

ALPHABETIC TRANSADDITIONS

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In the May 1972 Kickshaws, Dave Silverman reported on efforts by Mary Hazard, Gary Crum and Murray Pearce to select a four-letter word, add in turn each letter from A through Z, and rearrange to form 26 five-letter words. These alphabetic transadditions left something to be desired, using plurals such as QERES ('qere' is a marginal instruction in the Hebrew Bible to substitute one vowel for another), possessives such as EZER'S (Ezer is a Biblical personage), and words such as QADER (not in any of my dictionaries).

Curiously, no one seems to have tried alphabetic transadditions on longer words in the last seven years; this article attempts to fill the gap.

The five-letter word TRUES can be alphabetically transadded to form 26 words, all but one in the OED ('turzes' is a variant of the verb tur-ses, makes into a bundle, found in the English Dialect Dictionary).

urAtes	Gutser	uNrest	uterUs
Brutes	resHut	rOutes	stuVer
Cruets	suIter	Purest	Wurset
rusteD	Juster	Querts	truXes
retusE	tusKer	tRuers	struYe
Fuster	rustLe	ruSset	turZes
	Muster	uTters	

Moving up a level, the six-letter word ROUTES forms 26 OED words in alphabetic transaddition.

soutAre	Gestour	uNstore	sutoUre
Bouters	soutHer	stOouer	Vouster
strouCe	stuorle	Posture	Wourtes
rousteD	Jouster	Quoters	seXtuor
estourE	stouKer	rousteR	Youster
Foutres	outLers	soureSt	trouZes
	Moustre	sTouter	

'Stouer' is found in a 1557 quotation under stover, and 'soutare', 'soutoure' and 'trouzes' are variants of souter, suitor and trouse.

The seven-letter example SOUTERS is flawed by the lack of a suitable Z-transaddition; I have used the French word 'troussez' here. All 25 others are found in the OED; 18 are plurals of words previously encountered, and 'foustres' can be found at foster.

soutAres	Gestours	uNstores	sutoUres
oBstruse	soutHers	stOouers	Vousters
strouCes	stuoRIes	Postures	Westours
outDress	Jousters	Questors	seXtuors
estourEs	stouKers	rousteRs	Yousters
Foustres	souLters	trousseS	trousseZ
	Moustres	sTouters	

I have attempted an alphabetic transaddition of the eight-letter LINGUETS, but many of the words leave much to be desired; replacements are especially needed for E, M, V and Z.

getuliAns	var. of 'Gaetulians', members of an ancient Libyan people (Web 2)
Busteling	pres. part. of 'bustel', an early form of the verb <u>bustle</u> (OED)
Cultigens	cultivated organisms of a species for which a wild ancestor is unknown (Web 3)
stüDeling	loitering, loafing (EDD)
gEniuslet	contrived term for a child genius (compare 'geniuskin' in the OED)
ingulFest	as in 'thou ingulfest'
guestlinG	a young guest (Web 2)
sleutHing	playing the detective (Web 2)
glutInise	var. spelling of 'glutimize', to make glutinous (see -ise, Web 2)
Jungliest	superlative form of 'jungly', like a jungle (Web 2)
sKleuting	var. of 'scluting', walking clumsily (EDD)
gluteLins	certain simple proteins found in cereals (Web 3)
Mutelings	contrived term for small mute people
gluteNins	plural of 'glutenin', a glutelin found especially in wheat (Web 3)
glutinOse	of the nature of glue, glutinous (Web 2)
Plungiest	inferred superlative form of 'plungy', rainy (OED)
sQuelting	beating, thrashing (EDD)
lusteRing	making lustrous or illustrious (Web 2)
tuSseling	present part of 'tussel', var. of <u>tussle</u> (Web 2)
tuTelings	an old word meaning 'whisperings' (under verb <u>tutel</u> in OED)
Unugliest	inferred superlative form of 'unugly' in Web 2
luVingest	the most 'loving', a reformed spelling and dial. form of <u>loving</u> , inferred from 'luv/luve' in Web 2
tWislunges	<u>forking</u> , an archaic term (<u>twisel</u> , a 1000 quot., OED)
eXultings	exultations (OED)
tulYinges	plural of 'tulyinge', tilling, cultivation (<u>tilling</u> vbl. sb., 1377 quot., OED)
tuZelings	rufflings, instances of 'tuzeling', from 'tuzel', var. of the verb <u>tousle</u> in the EDD.