

DOUBLE, TRIPLE, AND QUADRUPLE BIGRAMS

KYLE CORBIN
Raleigh, North Carolina

A bigram is any sequence of two consecutive letters found in a word, such as OG in dOG. A double bigram is a bigram that occurs twice in succession, such as OGOG in mOGOGraphia. Bigrams can be extended to triple, such as OGOGOG in LOGOGOGue, and quadruple, such as KUKUKUKU, which is itself a word.

In this article, I extend Timothy J. Wheeler's November 1988 **Word Ways** investigation of double bigrams, which he calls double digrams. I offer examples of words containing each double bigram he listed, and I supply many double bigrams he did not list. I also show triple and quadruple bigrams. In all, I show 163 different bigrams.

Bigrams which are interrupted by hyphens, spaces, and the like, such as SPSP in waSP SPider and UGUG in plUG-UGly, are less interesting than solid ones, so I avoid them in this article.

The second and third editions of Webster's New International Dictionary, unabridged, are my sources. All words are found in one or both of the editions. Words found only in the addenda section of the third edition are labeled with an asterisk. Examples of double bigrams not shown in this article can be located in other dictionaries. UGUG in plUGUGly, for example, is hyphenated in Webster's Second and Third, but is unhyphenated in the Official Scrabble Player's Dictionary.

For brevity, I show at most two words for each bigram, even though there may be many more than two.

I show the bigrams in uppercase. To make the bigrams more obvious, all non-bigram letters in the words are shown in lowercase, even if they are capitalized in the dictionary.

ABAB	ABABua, kABAB	APAP	APAP, ultrAPAPist
ACAC	ACACia, guACACoa	ARAR	ARAR, cARARa
ADAD	ADAD, hADAD	ASAS	kielBASAS, rASAS
AEAE	AEAEan, grAEAE	ATAT	cATATonic, nATATorium
AGAG	AGAG, passAGAGlio	AWAW	pAWAW
AHAH	wAHAHe	AZAZ	AZAZ, *pAZAZz
AIAI	AIAIa, AIAIai	BABA	BABA, cayuBABA
AJAJ	AJAJa	BEBE	BEBEeru, cyBEBE
AKAK	sAKAKi, tAKAKa system	BIBI	BIBI, imbIBIng
ALAL	ALAL, bALALaika	BOBO	BOBO, BOBOLink
AMAM	AMAM, drAMAMine	BUBU	BUBU, BUBUkle
ANAN	ANAN, bANANa	CACA	aCACAtechol, CACAo

CECE	CECEctomy	JUJU	JUJU, JUJUbe
CHCH	arCHCHampion, mleCHCHha	KAKA	horoKAKA, KAKA
CICI	CICIndelid, musCICIde	KEKE	alKEKEngi, KEKE
COCO	COCO, COCOon	KHKH	khalaKHKHa
CUCU	CUCUmbur, piCUCUle	KIKI	KIKI, waKIKI
DADA	DADA, grandDADA	KOKO	ashKOKO, KOKO
DEDE	DEDE, DEDEndum	KUKU	biKUKUlla, KUKU
DIDI	DIDIne, sorDIDIty	LALA	baLALAIka, haLALA
DODO	DODO, zalambDODOnt	LELE	scaLELEss, unparalLELEd
EAEA	aEAEAN, andrEAEA	LILI	LILles, milLILlter
ECEC	caECECtomy, cECECtomy	LOLO	LOLO, phiLOLOgy
EDED	reDEDicate, stampEDED	LULU	LULU, paLULUS
EHEH	shEHEHeyanu	LYLY	*poLYLYsine, sLYLY
ELEL	coELELminth, tELELEctric	MAMA	cocaMAMA, MAMA
EMEM	dEMEMbration, rEMEMber	MEME	enfraMEMEnt, MEMEnto
ENEN	forENENst, serENENess	MIMI	MIMI, pantoMIMic
EPEP	bePEPper	MOMO	hoMOMorphism, MOMot
ERER	cheERER, murdERER	MUMU	MUMU
ESES	ESES, parenthESES	NANA	baNANA, NANA
ETET	diETETic, pentylenETETrazol	NENE	humaNENEss, NENE
EYEE	EYEEY, whEYEEY	NINI	femiNINIty, uNINItiated
FAFA	azelFAFAge, iFAFA lily	NONO	NONOfficial, NONOily
FIFI	aFIFI, FIFIng	OBOB	nOBOB, sOBOBa
GAGA	GAGA, meGAGAmete	OCOC	gonOCOCcus, streptOCOCcus
GEGE	GEGEnschein, nGEGE	ODOD	poDODerm, rhODODendron
GIGI	iGIGI, malaGIGI	OGOG	mOGOGraphia, secretOGOGue
GOGO	GOGO, loGOGogue	OIOI	polyphloisbOIOIsm
GUGU	GUGU, GUGUl	OKOK	diadOKOKinesia, sOKOKi
HAHA	brouHAHA, HAHAM	OLOL	coLOLlite, embOLOLalia
HEHE	HEHE, sheHEHEyanu	OMOM	hoMOMorph, onOMOMancy
HNHN	houyHNHNm	ONON	mONONucleosis, ONONDaga
HOGO	HOHOkam	OPOP	OPOPanax, troPOPause
HUHU	auHUHU, HUHU	OROR	sORORity, tocORORo
HYHY	pachHYHYmenia, tachHYHYdrite	OSOS	mucOSOSaccharine, virtuOSOS
IAIA	aIAIA, aIAIAi	OTOT	prOTOType, rOTOTiller
IBIB	quIBIBe, rIBIBe	OVOV	boVOVaccine, OVOViviparous
ICIC	ICICle, silICIC	PAPA	PAPA, PAPaya
IDID	epIDIDymis, IDIDa	PEPE	PEPErino, scraPEPEny
IEIE	IEIE	PHPH	ePHPHatha
IGIG	IGIGi, whirlIGIG	PIPI	ePIPIal, PIPI
ILIL	oILILy, pILILloo	POPO	hipPOPOtamus, POPOver
IMIM	archIMIME	PUPU	PUPUlo, PUPUnha
ININ	asININe, traININg	RARA	infrARADular, RARA avis
IOIO	gIOIOso, radIOIODine	RERE	conFRERE, prREREquisite
IPIP	lirIPIPe, rhIPIPhorid	RIRI	piRIRIgua, tRIRIcinolein
IRIR	kIRIRi, pIRIRigua	RORO	dextRORORotation, prRORogue
ISIS	crISIS, ISIS	RURU	malapteRURUs, RURU
ITIT	bauxITITe, dedITITii	SASA	moSASAAur, SASAn
IVIV	antIVIVisection, redIVIVus	SESE	aniSESEed, niaSESE
JAJA	aJAJA, pindJAJAp	SHSH	iSHSHakku, waSHSHed
JOJO	JOJOba	SISI	asSISI, SISI
		SOSO	miSOSOPhy, SOSO
		STST	breaSTSTroke, poSTSTernal

SUSU	miSUSUrped, SUSU	UTUT	bUTUT, tUTUTni
SYSY	SYSYgy	VAVA	cayuVAVA, VAVAsor
TATA	canTATA, meTATArsus	VEVE	choVEVE zion
TETE	gaTETEndeR, TETE	VIVI	conVIVId, VIVId
TITI	enTITies, TITI	WAWA	stoWAWAy, WAWA
TOTO	masTOTOMy, TOTO	WEWE	WEWEnoc
TUTU	siTUTUnga, TUTU	WIWI	aWIWI, mideWIWIn
UAUA	gUAUAenok	YAYA	nYAYA, YAYA
UCUC	curUCUCu, surUCUCu	YCYC	*doxYCYCline, polYCYClic
UEUE	qUEUE, UEUEteotl	YEYE	maYEYE
UHUH	aUHUHu, mUHUHu	YLYL	acrYLYL, xYLYL
UKUK	kUKUKuku, kukUKUKU	YOYO	YOYO
ULUL	picULULe, ULULate	YSYS	tachYSYSStole
UMUM	circUMUMBilical	YUYU	aYUYU
UNUN	gUNUNg, UNUNanimous	ZAZA	azZAZAme, ZAZA
UPUP	UPUPa, UPUPoid	ZIZI	peZIZIform, ZIZIa
URUR	saURURaceous, tURURi	ZOZO	schizOZOite
USUS	aUSUS, USUS		

There are a handful of triple bigrams as well, plus a lone quadruple bigram.

AIAIAI	AIAIAI	KUKUKU	KUKUKUku, kuKUKUKU
HEHEHE	sHEHEHEyanu	OGOGOG	lOGOGOGue
INININ	femININING	UKUKUK	kUKUKUKu
KUKUKUKU	KUKUKUKU		

CUSTOMIZED LOGOLOGY

Eric Albert, 14 Hancock Street, Auburndale MA 02166 offers for sale the following computer-generated printouts based on Webster's Second Unabridged Dictionary:

- Reverse word dictionary by word length (\$22.50)*
- Reverse phrase dictionary by phrase length (\$12.00)*
- Word plus phrase transposal dictionary (\$70.00)*
- Non-pattern words by vowel/consonant pattern (\$5.00)*

All lists also available for other dictionaries. He will also do custom orders (for example, positional lists, palindromic words, words containing only one vowel, word squares, well-mixed transposals). Prices cheerfully quoted; please ask!

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