UN- TRUTHFUL WORDS

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Four is the definitive “truthful word” because it has four letters. “Unfour” is also truthful as it doesn’t have four letters, but is untruthful as it’s not a real word. Following an excursion into the un- section of the dictionary I found heaps of truthful and untruthful words, as well as some both truthful and untruthful—like unfour but real words. Here’s a sampling, mostly of linguistic interest. All these words are in Web-3 except those marked * [in Random House Unabr.’66] or ** [in Macquarie Dict.’01]. (Most * are fairly common words—Web-3 isn’t unabridged after all!)

In addition, many coinages of truthful logological unwords are possible—unword, unpalindromic, unpangrammatic, unalphonetic, unautonymbic, etc—as well as untruthfuls like unanagrammable (“Be an amalgam run.”), unlipogrammatic [acgilmnoprtu], unodd, untall, etc.

TRUTHFUL

unabbreviated          unalphabetical *
unbiblical             unbold *
undotted *             un-french
unindented **          unitalicized *
unpatented             [Thank God some words still belong to everyone.]

UNTRUTHFUL

unecccentric * (Letters 2-7 are) uneven (letter number)
unmeaning              unpatterned ***
unalterable [“inalterable”] undefinable [“Can’t be defined.”] unthinkable [See!]
unround [a round word phonetically (lips rounded in pronunciation) + all letters rounded (cf. unbent)]
unselfish               [It’s exactly like itself. An oxymoron in fact]

BOTH truthful and untruthful

unannotated [Would be truthful if I hadn’t put this damn note here.]
unavoidable [Some may avoid this word entirely—but they can’t prove it without disproving it.]
unbearable [Most people can tolerate this word—unless said of themselves!]
unbent [Each letter contains a bend (compare unround) but the word is straight by definition.]
unclassified [Not top secret, but classified as an adjective.]
uncoined [Not coined just now but was in the past.]
underwater [Not unless you’re willing to wrinkle your Word Ways!] (What’s a derwater anyhow?)
undisguised [This upfront word is disguised as a nonce verb anagram of the phrase “I undid guess.”]
uninflected [There’s no such word as uninflfct. But is it an inflection of inflect? I ask, ignorant.]
unlisted [Listed in most dictionaries but not in some pocket dictionaries nor in phone books, etc.]
unscrambled [Correct letter order but it’s a scrambled scam blunder.]
unspoken [Not spoken here, but easily falsifiable—if you say so.]

NEITHER truthful nor untruthful

untruthful [True if it’s false, false if it’s true.]