

LET'S TRADE PHANTOM MONKEYS

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Two words are dual if for every position where one word has a vowel, the other has a consonant and vice versa. Eckler's near-alternating ten-letter words in the August 2000 Word Ways exhibit many examples: *themselves-Euroaquilo*, *literature-anatomical*, *clubfooted-audiophile*, etc.

Dual words are similar to anagrams in that they must have equal length, that they are hard to find for long words, and that out of two pairs one can sometimes weld one longer pair. But duals and anagrams are different in that the order of the letters remains the same in duals (only vowels and consonants are interchanged), whereas the changing of the order of the letters is essential in an anagram. The question arises: are there dual anagrams?

A dual anagram must of course have even length. Half of the letters are vowels, the other half are consonants. In Dutch I have found examples from length two to length twelve:

2 letters: *al-la*, *ar-ra*, *et-te*, *em-me*, *op-po*, *oh-ho*

4 letters: *snee-eens*, *tree-eert*, *eter-rete*, *egde-deeg*, *elve-veel*, *evel-leve* (English cognate *evil-live*)

6 letters: *oester-stoere*, *enorme-moreen*, *aderen-narede*, *altaar-raatla*, *Eskimo-koemis*,

ijszee-zeeijs (ice sea-sea ice)

8 letters: *theoloog-oogholte* (theologian-eye-socket), *Esmoreit-toerisme*, *eresabel-beselare*

10 letters: *olieberg-bergolie* (oil mountain-mountain oil), *teernaad-entaarde*, *ergotine-neetorig*

12 letters: *aapjeskoop-spookapje* (monkey trade-little phantom monkey)

I call upon Word Ways readers to find dual anagrams of equal length in English!