

ALL-DIAGONAL 5-SQUARES WITH SIMPLER WORDS

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It may seem that a 5-square could contain nothing but familiar words, but these 5-squares have eight words which have to fit, of which at least one must be a reversible word, and at least one a palindrome. In the case of six-squares, there was just one square with as many as 7 words (two less than the maximum) among the most used 87,000 words: in the case of five-squares, 3 squares had all 8 words in the top 87,000 (and 66 squares had just 7 words). In the case of six-squares, there were 13 squares with 8 OED headwords (out of 9), whereas with five-squares, there were 283 with all words being OED headwords. The squares below were made out of 31534 popular or OED headwords (roughly speaking), including 1284 reversible words and 1269 palindromic words: these served to make over half-a-million all-diagonal squares. Because of the very diverse and multiple sources for a popular word, I am unable to give a source: unrecognised words will often be names, like (Nick) Nolte, or (Monica) Seles. The latter is more likely than the OED headword sele. The Internet is the most obvious way of finding out what the words are. That OED headwords are not generally well known is shown by the fact that the OED squares on average have fewer than two words of the eight in the top 87,000. Following each square are the diagonals, as read from NE or SW, NW, and SE.

In the following squares all words are in the most popular 87000

AGNES
GLOAT
NOLTE
EATER
STERN
SALAS
ALLEN
NELLA

ACHES
CLEAT
HELGA
EAGER
STARR
SALAS
ALLER
RELLA

AVARS
VLIE T
AILS A
RESIT
STATS
SELES
ALLIS
SILLA

The following squares are some of the 66 having 7 of their 8 words in the top 87000

ASHES
SCOOP
HORSE
EOSIN
SPEND
SOROS
ACRID
DIRCA Dirca, Web2
2 words in top 2,000

ANNAM
NGAIO
NANMO
AIMED
MOODS
MINIM
AGNES
SENGA sengi, 1987q
2 words in top 8,000

ASTRA
SGEIR
TENSE
RISEN
ARENS
AINIA Nomen. Zool.
AGNES
SENGA
3 words in top 8,000

A T O M S
T I D A L
O D D L Y
M A L A N
S L Y N N
S A D A S Pcon
A I D A N
N A D I A
2 words in top 9,000

A D A M S
D I N A H
A N G R Y
M A R E E
S H Y E R
S A G A S
A I G E R
R E G I A
2 words in top 8,000

A B Y S S
B L E A T
Y E L V E
S A V E R
S T E R N
S A L A S
A L L E N
N E L L A
2 words in top 9,000

he next four squares have the
same diagonals as this

A C H E S
C L E A T
H E L G A
E A G E R
S T A R N
2 words in top 10,000

A C H E S
C L E A T
H E L T E
E A T E R
S T E R N
2 words in top 9,000

A G N E S
G L O A T
N O L T E
E A T E N
S T E N N
2 words in top 8,000

A I T H S aith
I L E A L
T E L L Y
H A L E N
S L Y N N
2 words in top 8,000

A S S E T
S N E E R
S E N S E
E E S E S eese, Web2, bl
T R E S S
T E N E T
A N N E S
S E N N A
2 words in top 5,000

A S H O K
S P E A R
H E R S I
O A S E S
K R I S S
K A R A K
A P R E S
S E R P A Serpa

A I R E S
I S A A C
R A S T A
E A T E N
S C A N T
S A S A S Pcon
A S S E T
T E S S A
2 words in top 5,000

B O W L S
O O O O H
W O R S E
L O S E R
S H E R D
S O R O S
B O R E D
D E R O B
32 words in top 9,000

D A R T S
A A A A H
R A M B O
T A B O R
S H O R N
S A M A S Samas, Web2
D A M O N [bl
N O M A D

D R A M S
R E G A L
A G G R O
M A R A T
S L O T S
S A G A S
D E G A S
S A G E D

D E N T S
E I G H T
N G A I O
T H I N K
S T O K E
S H A H S
D I A N E
E N A I D
2 words in top 1,000

A S H E S
S N E A K
H E N R I
E A R E D
S K I D S
S A N A S sannah, 1757q
A N N E S
S E N N A

The following squares
consist entirely of OED
headwords

ABASK
BLUEY
AULBE
SEBAT
KYETH
KELEK
ALLAH
HALLA

ABYSS
BLOAT
YOLKE
SAKIA
STEAN
SALAS
ALLIN all-in
NILLA

BRASS
RIGID
AGREE
SIENC science
SDECE under S*
SIRIS
BIRNE
ENRIB

* Service de documentation
étrangère et de contre-
espionnage

BRIGS
RIVET
IVRAY
GEAND
STYDE
SERES Seres
BIRNE
ENRIB

BRASS
ROGET Roget
AGREE
SEEAL
STELK
SERES Seres
BORAK
KAROB

BRACT
ROCOU
ACRON
COOEE
TUNED
TOROT to-rot
BORED
DEROB

CHALK
HALAL
ALICE Alice
LACRE
KLEET
KAIK
CAIRT
TRIAC

following two squares have
the same diagonals as this

CHECK
HALAL
ELIDE
CADRE
KLEET

CHICK
HAMAL
IMIDE
CADRE
KLEET

CROTT
RATIO
OTMER
TIEUP tie-up
TORPS
TIMIT
CAMUS
SUMAC

CLIPS
LAYIN lay-in
IYRNE
PINIA
SNEAD
SIRIS
CARID
DIRAC

CHURR
HINOUE
UNTIE
ROIAL
RUELL rule
ROTOR
CITAL
LATIC

CHURT
HONOR
UNRWA
ROWAN
TRANT
TOROT
CORAT
TAROC

CROSS
ROUEN
OURTA
SETAR
SNART
SERES Seres
CORAT
TAROC

DRANK
RA FAR
AFIRE
NARRA
KREAT
KAIK
DAIRT
TRIAD

following square has same
diagonals

DRANK
RAMAL
AMICE
NACRE
KLEET

DRESS
RENEW
ENDRY
SERAL
SWYLL
SEDES
DEDAL
LADED

DRIER
RELAY
ILDRE
EARAL
RYELL
RADAR
DEDAL
LADED

DRABS
RELET
ALLTO
BETEN
STONY
SELES sele
DELEY
YELED

DEEDS
EERIE
ERRAT
DIARY
SETYE
SIRIS
DERRE
ERRED

DIACT
IEROE ier-oe
ARRAS
COART
TESTE
TOROT to-rot
DERRE
ERRED

DRABS
REBET
ABRAY
BEARD
STYDE
SERES Seres
DERRE
ERRED

following square has same
diagonal

DRABS
REGET
AGREE
BEERY
STEYE

DWALM
WERAY
ARRID
LAIRD
MYDDE
MARAM
DERRE
ERRED

DROME
RENIN
ONSSE
MISSY
ENEYE
EISIE
DESSE
ESSED

DRUST
RENEW
UNWRY
SERES Seres
TWYSS
TEWET
DEWES
SEWED

DOMAS
OROBE
MOOLD
ABLOY
SEDYL
SBOBS 'sbobs
DROOL
LOORD

EAVES
AGAIN
VARDO
EIDER
SNORT
SIRIS
EGRET
TERGE

ESCOT
SLAIE
CAMLE
OILER
TEERS
TIMIT
ELMES
SEMLE

E A S S E
 A L T R Y
 S T O O N stone
 S R O P E S-rope
 E Y N E S
 E R O R E
 E L O P S
 S P O L E

The following squares use a self-describing word

S A C R A
 A T R I P Web2
 C R O S S
 R I S P E risp
 A P S E S
 A I O I A island, TIG
 S T O P S
 S P O T S
 3 words in top 6,000

S A C R O
 A T R I A
 C R O S S
 R I S P E risp
 O A S E S
 O I O I O Pcon
 S T O P S
 S P O T S
 3 words in top 6,000

M A C H S mach
 A O R O A Northland, New
 C R O S S [Zealand
 H O S T A
 S A S A S sasa, Pcon
 S O O O S so-oo, EDD
 M O O T S
 S T O O M

Reversible and diagonal squares are to be found in W81-210/214. A 5-square with its top row equal to the NW diagonal is in W82-233.

This square has a row equal to a diagonal

A D A D A village, Pcon
 D R O O P
 A O R O A *vide supra*
 D O O A R
 A P A R T
 A O R O A *vide supra*
 A R R A T 16°21, -4°36,
 T A R R A tara [Mali]

This square makes Gooch cross...

S O G E T
 O P O S E
 G O O C H Macquarie
 E S C L E
 T E H E E teehee, tee-hee, [1858q
 T S O S T Tsost Uul range
 S P O L E [in the Altai
 E L O P S

and here are some of 53 examples where Grant is on top:

G R A N T
 R O B U R
 A B R E U
 N U E E S
 T R U S S
 T U R U T Pcon
 G O R E S
 S E R O G Evans and
 [Thomas: New Welsh Dict

G R A N T
 R O G E R
 A G R I A Web2
 N E I E N nine
 T R A N S
 T E R E T terete
 G O R E S
 S E R O G *vide supra*

G R A N T
 R O D E O
 A D R A R
 N E A S T
 T O R T E
 T E R E T terete
 G O R S E
 E S R O G Web3
 the next two squares have the same diagonals

G R A N T
 R O G E R
 A G R E E
 N E E S T
 T R E T E

G R A N T
 R O P E Y
 A P R E S
 N E E S T
 T Y S T E Web2

G R A N T
 R O T O R
 A T R I E attery 3, 1535q
 N O I S Y
 T R E Y E tray
 T O R O T to-rot
 G O R S E
 E S R O G Web3

All words are in the OED as headwords, except where noted, and except for the top 87,000 words by usage. EDD = English Dialect Dictionary. Pcon = Palindromicon. ITIS = database of US Dept. of Agriculture. bl = below line. Nomen. Zool. = Nomenclator Zoologicus. TIG = Times Index-Gazeteer.