

EBOLA

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Ebola virus disease, formerly known as **Ebola** haemorrhagic fever, is a severe, often fatal illness in humans. The first **ebola** outbreaks occurred in the mid-1970s in remote villages in Central Africa, near tropical rainforests, but the most recent outbreak in west Africa has involved major urban as well as rural areas. As this item is written (January 2015), reports of **ebola** appear daily in the media, in both Africa and elsewhere. The name **ebola** comes the **Ebola** River. The **Ebola** River, also commonly known by its indigenous name Legbala, is the headstream of the Mongala River, a tributary of the Congo River, in northern Democratic Republic of the Congo; it is roughly 250 km in length

As distressing as the disease and its spread is to all of us, **ebola** is interesting to the wordplay-loving logologist from several viewpoints. Firstly, it has a number of transposals. Here are 7 that have been unearthed:

- Abole** a town 30 kilometers northwest of Degehabur, in the Somali Region of Ethiopia (Wikipedia)
- Bolae** an ancient city of Latium that was repeatedly mentioned in the early history of Rome (Wikipedia)
- Elboa** the surname of Ben Elboa, a boxer who fought in Brownsville, Texas, in 1916 (boxrec.com/date_search.php?yyyy=1916&mm=05&dd=30)
- Labeo** a genus of carps in the family Cyprinidae; they are found mainly in the Old World tropics (Wikipedia)
- Laboe** a municipality in the district of Plön, in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany; it is situated on the Baltic Sea coast, approximately 10 kilometers northeast of Kiel (Wikipedia)
- Leabo** a food distribution company based in southern California (www.leabofoods.com)
- Leoba** an Anglo-Saxon nun (c710-782) who was part of Boniface's mission to the Germans, and a saint (Wikipedia)

The sequence of letters **ebola** can be found in various words and names. Here are 15 that have been identified:

- aktiebolag** the Swedish term for "limited company" or "corporation" (Wikipedia)
- cebola** a Spanish word mentioned in the etymology of **chibol**, a type of onion (OED – the Oxford English Dictionary)
- Cerebolan** an anti-histaminic drug which is mainly used for the control of vomiting due to motion sickness (www.medications.com/?c=drug&s=cerebolan)
- Denebola** the second brightest star in the constellation Leo (Collins English Dictionary 2014 edition)
- Freebola** a pop rock song by Chilean rock band Glup! featured in their debut album 1999 (Wikipedia)
- hebolace** a variant of **herbelade**, a kind of pork sausage mixed with herbs and baked in a crust (OED)
- lillebolaro** a variant of **lillibullero**, a refrain of a song ridiculing the Irish (OED)
- Mebolazine** an anabolic steroid (Wikipedia)
- Rebola** a town in Equatorial Guinea (Wikipedia)
- Rebolation** a style of Brazilian dance that originated in rave parties (Wikipedia)
- thebolactic** a type of acid, a constituent of opium (OED)
- Thelebolaceae** a family of fungi; the Thelebolales are an order of the class Leotiomyces within the phylum Ascomycota; it contains the single family Thelebolaceae (Wikipedia)
- Thelebolales** a fungus, which is an order of the class Leotiomyces within the phylum Ascomycota; it contains the single family Thelebolaceae (Wikipedia)
- Trebolares** a village and rural locality in La Pampa Province in Argentina (Wikipedia)
- Zebola** a women's spirit possession dance ritual practised by certain ethnic groups of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; it is believed to have therapeutic qualities and has been noted in the West as a traditional form of psychotherapy (Wikipedia)

Reversing the letters of **ebola** gives us the simple two-word term **a lobe**, which is a roundish projecting part of some larger body. The reverse sequence **alobe** can be found in various words and names. Here are 18 that we have managed to find:

- Ankalalobe** a town and commune in Madagascar (Wikipedia)
- astralobe** an old spelling (16th century) of **astrolabe**, an astronomical instrument (OED)
- Balobedu** a plural form of **Lobedu**, a member of a Northern Sotho people, living mainly in Limpopo province (formerly the northern Transvaal) in South Africa (OED)
- Balobelu** a variant of **Balobedu** (OED)
- buffaloberry** any shrub of the genus *Shepherdia* native to North America; the bitter tasting berry of such a shrub (Collins English Dictionary 2014 edition; the word is spelled solidly in Collins, but has a hyphen in the OED, and is spelled as two words in Webster's Third New International Dictionary)

calober	an old spelling (15th century) of calaber , a kind of fur (OED)
Generaloberst	<i>Generaloberst</i> (or colonel general) was the second-highest rank in the Austro-Hungarian army, introduced following the German model in 1915 (Wikipedia)
halobenzene	in organic chemistry, any halogenated derivative of benzene (Wiktionary)
halobenzoate	in organic chemistry, a halogenated salt of benzoic acid
halobenzoyl	in organic chemistry, a halogenated benzoyl radical
halobetasol	the generic name of a medication used to treat a variety of skin conditions, such as eczema, dermatitis, allergies, and rash (www.webmd.com)
Kalobe	an administrative ward in the Mbeya Urban district of the Mbeya Region of Tanzania (Wikipedia)
Manalobe	a town and commune in southwest Madagascar (Wikipedia)
Paralobesia	a genus of moths belonging to the subfamily Olethreutinae of the family Tortricidae (Wikipedia)
pentalobe	the pentalobe screw drive is a five-pointed tamper-resistant system being used by Apple in its products (Wikipedia)
Salobe	another town and commune in southwest Madagascar (Wikipedia)
Salober	a mountain of Bavaria, Germany (Wikipedia)
tetralobed	having four lobes (OED: see the 1996 illustrative quotation at porally)

