

MORE STRAIGHTS AND CURVES

ANIL

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Darryl Francis' May 2019 article, 'Straight Letters and Curves', cites words with straight-line letters and words with curvy letters. He asked for further variants on that theme. I suggest dividing the alphabet into subgroups depending on the number of lines per letter. The 3- straight lines group is much the largest (91 Scrabble words). Next is 1-curved line (41).

Here are all such words from Collins Scrabble Dictionary (CSD), 9 letters max. Not listed here are all single letters, not just A, I and O, all defined as words in most dictionaries.

Darryl and Jeff Grant noted two CSD words I missed and provide (below) some additional words from other dictionaries, mainly Webster's 2nd.

<u>Straight:</u>	<u># letters</u>	<u>Scrabble words (in CSD, official international tournament authority)</u>
1 line	1 I	none
2 lines	4 LTVX	none (but many Roman numerals)
3 lines	7 AFHKNYZ	AA AAH AFF AH AHA AKA AN ANA ANAN ANANA ANKH ANN ANNA ANY AY AYAH AZAN FA FAA FAAN FAFF FAH FAN FANK FANNY FAN FAYFY HA HAAF HAFF HAH HAHA HAKA HAN HANK HANKY HAY HAZAN HAZZAN HAZY KA KAF KAK KAKA KANA KANAKA KAY KAYAK KHAF KHAN KHAYA KY KYAK NA NAAN NAFF NAH NAKFA NAN NANA NANNA NANNY NAY NYANZA YA YAFF YAH YAK YAKKA YANK YAY ZA ZANANA ZANY ZANZA ZZZ
4 line	3 EMW	EM EMMEW EWE ME MEE MEM MEME MEW MM (yummy; I spell it mmm) WE WEE WEEM WEEWEE WEM
<u>Curved:</u>		
1 line	5 CJOSU	COCCO/S COCCUS COCCOUS COCO/S COO/S COOCOO COS COUSCOUS CUSS CUSSO/S JO JOCO JOSS JUCO/S JUJU/S JUS OO/S OS OU/S SO SOC/S SOSS SOU/S SUCCOS SUCCOUS SUCCUS SUS SUSS SUSU/S US (All of Darryl's 8 longest curvy words are in this groups, including his longest, COUSCOUSSOUS.)

2 line 4 DGPQ none
 3 line 2 BR BRR BRRR

(The last two lines of course are actually mixtures of straight and curved, unless the tail on the Q is curly. Since they contain almost no words there's no point in differentiating them.)

Darryl and Jeff added these non-Scrabble words:

3-line straights AFFA AKHYANA FAFFY KANNAK KAKKAK KANAKANAK
 KHANKAH KNYAZ YAHAN YAKKY (+91 above = 101)
 2-line curved PDQ
 3-line curved BRRRR

Another variant is straight and curved combined.

1 line 6 CIJOSU
 2 lines 8 DGLPQTVX (no vowels, no words)
 3 lines 9 ABFHKNRYZ (a single vowel [two counting Y] yet a huge list)
 4 lines 3 all straight, same as above.

Yet another variant is number of lower case lines (sans serif).

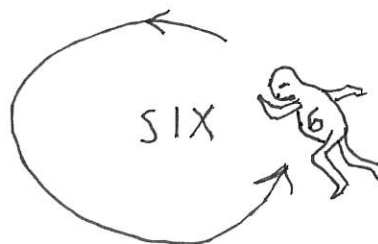
1 line (not counting dots) 6 c i j l o s (+ n u in some fonts)
 2 line 16 a b d e f g h n p q r t u v x y (+ i j counting dots)
 3-4 line 4 k m w z

I leave the word search for the last two variants to others.

NUMBERS

I looked at the number of strokes in the letters spelling the ten digits, ignoring curvature. Since numbers don't combine into words like letters do, I chose to self-define each numeral arithmetically with its letter stroke numbers. Can you solve SIX with the four basic math operations? I couldn't and had to resort to factorials.

number	lines	self-definitions
ZERO =	3431	$0 = 3(4-3-1)$
ONE =	134	$1 = 1(-3+4)$
TWO =	241	$2 = (-2+4)1$
THREE =	23344	$3 = (2+3+3+4)/4$
FOUR =	3113	$4 = 3-1-1+3$
FIVE =	3124	$5 = 3-(1 \times 2)+4$
SIX =	112	$6 = 1(1+2)!$
SEVEN =	14243	$7 = (1+4+2)(4-3)$
EIGHT =	41232	$8 = 4+1+2+3-2$
NINE =	3134	$9 = 3-1+3+4$
TEN =	243	$10 = -2+(4 \times 3)$



Though not a digit I threw in TEN for no extra charge. You're welcome. I also solved eleven thru twenty with $+ - \times \div$, not shown. Can you?