

A REEDABLE-DEERABLE ALPHABET

NYR INDICTOR

Chappaqua, New York

Word pairs such as REJECTED-DEJECTER, RESERVED-DESERVER, and REDUCED-DEDUCER fall into the special class of anagrams which we may call "reed-deer pairs". One member of the pair begins with RE- and ends with ED-, while the other begins with DE- and ends with -ER. If the pair is DEDEERED and DEREDED, we are left with an identical middle component. A person who isolates these middle components is both a DEDEERER and a DEREEDER. The middle component can be REREDED and REDEERED (by a REREEDER and REDEERER) to form the original pair again.

The middle components of the abovementioned reed-deer pairs (JECT, SERV, DUC) are not very interesting. They are much more interesting when they are words themselves. An example of a reedable-deerable word is PRESS, which gives rise to the pair DEPRESSER-REPRESSED. Reedable-deerable words are even more fun when they are etymologically unrelated to the reed-deer pair; for example, the word BAT produces the unrelated pair REBATED-DEBATER.

Can you produce an alphabet of reedable-deerable words? I have 26 such words which fit the bill, but it must be admitted that some are very forced (notably JAIL). Perhaps you can do better!

A	deadjuster-readjusted	P	deporter-reported
B	debater-rebated	P	depresser-repressed
C	decanter-recanted	Q	dequiller-requilled
D	deducter-reducted	R	derailer-rerailed
E	deeder-reeded	S	designer-resigned
F	definer-refined	S	descriptor-rescripted
F	deformer-reformed	T	detailer-retailed
G	degrader-regraded	T	detester-retested
H	dehusker-rehusked	U	deuniter-reunited
I	deinker-reinked	V	devester-revested
J	dejailer-rejailed	W	dewaterer-rewatered
K	dekinger-rekinged	X	dexylographer-rexylographed
L	delighter-relighted	Y	deyellower-reyellowed
M	demister-remisted	Y	deyielder-reyielded
N	denester-renested	Z	dezester-rezested
O	deorderer-reordered		