA	+U	JAUDE		

JEDDA is the name of a port on the Red Sea, and can be found in the Random House Dictionary; JEEAD and JAUDE are variants of JADE from The English Dialect Dictionary; JADGE is a Scots form of 'gauge' in The Oxford English Dictionary; JAKED is the past tense of the verb 'jake', to dally, in Webster's Second Edition; JALED is the past tense of the verb 'jale', a 17th-century form of 'jail' in The Oxford English Dictionary; OJEDA is a village or town in Argentina, listed in the Times Index Gazetteer; and JARED is a proper name in Webster's Second Edition. The other words are in Webster's Third Edition.

Another of my favorite logological activities is seeking substitute-letter transposals. For example, delete the J from JADE, add an R, and rearrange the letters to create a new word, DEAR. With a short word like JADE, there should be plenty of possibilities. How close is it possible to get to the theoretical maximum of 100 combinations (that is, for each of the four letters which can be deleted, there are twenty-five possible substitutions)? My list here contains 55 out of these 100 possibilities. Words from sources other than Webster's Third are briefly described at the end of the list.

	-J	-A	-D	-E
+A		----		JADA
+B	BEAD		BEJA	JABD
+C	DACE		JACE	
+D	DEAD		----	
+E	EADE	JEED	AJEE	----
+F	FADE			
+G	AGED		JEGA	
+H	HEAD		HAJE	HADJ
+I	IDEA			JIDA'
+J	----			
+K	KADE		JAKE	
+L	LEAD		JAEL	
+M	DAME		EJAM	JAMD
+N	DEAN	NEJD	JEAN	JAND
+O	OADE	JOED		JODA
+P	APED		JAPE	
+Q				
+R	DEAR		REJA	JARD
+S	ADES	JEDS	JAES	JADS
+T	DATE			
+U	A DUE	JUDE	UJAE	JUDA
+V	DEVA		JAVÉ	
+W	WADE			JAWD

+X AXED
 +Y YADE
 +Z DAZE

YAJE

JADY

Webster's Second is the source for JADA, JABD, EADE, AJEE, HAJE, KADE, JAKE, JAEL, EJAM, JAMD, NEJD, OADE, JOED, JODA, REJA, JARD, JEDS, JUDE, JUDA, JAVÉ, YADE and YAJE. The Oxford English Dictionary is the source for JACE and JADS. The Times Index Gazetteer contains JEGA (a town in Nigeria), JIDA' (a river in Arabia), JAND (a town in West Pakistan), and UJAE (an island in the Marshall Islands in the Pacific Ocean). JAES is from Chambers Scots Dictionary - JAE has already been defined. And finally, JAWD is yet another form of JADE from The English Dialect Dictionary.

How many words and names are there in which the four letters of JADE appear in their correct order and adjacent to each other? If one ignores plurals and -S verb forms, then I managed to amass 35 terms, admittedly some of them two-word terms. Can anyone get this up to a round three dozen?

4 letters: JADE

5 letters: JADED

6 letters: BEJADE, JADERY (Webster's Second)

7 letters: BEJADED, JADEDLY, JADEITE, JADELLOT (Hyamson's Dictionary of Universal Biography), UNJADED

8 letters: JADE GRAY, JADEITIC (Supplement to The Oxford English Dictionary), JADELIKE (Random House Dictionary), JADESHIP, JADEWARI (Times Index Gazetteer), OVERJADE, TRUE JADE (Webster's Second)

9 letters: JADEDNESS, JADE-GREEN (Webster's Second), JADEITITE (Funk and Wagnalls), JADELLOTIA (Willis' Dictionary of the Flowering Plants and Ferns), JADEOLITE (Funk and Wagnalls), JADE PLANT, JADE SHEEN, JADESTONE, OVERJADED (Webster's Second)

10 letters: JADE-CARVER (Oxford English Dictionary), JADE-QUARRY (Oxford English Dictionary), JADE TENACE (Century Dictionary)

11 letters: JADE EMPEROR (Webster's Second), JADE OCEANIC (Funk and Wagnalls), OCEANIC JADE (Oxford English Dictionary)

12 letters: IMPERIAL JADE (Webster's Second), ORIENTAL JADE (Oxford English Dictionary)

15 letters: JADELLOT'S FURROWS (Century Dictionary Supplement)

17 letters: JADEITE-PYROXENITE (Century Dictionary Supplement)

A trawl through the most recent edition of the E-K section of the London Telephone Directory, March 1986, throws up a short list of individuals and companies beginning with JADE, but this is too ephemeral a source. There is no guarantee that any of these names will exist in the next edition. Anyway, for what they're worth, the London Telephone Directory's offerings are JADECAST, JADEGA, JADEJA, JADEN, JADEPOINT and JADEVILLE.

The letters of JADE appeared in the words of the last section in order and together. What about words where the letters of JADE appear in order but not together? JAUNDICE is a good example - the letters J, A, D and E appear in order but not together. I have managed to find examples for word lengths four through sixteen. Can any reader go beyond sixteen letters?

4	JADE	9	JAmrosaDE	13	JuglAnDacEous
5	JADgE	10	JeopArDizE	14	JeopArDousnEss
6	JubADE	11	JAnthiniDaE	15	Jack-of-All-traDEs
7	JAunDEr	12	JAunDicEroot	16	JeopArDousnessEs
8	JAunDicE				

JADGE is from the Oxford, but could be replaced by JAUDE, from The English Dialect Dictionary. There's not much to choose between the two!

The four letters of JADE can be ordered in twenty-four different ways, from ADEJ and ADJE through to JEAD and JEDA. Can words be found exhibiting as many as possible of these tetragrams? Apart from JADE itself, I have uncovered only five examples.

adje	ADJECTIVE	eadj	READJUST	ejad	BEJADE
deja	MUDEJAR	edja	REDJACKET		

What of the other eighteen? Is it possible to find words displaying these latter sequences in order, but not necessarily together? I've managed to find examples for thirteen of the eighteen sequences.

ajde	RAJIDAE	djea	DJERSA	jdae	JUDAIZE
ajed	ABJURED	eajd	READJUSTED	jdea	JUDEAN
daje	DARJEELING	ejda	EJIDAL	jead	JEOPARDY
deaj	DEVARAJA	jaed	JAPED	jeda	JEMADAR
djae	DJAVE				

All these words are in Webster's Second or Third Editions. The five unconquered sequences out of the twenty-four possibles are ADEJ, AEDJ, AEJD, DAEJ and EDAJ. Can anyone find examples of words with these letter sequences, either together or separately?

What words use some or all of the letters of JADE either singly or multiply? In other words, what words are composed solely of letters appearing in JADE? At the two-letter level there are AA, AD, AE, DA, DE, EA, ED, EE and JA. ED and JA are both in Webster's Second and the Random House Dictionary; the others are in Webster's Third.

At the three-letter level, Webster's Third contains ADD, ADE, DAD, DAE, DEE and JEE, and Webster's Second includes ADA, DEA, JAD and JED. A variety of geographic placenames exist, but the only one I single out is AJA, from the Times Index Gazetteer.

What about four-letter words? There are at least eleven dictionary examples, including ADDA, ADDE (OED), AJEE (Webster's Second), DADA, DADE, DEAD, DEDD (OED), DEDE (Webster's Second), DEED, EDDA (Webster's Second) and JADE. Also, the placename AJJA is found in the Times Index Gazetteer.

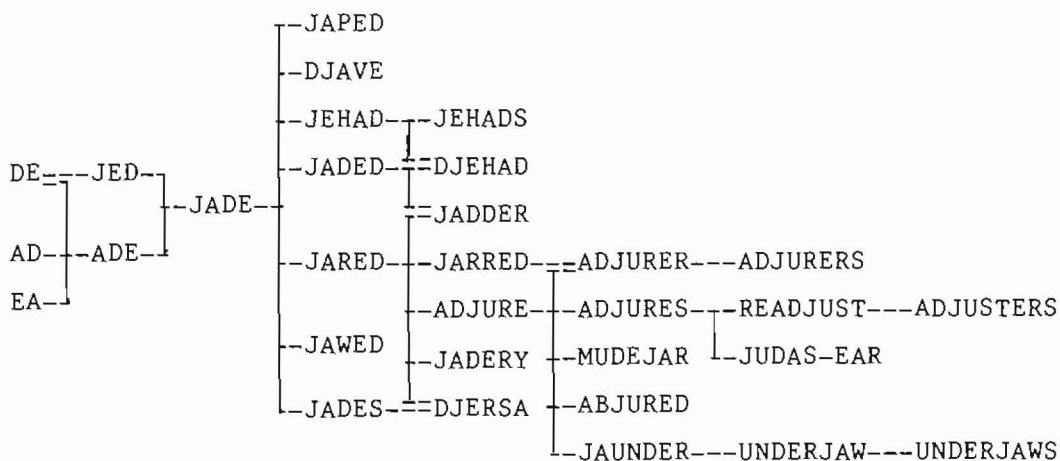
At the five-letter level, I have again located eleven examples: ADDED, A-DEAD (OED), AJAJA (Webster's Second), DADDA (Webster's Second), DADDE (OED), DADED, DEADE (OED), DEDDE (OED), DEEDE (OED), JADED and JEDDA (Random House). I'm sure that if I looked through the Times Index Gazetteer, I would find at least as many again.

What six-letter specimens exist? Only a few: DADDED, DEADED, DEEDED and JADED (Webster's Second). I can supplement these four with two more by turning to Cassidy and Le Page's Dictionary of Jamaican English. This contains DA-DA-DE (meaning 'that one there') and DEE-DEE (a noun, meaning 'excrement, dung' and a verb, meaning 'to defecate'). I note, too, that DEEDEE can be spelt solidly, as a girl's forename, but I can't find a source for this. I do remember an American pop group of the early 1960s with the name Dick and Deedee.

At the seven-letter level, I have only been able to find a single example - DEEDEED, from Webster's Second. Any others?

Beyond this, the only longer dictionary term I have tracked down is the palindromic and tautonymic AJAJA AJAJA, one of the scientific names for the roseate spoonbill. The only source I have for this is Funk and Wagnalls, at its entry for 'spoonbill'. The Websterian dictionaries offer several scientific names for the roseate spoonbill, none of which is AJAJA AJAJA!

In "Word Roots and Branches" in the August 1979 *Word Ways*, the editor showed how successive transadditions and transdeletions of a word might be presented in a tree-like structure lying on its side. Here is what it looks like for JADE. To keep the structure from getting out of hand, only boldface entries from Webster's Second or Third are used, amplified by derived forms if they are explicitly given in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary.



In my various searches for JADE-related words and names, I was surprised at how few placenames in the United States begin with the letters JADE. I had expected to find places such as JADEVILLE, JADE POINT, JADE CROSSING, etc., but the only JADE place-

name I could find was JADE MOUNTAINS, in Alaska, taken from the Century Atlas. A near-miss was provided by JADY HILL, in New Hampshire, courtesy of the Rand McNally Commercial Atlas and Marketing Guide (1967). Do **Word Ways** readers know of any others? Perhaps the mineral jade, unlike gold and silver, does not exist widely in the United States, so that very few places have been named after it.

As I mentioned in the opening paragraph, my second daughter's name is Ellie. My wife's name is Ann. If you take the initial letters of the four forenames in my family, you end up with JADE: Jade, Ann, Darryl, Ellie. How's that for family planning! Had my first daughter been named Edna, then the second child could have been named Nellie or Nicholas; had she been named Leda, then the second child could have been named Edna or Eric. What if my first child had been a boy? No problem - he could have been named Chad, in which case the last child could have been named Henry or Harriet; or he could have been named Ward, in which case the last child could have been named Richard or Rose. Can any other **Word Ways** reader demonstrate such an ordered approach to the naming of their children?

QUERY

*Willard Espy would like **Word Ways** readers to supply him with names for (1) the droppings and (2) the tails of specific living creatures, for a book in progress. Examples of droppings or scat include otter spraint(s), deer fumet or fewmet, fox scumber, sheep buttons or treddle or trotters, and cow upla or cowshard or cowsham. (Some of the latter refer to the dried version used for fuel, as in buffalo chips.) Examples of tails include scut or bun or fud for a rabbit, and flag or s(h)ingle for a deer. (A flag is likewise found on setter, or a hound.)*