

# TRANSPOSING ONE GENRE INTO ANOTHER

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The letter pattern of some word genres is only a whisker away from the letter pattern of other word genres. My current objective is to change a word of one genre into a word of another genre by swapping the positions of just TWO of its letters. By this means, some tautonyms with the letter pattern 1212 (TOTO) make palindromes with the letter patterns 2112 and 1221 (OTTO and TOOT) simply by swapping the positions of the first 2 letters, or last 2 letters, respectively. This is a simple example but, by judicious letter swapping, longer words can be brought into play. The two letters which are swapped can occupy any position in the word and don't necessarily have to be adjacent as they are in TOTO. The genres of word under scrutiny here are palindromes, tautonyms, Miami words and pair isograms.

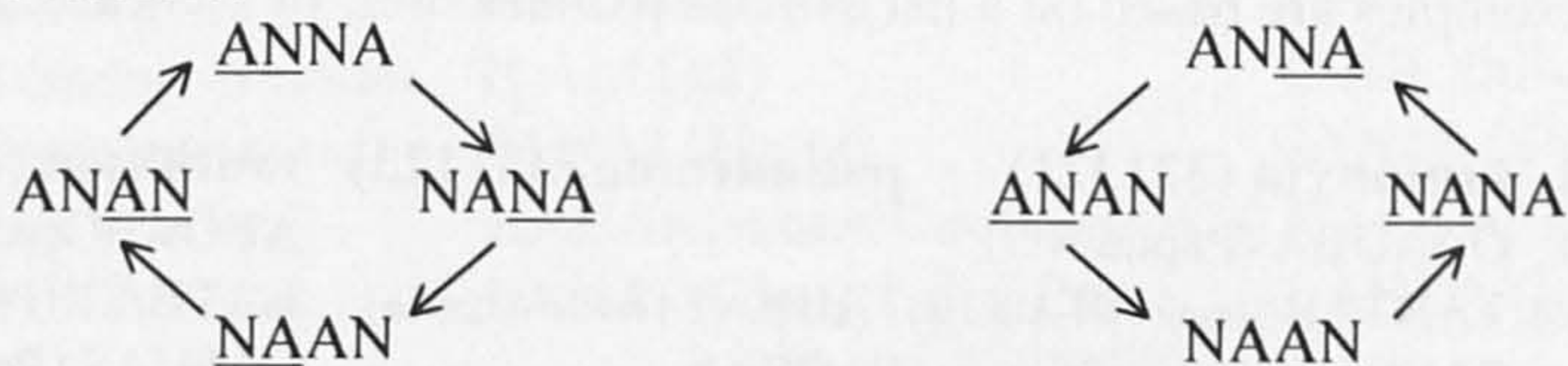
Unreferenced words can be found in the Oxford English Dictionary, Second Edition. Locations are taken from the United States Board on Geographic Names (BGN). These are populated places unless indicated otherwise. References for other words are given at the end. Abbreviations and acronyms are not admitted.

## PALINDROMES AND TAUTONYMS

Only palindromes with an even number of letters can be considered for transposal to tautonyms.

### 4-LETTER WORDS

In 4-letter words, alternately swapping the first 2 letters, and then the last 2 letters, can produce a circle of alternating palindromes and tautonyms, two of each (swapped letters are underlined). The circle is reversible.



The following examples are based on a list of A - Z palindromes. The 'X' circle is incomplete.

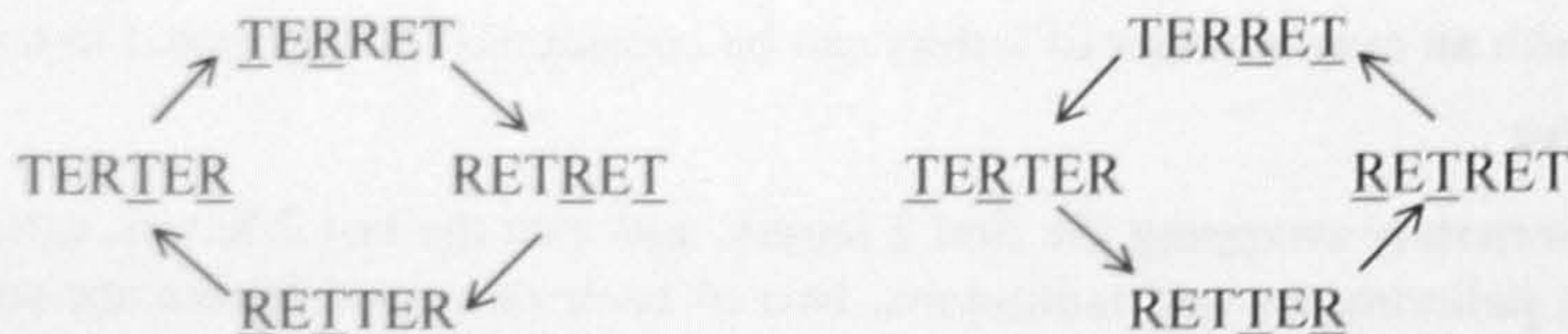
palindrome (1221)	tautonym (2121)	palindrome (2112)	tautonym (1212)
ANNA	NANA	NAAN	ANAN
BAAB (surname)	ABAB (ch)	ABBA	BABA
COOC (ch)	OCOC (hill - Mexico)	OCCO (Peru)	COCO
DAAD (edd)	ADAD	ADDA (w2)	DADA
ESSE	SESE	SEES	ESES (ospd)
FAAF (wadi - Somalia)	AFAF (Ethiopia)	AFFA (w2)	FAFA (Benin)
GAAG (chilblain - Manx)	AGAG (mamsp)	AGGA, Tabelkozet el (oasis - Algeria)	GAGA
HUUH (p2)	UH-UH	UH-HU (edd)	HUHU
ISSI (stream - Benin)	SISI	SIIS	ISIS



<b>JAAJ (dje)</b>	AJAJ, Qal' at al (ruin - Bahrain)	AJJA, Oulad (Morocco)	<b>JAJA (ipfb)</b>
<b>KA AK</b>	AKAK (Gabon)	AKKA	KAKA
<b>LAAL (edd)</b>	ALAL (ch)	ALLA (w2)	LALA
<b>MAAM</b>	AMAM(locality-Ethiopia)	AMMA	MAMA
<b>NEEN</b>	ENEN	ENNE (wadi - Chad)	NENE
<b>ONNO (Italy)</b>	NONO	NOON	ONON
<b>PAAP (edd)</b>	APAP, Sungai (stream - Malaysia)	APPA (Bantoid lang.)	PAPA -
<b>QAAQ (Arabic: crow)</b>	AQAAQ (well - UAE)	AQQA, Kafr (Lebanon)	QAQA (stream -- Lesotho)
<b>REER</b>	ERER	ERRE	RERE
<b>SAAS (ch)</b>	ASAS(stream- Eq.Guinea)	ASSA	SASA (w2)
<b>TAAT (edd)</b>	ATAT, Aarid el (slope - Lebanon)	ATTA	TATA
<b>USSU</b>	SUSU	SUUS (w3)	USUS (ch)
<b>VAAV (edd)</b>	AVAV (Turkey)	AVVA (p2)	VAVA (stream - Togo)
<b>WAAW (edd)</b>	AW-AW	AWWA, Abu (Sudan)	WAWA
<b>XAAX (area -Somalia)</b>		AXXA (p2)	XAXA (China)
<b>YAA Y (p2)</b>	AYAY	AYYA (stream - Russia)	YAYA (w2)
<b>ZAAZ (a company)</b>	AZAZ (name in Bible)	AZZA (hill - Egypt)	ZAZA (film title)

## 6-LETTER WORDS

As a constraint, I only admit 6-letter words having three different letters of the alphabet (as opposed to two different letters). In 6-letter words, the transposals are accomplished by alternately swapping the 1st and 3rd letters, then the 4th and 6th letters. Once more, the circle is reversible.



As previously, these examples are based on a list of A -Z palindromes. In this case, several circles are incomplete.

<b>palindrome (123321)</b>	<b>tautonym (321321)</b>	<b>palindrome (321123)</b>	<b>tautonym (123123)</b>
ABOOBA (well-Somalia)	OBAOBA (Papua NG)		ABOABO(stream-Ghana)
BATTAB Khor(wadi-Sudan)	TABTAB,Hassi(well-Algeria)	TABBAT (wadi-Algeria)	BATBAT (Philippines)
CASSAC	SACSAC	SACCAS	CASCAS (Peru)
DISSID	SIDSID (point in Philippines)	SIDDIS	DISDIS (Philippines)
EALLAE (p2)	LAELAE(island-Indonesia)		EALEAL Beer(astronomer)
FINNIF	NIFNIF (Bilin:light rain)	NIFFIN (bay - Papua NG)	FINFIN (stream - Chile)
GORROG (Somalia)	ROGROG (Sudan)	ROGGOR(computer game)	GORGOR (hill - Kenya)
HALLAH	LAHLAH (hill - Lebanon)	LAHHAL, Ain Abd (spring - Morocco)	HALHAL (mountains - Eritrea)
IRAARI (WW93251)	ARIARI (Colombia)	ARIIRA(tumulus - Tunisia)	IRAIRA (a Japanese game)
JILLIJ, Burj (lighthouse - Tunisia)	LJLJLJ, Al (well - Yemen)		JILJIL (spring - Somalia)
KINNIK	NIKNIK(name of a puppet)	NIKKIN	KINKIN
LAKKAL, Kef (mount. - Algeria)	KALKAL(well - Djibouti)	KALLAK	LAKLAK
MUSSUM	SUMSUM (Afghanistan)	SUMMUS	MUSMUS (Ecuador)



NAMMAN	MANMAN Dey (Niger)	MANNAM	NAMNAM
ORI-IRO (p2)	IROIRO (anglicized Japanese 'women')	IROORI (an Ashàninca language of Peru word)	ORIORI (a Maori chant)
POSSOP (p2)	SOPSOP (Uganda)	SOPPOS (p2)	POSPOS (Colombia)
QAZZAQ	ZAQZAQ (a ruin in Libya)	ZAQQAZ (cat name on web)	QAZQAZ (point in Bahrain)
RAGGAR(wadi - Somalia)	GARGAR(stream-Armenia)	GARRAG	RAGRAG (Morocco)
SANNAS	NASNAS	NASSAN	SANSAN (Guinea)
TERRET	RETRET	RETTTER	TERTER
UREERU	ERUERU (surname of a Sheffield volleyball player in UK)		UREURE, Te(mt. New Zea.)
VOLLOV (surname)	LOVLOV (French love term)	LOVVOL(a Lutheran minister)	VOLVOL (= volvo)
WERREW (p2)		REWWER (p2)	WERWER(area in Germany)
XARRAX (WW94158)		RAXXAR (an antibiotic)	XARXAR (Azerbaijan)
YANNAY, Bet (Israel)	NAYNAY(stream-Jamaica)	NAYYAN (hill - Jordan)	YANYAN (Nigeria)
ZURRUZ (WW93251)	RUZRUZ (a web site)		ZURZUR (wadi - Libya)

### PALINDROMES AND MIAMI WORDS

Miami words have the letter pattern 12?12 (see *Miami Words* 2000014). With 5 letters, they can be transposed to make palindromes (and vv) but not tautonyms or pair isograms, both of which have an even number of letters. Below, a list of A - Z palindromes is flanked by Miami words. The Miami words on the left are made by swapping the first 2 letters of the palindromes; those on the right are made by swapping the last 2 letters of the palindromes. Note that the pairs of Miami words are reversals.

<b>Miami word (21321)</b>	<b>palindrome (12321) A - Z</b>	<b>Miami word (12312)</b>
KAIKA (pull)	AKIKA (p2)	AKIAK(a Kuskwogmiut village-hod)
ABRAB (well - Sudan)	BARAB Chah (Afghanistan)	BARBA (Latin: a beard - ch)
ACMAC (Philippines)	CAMAC (surname)	CAMCA (stream - Moldova)
ADRAD (greatly afraid)	DARAD, El (Somalia)	DARDA (Albania)
SETSE (a pan in Botswana)	EST-SE (ME 'East Sea' - p2)	ESTES (favours)
AFRAF (a Christian name)	FARAF (p2)	FARFA (an Abbey near Rome)
UGRUG (pull)	GURUG (p2)	GURGU (stream - Afghanistan)
AHLAH (wadi - Oman)	HALAH (edd)	HALHA Horoo (Mongolia)
LIALI, Ain el (spring - Tunisia)	ILALI (p2)	ILAIL (hill - Kenya)
AJNAJ (an Esperanto word)	JANAJ (Egypt)	JANJA (Sierra Leone)
AKCAK, Asagi (Turkey)	KACAK(stream-Czechoslovakia)	KACKA, Kuznika (Poland)
ALHAL (hill - Morocco)	LAHAL (Beng Lahal Pruol - lake in Cambodia)	LAHLA (lake - Papua NG)
AMRAM (wadi - Israel)	MARAM(=marram-reed grass)	MARMA (swamp - Australia)
ANSAN (N. Korea)	NASAN, Um (island - Bahrain)	NASNA(plantigrade genus - ch)
ROERO, Monteu (Italy)	ORERO(facility center-Kenya)	OREOR (island - Palau)
APRAP (a music magazine)	PARAP (Australia)	PARPA, Quebrada (stream-Peru)
UQRUQ (a Turkish word)	QURUQ (Iran)	QURQU (Afghanistan)
ARSAR Lerrnagagat (mountain - Armenia)	RASAR (15th century 'raiser')	RASRA (India)
ESNES (old word=day-labourers)	SENES(pl. of 'senex'-old man)	SENSE
ATFAT Haydar (Egypt)	TAFAT (farm - Algeria)	TAFTA (Afghanistan)
AURAU (Germany)	URAU (East Timor)	UARUA Ipana (lake - Colombia)
EVLEV (surname)	VELEV (p2)	VELVE (vell: a calve's stomach)



AWNAW (stream-Afghanistan)	WANAW (p2)	WANWA, Loi (mt.- Burma)
EXREX (a web site)	XEREX (p2)	XERXE (Yugoslavia)
AYRAY Khuduk (well - Mongolia)	YARAY (w3)	YARYA (Russia)
AZWAZ (wadi - Tunisia)	ZAWAZ, Ra's Ghuraybat (hill - Libya)	ZAWZA (mountain - Afghanistan)

### MORE THAN TWO DIFFERENT GENRES

So far, we have considered transposals involving 2 different genres. Now let us explore transposals involving more than 2 different genres, specifically palindromes, tautonyms and pair isograms.

Palindromes and tautonyms have definitive letter patterns for a particular length of word. In 6-letter words these are 123321 and 123123 respectively. Pair isograms of a particular length, on the other hand, can have one of several letter patterns. For convenience, we can divide these patterns into 2 types. In the first type, the letters in the first half of the word are repeated, in a different order, in the second half of the word. Let us call these **split pair isograms** (SPIs for short). In the second type of pattern this is not the case. We can call these **non-split pair isograms** (NSPIs).

6-letter SPIs which are not palindromes (123321) or tautonyms (123123) have one of the patterns 123132, 123213, 123231, 123312. NSPIs have one of the patterns 112233, 112323, 112332, 121233, 121323, 121332, 122133, 122313, 122331. For the purposes of this article, SPIs and NSPIs are treated as separate genres.

Starting at the left hand column in each case, the two letters which are swapped to make the word in the next column to the right are underlined.

### 3 DIFFERENT GENRES

SPI	tautonym	palindrome
<u>AR</u> GRAG, Sidi Mohamed (Morocco)	RAG <u>RA</u> G, Tall ar (Iran)	RAGGAR (wadi - Somalia)
<u>BAR</u> BRA	<u>BAR</u> BAR	RABBAR, Lovgrunds (reef - Sweden)
<u>DRE</u> DER	<u>DER</u> DER (reef - Australia)	REDDER
<u>FEL</u> FLE, Ain el (spring-Labanon)	<u>FEL</u> FEL (Ethiopia)	LEFFEL
<u>HRA</u> HAR, El (locality-Algeria)	<u>HAR</u> HAR (hill - Yemen)	HARRAH (Egypt)
<u>KALK</u> LA, Ben Zitat el (Morocco)	<u>KALK</u> KAL (well - Djibouti)	KALLAK (st)
<u>LA-E-A</u> LE (island - Burma)	<u>LAEL</u> AE (island - Indonesia)	EALLAE
<u>NSA</u> NAS, Chabet (wadi-Morocco)	<u>NASN</u> AS (edncm)	NASSAN (Burkina Faso)
<u>PRE</u> PER (Czechoslovakia)	<u>PER</u> PER (Iran)	REPPER
<u>SALS</u> LA, Sidi Bru (tomb-Tunisia)	<u>SALS</u> AL, Cachoeira (falls - Brazil)	SALLAS (France)
<u>TELE</u> TL (Russia)	<u>TELE</u> TEL (area - Somalia)	TELLET Surd (wadi - Egypt)
SPI	palindrome	tautonym
<u>KINN</u> KI (Guinea)	<u>KINN</u> IK (hod)	KINKIN
<u>MALL</u> MA (Peru)	<u>MALL</u> AM	MALMAL (Somalia)
<u>TIGI</u> GT (mountain - Morocco)	<u>TIGG</u> IT (edd)	TIGTIG (Philippines)

### 4 DIFFERENT GENRES

These two 4-word chains are each made using 4 different genres:

palindrome	NSPI	tautonym	SPI
<u>NATTAN</u> * (surname)	<u>NANTAT</u> (Burma)	<u>TANTAN</u> *	TANTNA (mountain-Tunisia)



<b>SPI</b> SUTTSU (Japan)	<b>palindrome</b> SUTTUS*	<b>NSPI</b> SUSTUT (peak-Canada)	<b>tautonym</b> TUSTUS* Pampa (Peru)
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In order to construct chains with more than 4 words, at least one genre has to be used twice. This chain of 5 words, covering 4 genres, is achieved by incorporating a second palindrome:

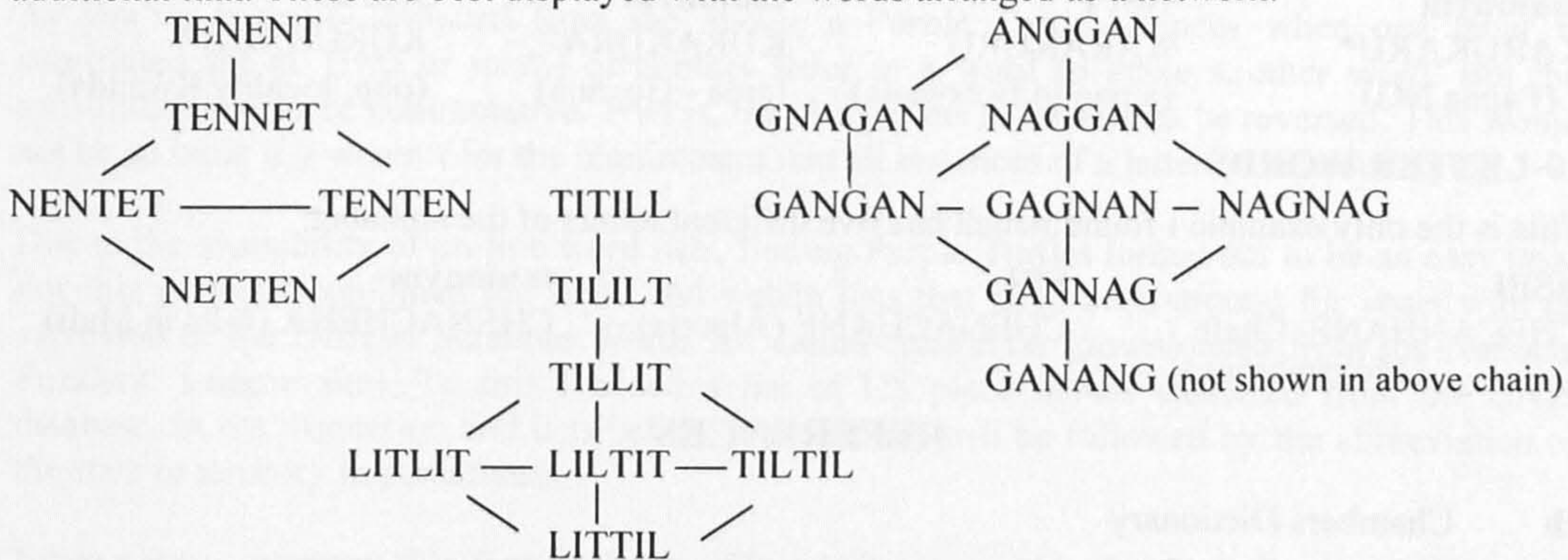
<b>SPI</b> TENENT	<b>palindrome</b> TENNET	<b>NSPI</b> NENTET Allominab (Ethiopia)	<b>palindrome</b> NETTEN (Dutch: nets)	<b>tautonym</b> TENTEN (Chile)
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These two 7-word chains each duplicate 3 of the 4 genres:

<b>SPI</b> ANGGAN (stream-Malaysia)	<b>palindrome</b> NAGGAN, Air (depression in Mali)	<b>tautonym</b> NAGNAG (w2)	<b>NSPI</b> GAGNAN (stream-Sweden)	<b>palindrome</b> GANNAG (p2)	<b>tautonym</b> GANGAN	<b>SPI</b> GNAGAN (OE 'gnaw'-ch)
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<b>NSPI</b> TITILL	<b>SPI</b> TILILT (mount.-Morocco)	<b>palindrome</b> TILLIT	<b>tautonym</b> LITLIT (Philippines)	<b>NSPI</b> LILTIT (csd)	<b>palindrome</b> LITTIL	<b>tautonym</b> TILTIL (Chile)
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Each of the above five chains have additional genre links. The first 2 chains each have a single additional link and these are identified by asterisks\*. The last 3 chains have more than one additional link. These are best displayed with the words arranged as a network:



## LONGER WORDS

So far, all the genre transposals have been of length 4, 5 and 6 letters, but longer words can be similarly transposed by swapping two letters. Each of the genre transposal chains below has 3 or more words. The genres involved are tautonyms, SPIs and NSPIs.

### 8-LETTER WORDS

Only 8-letter words with four different letters of the alphabet are admitted.

<b>tautonym</b> KALUKALU (Philippines)	<b>SPI</b> KALUKULA (DR Congo)	<b>tautonym</b> KULAKULA (Estonia)
MALUMALU (area - Solomon Is.)	MALUMULA (Malawi)	MULAMULA (Mozambique)
MARIMARI (well - Somalia)	MARIMIRA (forest - Kenya)	MIRAMIRA (Bolivia)
MARUMARU (river - Nigeria)	MARUMURA (admin. div. Japan)	MURAMURA (stream - Ghana)
MOUSMOUS, Chabet el (stream - Algeria)	MOUSSOUM, Goussou (Chad)	SOUMSOUM, Mayo (stream - Cameroon)



<b>tautonym</b> GIR <u>A</u> G <u>I</u> R <u>A</u> (stream - Angola)	<b>NSPI</b> G <u>I</u> R <u>I</u> G <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> (Senegal)	<b>tautonym</b> GAR <u>I</u> G <u>A</u> R <u>I</u> (Nigeria)
K <u>I</u> L <u>O</u> K <u>I</u> L <u>O</u> (Philippines)	K <u>I</u> L <u>I</u> K <u>O</u> L <u>O</u> (stream - Iv.Coast)	K <u>O</u> L <u>I</u> K <u>O</u> L <u>I</u> (stream - Iv. Coast)
K <u>O</u> L <u>A</u> K <u>O</u> L <u>A</u> (cape - Zambia)	K <u>O</u> L <u>O</u> K <u>A</u> L <u>A</u> (Madagascar)	K <u>A</u> L <u>O</u> K <u>A</u> L <u>O</u> (stream-Solomon Is.)
L <u>O</u> K <u>A</u> L <u>O</u> K <u>A</u> (creek - Fiji)	L <u>O</u> K <u>O</u> L <u>A</u> K <u>A</u> (Indonesia)	L <u>A</u> K <u>O</u> L <u>A</u> K <u>O</u> (Nigeria)
P <u>O</u> R <u>A</u> P <u>O</u> R <u>A</u> (Papua NG)	P <u>O</u> R <u>O</u> P <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> (stream-Iv.Coast)	P <u>A</u> R <u>O</u> P <u>A</u> R <u>O</u> (mountain - Peru)
P <u>U</u> T <u>A</u> P <u>U</u> T <u>A</u> (stream-New Zea.)	P <u>U</u> T <u>U</u> P <u>A</u> T <u>A</u> (ridge - Peru)	P <u>A</u> T <u>U</u> P <u>A</u> T <u>U</u> (stream -New Zea.)
S <u>I</u> R <u>A</u> S <u>I</u> R <u>A</u> (a Solomon Is.)	S <u>I</u> R <u>I</u> S <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> (stream - Guinea)	S <u>A</u> R <u>I</u> S <u>A</u> R <u>I</u> (Philippines)
<b>NSPI</b> K <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> K <u>O</u> R <u>O</u> (Burkina Faso)	<b>tautonym</b> K <u>A</u> R <u>O</u> K <u>A</u> R <u>O</u> (mountain - Fiji)	<b>NSPI</b> K <u>O</u> R <u>O</u> K <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> (Ivory Coast)
<b>SPI</b> R <u>U</u> C <u>A</u> C <u>U</u> R <u>A</u> , Rio (stream - Chile)	<b>tautonym</b> C <u>U</u> R <u>A</u> C <u>U</u> R <u>A</u> , Raudal (rapids - Venezuela)	<b>NSPI</b> C <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> C <u>U</u> R <u>U</u> (Brazil)

These two 4-word examples each form a circle, the last word transposing to the first word\*:

<b>tautonym</b> C <u>H</u> A <u>I</u> -C <u>H</u> A <u>I</u> *(Mozambique)	<b>SPI</b> C <u>H</u> A <u>I</u> -C <u>H</u> I <u>A</u> (China)	<b>tautonym</b> C <u>H</u> I <u>A</u> -C <u>H</u> I <u>A</u> (China)	<b>SPI</b> C <u>H</u> I <u>A</u> -C <u>H</u> A <u>I</u> *(China)
<b>tautonym</b> K <u>A</u> R <u>U</u> K <u>A</u> R <u>U</u> * (Papua NG)	<b>NSPI</b> K <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> K <u>U</u> R <u>U</u> (a pan in Botswana)	<b>tautonym</b> K <u>U</u> R <u>A</u> K <u>U</u> R <u>A</u> (area - Guyana)	<b>NSPI</b> K <u>U</u> R <u>U</u> K <u>A</u> R <u>A</u> * (pop. locality Rwanda)

## 10-LETTER WORDS

This is the only example I found which has five different letters of the alphabet:

<b>NSPI</b> C <u>H</u> E <u>C</u> <u>A</u> N <u>H</u> A <u>N</u> E, Chefe (Mozambique)	<b>SPI</b> C <u>H</u> E <u>N</u> A <u>C</u> <u>H</u> A <u>N</u> E (Algeria)	<b>tautonym</b> C <u>H</u> E <u>N</u> A <u>C</u> <u>H</u> E <u>N</u> A (falls in Mali)
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## REFERENCES

- ch** Chambers Dictionary  
**csd** Chambers Scots Dictionary  
**dje** Dictionary of Jamaican English, Cassidy and Le Page  
**edd** The English Dialect Dictionary, ed. J. Wright 1898  
**edncm** Everymans Dictionary of Non-Classical Mythology by Egerton Sykes, J.M. Dent 1968  
**hod** Handbook of American Indians, ed. F.W. Hodge 1907  
**ipfb** Quentin Crewe's International Pocket Food Book, 1988  
**mamsp** A World List of Mammalian Species by G.B. Corbet & J.E. Hill, Nat. Hist. Museum Publications, OUP 1991  
**Manx** The English & Manx Dictionary by Rev. W. Gill & Rev. J.T. Clarke, Manx Soc. 1866  
**ospd** Official Scrabble Players Dictionary  
**p2** The Palindromicon II by J. Grant & D. Tilque, Word Ways Monograph Series 6, 2002  
**pull** The Complete Word Game Dictionary by T. Pulliam & G. Carruth, Facts on File 1984  
**st** Stedman's Medical Dictionary  
**WW** Word Ways  
**w2/w3** Websters Second/Third Edition