

# SPLIT SENTENCE TRANSPOSALS

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Most of us are familiar with words like HORSESHOER in which the letters making the first half of the word are transposed to make the second half of the word. The following examples can all be found in previous issues of Word Ways, and most recently appeared amongst Rex Gooch's list of pair isograms in the February 1998 issue:

Aenean, amimia cnicin dreder gunung hecche kreker lysyls natant  
 tenent tertre  
 adinidan bilabial coinicon gensengs indenied mesosome notition  
 pynepeny reappear shammash shippish signings teammate teisties  
 vetitive  
 dikwakwadi intestines horseshoer padlepalde  
 trisectrices  
 taeniodontidae  
 antiperspirantes

Here are some further examples which I believe to be new to Word Ways:

Aroroea (island, Louisiade Archipelago), Barbra (Streisand), daeaed  
 (OED var), gnagan (Chambers), iellie (OED var), iettie (OED var),  
 isaias (Longman's Dict), Khahak (Afghanistan), Kvivik (Faeroes),  
 oynyon (OED var), saeaes (OED var), salals (OED var), snesen  
 (OED var), Suttsu (Japan)  
 blow-bowl (OED var), leaf-flea (OED var), megagame (A Dict of New  
 English 1963-72), praepare (OED var), Roththor (Swiss mountain),  
 scittisc (OED var), scyttysc (OED var), singings (OED var),  
 tinantia (Dict of the Flowering Plants and Ferns, J.C.Willis, 1966)  
 ezerszeres (Hungarian for 'a thousandfold')

## TWO-WORD PHRASES

Taking this exercise a step further, we can construct 2-word phrases like MARRIED ADMIRER in which the letters of the left-hand word are transposed to make the letters of the right-hand word.

actors	costar	begin	binge	coolest	ocelots
direct	credit	Ernest	enters	float	aloft
Gerald	glared	hated	death	inspect	pectins
Jane's	jeans	keep	Peke	lovely	volley
mother's	thermos	notices	section	outer	route
palest	pastel	quite	quiet	recasts	actress

secure rescue  
valiant Latvian

toaster rotates  
warned Andrew

Ulster result  
yonder, Rodney

## LONGER PHRASES AND SENTENCES

But why stop at 2-word phrases when, with perseverance, it is possible to construct longer sentences?

a German manager  
Mum uses museums  
we pinch new chip  
Word Ways was wordy  
alligator's gait's a 'roll'  
Main Street terminates  
the sick had thick heads  
she's nattering in Grant's sheet  
thermostatics trim heat costs  
Christmas Carol star calms choir  
we love cricket so Leo covers wicket

Ben's rum numbers  
Toyotas say 'toot'  
conifer's fir cones  
heat burns sunbather  
an interest entertains  
sonar scene resonances  
has Wimbledon had Women's Lib?  
straight from a rag, this format  
Woodrow Wilson woos lorn widow  
heavenly bodies do shine, by leave  
hey, stars molest the Solar System

horse racing's bets bring those scares  
St. Martin's Theatre transmits at three  
the millennium bug--himmel, unbungle it!  
the undergraduates argue and hurt steed  
Neil Armstrong edits 'Interesting Old Mars'  
New Year resolutions, a sly notion we're sure  
gosh, see that triangle, it has got three angles  
pleasant apples grew, so peel's appeal was strong  
the car is in Esso garage, so I resist a gear change  
dark, pippy an' celebrable blackberry and apple pie

## A SPECIAL CASE

We should not forget that special type of split transposal, the palindrome. All multiword palindromes with an even number of letters are potential candidates for split phrases (or sentence) transposals.

O, rue Euro  
dam son nos--mad!  
set Alp plates  
to have Eva--hot!  
egad, nab bandage!  
night row worth gin?  
referees see, refer  
auk, swan got to gnaw skua  
Marge lets Norah see Sharon's telegram

lay or royal?  
"line no, one nil"  
tackle elk, cat  
do offer ref food  
maestros sort seam  
pack Nina an inkcap  
sun at Eton, no tetanus  
Ron, I'm Ann, a minor

On the palindromic theme, I leave the last word to Edward Scher of NYU who encapsulated Jimmy Carter's 1980 election mind-changing in the following classic: TO LAST, CARTER RETRACTS A LOT.