

# BUTTERFLY TRANSADDITIONS

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Over the years, many examples of transadditions have appeared in *Word Ways*. A transaddition is the result of adding a letter to a word and then rearranging all the letters to form another, longer word. It is relatively easy to start with a single letter and, step by step, achieve transadditions up to length 7 or 8 letters. Longer ones are more difficult.

I decided to try my hand at transadditions but to impose a number of constraints to make the exercise more difficult:

- the transadditions can be inferred forms but must not be coinages
- the transadditions must be heterograms, so all the letters added must be different
- the final word must be reached by two different routes, one beginning with the word A, the other with the word I
- the same word cannot appear in both routes
- the added letters, in the order of adding, must make a coined phrase

I started with transadditions of 9 letters and, despite these constraints, was able to make transadditions up to length 14 letters.

Most of the words can be found in the *Oxford English Dictionary* (Second Edition) as head words, variant forms, and text words including citations. The non-OED words are: archistome, asclepion, ectorganism, entopical (*Webster's Second Edition*), Archiplutodes, Cerioanthus, Dirocephalus, Euagrotis, Metaphoricus, Psychrolutidae, Rhadicleptus (*Nomenclator Zoologicus*), acropigments, helotics (*Stedman's Medical Dictionary*), and patchoulies (*Chambers Official Scrabble Words*).

## *Nine Letters*

+		+		+		+
A A		I I		A A		I I
N AN		IS S		C CA		IN N
T NAT		EIS E		T ACT		ION O
R TARN		SINE N		O COAT		INTO T
E RATEN		INSET T		R CROAT		IONTE E
L ANTLER		NICEST C		P CAPTOR		NOTICE C
I RELIANT		INSECTA A		'I APRICOT		ACONITE A
C CLARINET		CANISTER R		N RAPONTIC		REACTION R
S	LARCENIST	L		E	PREACTION	P
<i>Ant relics</i>		<i>I sent Carl</i>		<i>Act or pine</i>		<i>I note carp</i>

**Ten Letters**

+		+		+		+	
A A		I I		A A		I I	
N AN		IN N		T AT		IT T	
E ENA		NIT T		I TIA		SIT S	
P NAPE		INTO O		G TAIG		STIR R	
I PINEA		POINT P		E GAITE		ROSTI O	
C PINACE		LIPTON L		R AIGRET		GROTIS G	
L PELICAN		TOPNAIL A		S AGISTER		OUTRIGS U	
O COPALINE		PLATONIC C		D DISTRAGE		TIGEROUS E	
S ASCLEPION	ENTOPICAL E			U AUSTRIDGE	EUAGROTIS A		
T	NEOPLASTIC S			O	TRAGEDIOUS D		
<i>An epic lost</i>	<i>Into places</i>			<i>A tigers' duo</i>	<i>It's rogue ad.</i>		

**Eleven Letters**

+		+		+		+	
A A		I I		A A		I I	
M MA		IS S		C CA		RI R	
O MOA		SIN N		O COA		AIR A	
D DOMA		IONS O		P PACO		RAIN N	
E ODAME		LIONS L		R COPRA		GRAIN G	
R ROAMED		LIASON A		E CROAPE		MARGIN M	
N ROADMEN		SOILMAN M		N CAPERON		MANGIER E	
S RANSOMED		LAMPIONS P		T COPARENT		EMIGRANT T	
L SOMERLAND		PROLAMINS R		S PORTANCES		STREAMING S	
I NORMALISED	IMPERSONAL E			M CRAMPSTONE	CENTIGRAMS C		
P	PALINDROMES D			I COINSTAMPER	ECTORGANISM O		
<i>A modern slip</i>	<i>Is no lamp red?</i>			G	ACROPIGMENTS P		
				<i>A cop rents MIG</i>	<i>I rang Met's cop</i>		

**Thirteen Letters**

+		+	
A A		I I	
C CA		IC C	
O CAO		CHI H	
R CORA		HOIC O	
N ACORN		CHIOS S	
I CARION		CHOISE E	
E CAROINE		ECHOIST T	
S SCENARIO		THEORICS R	
T CREATIONS		ACHROITES A	
H ANCHORITES		ARCHISTOME M	
U CERIOANTHUS		EPITROCHASM P	
M EUCHROMATINS		METAPHORICUS U	
P	UNATMOSPHERIC N		
<i>A corniest hump</i>		<i>I chose tram pun</i>	

**Fourteen Letters**

+		+
A	A	I
L	LA	LI
E	ALE	OIL
H	HEAL	SILO
C	LEACH	TOILS
U	CHAULE	STICOL
P	PLUCHEA	COLTISH
S	CEPHALUS	HELOTICS
O	CEPHALOUS	COALISETH
D	CLOUDSHAPE	PHACOLITES
I	DICEPHALOUS	PATCHOULIES
R	DIROCEPHALUS	TRICEPHALOUS
T	ARCHIPLUTODES	RHADICOLEPTUS
Y	PSYCHROLUTIDAE	Y
	<i>Al eh, cup so dirty</i>	<i>I lost Ché - a Purdy!</i>

**Thematic Butterflies**

By careful selection of words, it is sometimes possible to make the two phrases and the final word conform to a theme. The two examples below build to 8-letter words. In the first, the theme is 'the body' (note also the words *ail*, *imbalme*, *bile* and *limbed en route*); in the second it is 'anger' (which *grates* on the nerves and is sometimes the result of *teasing*).

+		+		+		+
A	A	I	I	A	A	I
L	AL	BI	B	S	AS	IT
I	AIL	LIB	L	E	SEA	SIT
M	MAIL	BILE	E	T	EAST	TAIS
B	AMBIL	BIDEL	D	G	STAGE	SATIN
E	LAMBIE	LIMBED	M	R	GRATES	GIANTS
N	INBALME	DIMABLE	A	I	GAITERS	TEASING
D	MANDIBLE	N		N	ANGRIEST	R
	<i>A limb end... I bled man... Mandible</i>				<i>A set grin... It's anger... Angriest</i>	