

## SOME REALLY UNUSUAL WORDS

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I have been contributing these little quizzes to Word Ways for decades. Some have been easy, some not. This one is especially challenging, but give it a try. A quarter of them right would be good; half of them right entitles you to think yourself exceptional.

1. The proboscis of an insect, from the Late Latin for "drainer"
2. Raise the shoulders, perhaps from the Dutch for "duck the head"
3. A shrub, from the Greek for "water vessel"
4. Pertaining to sharks, from the Greek
5. Musical instrument, from Latin "war trumpet"
6. Meadow-inhabiting bird, from the Latin
7. Spit, from the Latin for "getting something off one's chest"
8. Muslim priest, from the Arabic for "leader"
9. Classification of diseases, from the Greek
10. Egyptian or Indian military rank, from Persian "heaving a head"
11. Porch of a church, from the wall decoration (Biblical scene)
12. Physical exercise, from the Chinese "soft science"
13. Fool, cheating Nicholas or Nicodemus
14. Acknowledgement of error, from Latin "come to oneself again"
15. Russian infantryman, although the name means "archer"
16. Sky, though the basic origin seems to be "damp" or "moist"
17. The silver gibbon of Java, from its cry
18. General announcement, from the Greek for "circular"
19. Military equipment restored to the lord on the death of a tenant soldier, in the Old Norse custom of "army paraphernalia"
20. Public caller to prayer, from the Arabic "proclaimer"