TOTALLY EXTREME WORDS

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Consider the word CLIFF. The first letter (C) has an alphabetical value of 3; the last letter (F) a value of 6 (assigning a = 1, b = 2, ..., z = 26). Coincidentally, the total value of the whole word is 36. CLIFF is what I call a totally extreme word. However, it doesn’t end there. The total value of the middle letters situated between C and F (L, I, F = 12 + 9 + 6) is 27, which is 9 times the value of the first letter, C. It transpires that:

1. When, in a totally extreme word, the value of the first letter lies between 1 and 26 (A - Z), and the value of the last letter lies between 1 and 9 (A - I), then the total value of the middle letters is always 9 times the value of the first letter.

2. When the value of the first letter lies between 1 and 26 (A - Z), and the value of the last letter consists of a double figure between 10 and 26 (J - Z), then the total value of the middle letters is always 99 times the value of the first letter.

Some of this is purely academic because where would you find a word beginning with G (7) and ending in M (13) with a total value of 71?

Here is a collection of Totally Extreme Words. The total value of each word is given.

Unreferenced words can be found in the Oxford English Dictionary, Second Edition. Other references: Cham = Chambers Dictionary; Grz = Grzimek’s Animal Life Encyclopedia vol. I, 1971; Hod = Handbook of American Indians, ed. F.W. Hodge, 1907; Sted = Stedman’s Medical Dicy. TF = Tertiary Faunas by A. Morley Davies, 1971; Web2 = Webster’s Second Edition; Locations, by country, are taken from the United States Board on Geographic Names.

1. FIRST LETTER A - Z; LAST LETTER A - I
When the first letter reaches T (20), the 3-digit total exceeds 200 and totally extreme words become scarcer (see end of article). Hence, the first letters of the words listed here are cut off at S (19).

| 11 | AGBA (a tree) | 21 | BRA | 31 | COLA | 41 | DERMA (skin under epidermis) |
| 12 | AHAB | 22 | BAHIB (Yemen) | 32 | CRIB | 42 | DALERB (U.K.) |
| 13 | AIC (Hod) | 23 | BOBAC (a marmot) | 33 | CADMIC (of cadmium) | 43 | DAMALIC (name of an acid) |
| 14 | AID | 24 | BEDDED | 34 | COLD | 44 | DEAFENED |
| 15 | AEBBE (have) | 25 | BADDIE | 35 | COLE | 45 | DATABLE |
| 16 | ABAFF (abaft - Web2) | 26 | BELÂF (remained) | 36 | CUFF | 46 | DOUF (dull, inactive) |
| 17 | AGAAG (Algeria) | 27 | BELAG (to make to lag) | 37 | CLOG | 47 | DOUG |
| 18 | AHAH | 28 | BOCH (botch) | 38 | CREACH (local soil name) | 48 | DATOH (a chief in Borneo) |
| 19 | AEDl (blessed) | 29 | BAILE (Web2) | 39 | COLI | 49 | DAZHAI (China) |

51 | ENDEMIA | 61 | FRAGARIA (strawberry) | 71 | GENTIANA (plant genus) | 81 | HESPERIA (butterfly genus) |
52 | ENCARI8 (Somalia) | 62 | FOURB (a cheat) | 72 | GODSYB (gossip) | 82 | HAYYUB (Lebanon) |
53 | ENDEMIE | 63 | FROLIC | 73 | GEOLOGIE | 83 | HOLOGAMIC |
54 | ENHANCED | 64 | FITTED | 74 | GACCOUNTED | 84 | HOMORED |
55 | EXHALE | 65 | FUNDABLE | 75 | GENERATE | 85 | HOPLITE (ancient Greek soldier) |
56 | ER-RIF (Egypt) | 66 | FIVE-LEAF (cinquefoil) | 76 | GOOROF (Somaila) | 86 | HANNGOUF (Algeria) |
57 | EVING (a house eave) | 67 | FLECKING | 77 | GORGING | 87 | HIGHJACKING |
58 | EMBLANCH (to whiten) | 68 | FEATISH (tolerable) | 78 | GALUMPH | 88 | HYACINTH |
59 | EESILI (easily) | 69 | FOVELI (Burkina Faso) | 79 | GRADUAR (to take a \degree - Cham) | 89 | HORTARI (Lat: to incite – Cham) |

91 | INTARSIA | 101 | JOUBERTIA (a mollusc) | 110 | JOBERTIA (a mollusc) | 111 | JOBURTHIA (a mollusc) |
92 | IL-GHARIB (Malta) | 102 | TOTALS OF | 112 | TOTALS OF |
93 | ISOIONIC (chemical term) | 103 | JOVANOVAC (Croatia) | 113 | JOVANOVAC (Croatia) |
94 | IMPLANTED | 104 | JELLY-BONED | 114 | JELLY-BONED |
95 | IMMIGRATE | 105 | JARGONIZE | 115 | JARGONIZE |
96 | INISHDUFF (Ireland) | 106 | JEITENDORF (Austria) | 116 | JEITENDORF (Austria) |
97 | IMPELLING | 107 | JAPANIZING (making Japanese) | 117 | JAPANIZING (making Japanese) |
98 | INTEGRAPH | 108 | JUWAYSAH (Egypt) | 118 | JUWAYSAH (Egypt) |
99 | IZVORI (Albania) | 109 | JURPUNI (Bangladesh) | 119 | JURPUNI (Bangladesh) |
131 MICROPLEURA 141 NOTOCHORDOMA 151 OSTEOCARCINOMA (Sted)
132 142 152
133 MESOTROPIC 143 NARCISSISTIC 153 OSCILLOMETRIC
134 MISPERSUADED 144 NON-CONCURRED 154 OVERDRAMATISED
135 MULTIPlicable 145 NORTHERNISE 155 OVERPRESCRIBE
136 M/DEW-PROOF (Web2) 146 NEUHERMSDORF (Germany) 156 OBERGOTZHENOF (Germany)
137 MONOGRAPHING 147 NEWSPAPERING (journalism) 157 ORCHESTRATING
138 MURUPUTH (Kenya) 148 NAMBY-PAMBYISH 158 OPHTHALMOGRAPH
139 MAZZOTTII (sp. name) 149 NYARUZIZI (Burundi) 159 OSSAUSKOSKI (Finland)
161 POLYMASTIGINA (an order of flagellates – Grz.) 171 QUADRANTANOPSIA (Sted)
162 PHOTOTROPHIC 172 182
163 PRE-STATEMENT 173 POSTSCRIPTED 183
164 POSTSCRIPTED 174 PRESENSITIZIE 184
165 PRESENSITIZIE 175 QUIESQUE (Honduras) 185 RUGOSE-PUNCTATE (Web2)
166 176 186
167 PARLIAMENTEERING 177 187
168 PRE-ISRAELITISH (Web2) 178 QUSTANTINIYAH (Egypt) 188 RADIOMETEOROGRAPH
169 PRZYWOZKI (Poland) 179 QUKES-SHKUMBINI (Albania) 189 RUBESHBETSU-SAKI (Japan)
191 STRUTHIOLARELLA (TF)
192 SYSTOLOMETRIC (Sted)
193 SEMIPHLOGISTICATED (Web2)
194 SUPERCONDUCTIVE
195 SCHLEIFSTEINSKOPF (Germany)
196 SENTIMENTALIZING
197 SEVENTY-FOURTH (Web2)
198 SHOTORSHOTOXI (Iran)

2. FIRST LETTER A - Z; LAST LETTER J - Z
In this category, A is the only first letter which produces totally extreme words with a 3-digit total below 200, eg. ANTINUCLEAR (1.18). The total of the middle letters (N,T,I,N,U,C,L,E,A = 14+20+9+14+21+3+12+5+1) is 99, which is 99 times the value of the first letter, A. For more of these words, see 3. below

3. SAME TOTAL BUT DIFFERENT FIRST LETTERS AND DIFFERENT LAST LETTERS
For word totals between 111 and 126, the same total may allow the use of two different pairs of extreme letters. For example, a total of 125 can represent a totally extreme word which begins with L (12) and ends with E (5) as well as one which begins with A (1) and ends with Y (25). LAUNDERETTE (12-5) and ARTIFICIALLY (1-25) are one such pair, both having a word total of 125.

Words with a total of 120, such as ALTRUIST (1.20), are an exception and cannot be paired because no letter has a value of 0 (12.0)!

1.11 ARATURUK (China) 1.12 ARGUMENTAL 1.13 ALTRUISM
1.11 KURUMAYA (a rickshaw puller) 11.2 KRAZELERB (Austria) 11.3 KURJAKOVAC (Bosnia-H.)
1.14 ADMONITION 1.15 ANTIPASTO (Hors d'oeuvre) 1.16 ALTENDONOP (Germany)
1.14 KENNEL-SHAPED 11.5 KALEIDOSCOPE 11.6 KULLENKAMPFF (a violinist)
1.15 AKULERQOQ (Greenland) 1.18 ANTINUCLEAR 1.19 ACCUMULATES
1.17 KAWNGSUNG (Burma) 11.8 KNURRISH (gnarled) 11.9 KULLUMBERI (Albania)
1.21 ANTROLIKU (Cyprus) 1.22 ALEKSANDROV (Belarus) 1.23 ANITSCHKOW (a type of cell)
12.1 LEPIDOPTERA 12.2 LINGUISTIC
12.4 ARCHICORTEX (Sted) 1.25 ARTIFICIALLY 12.6 LIGHT-PROOF (Cham)
12.4 LOW-CRESTED (Web2) 12.5 LAUNDERETTE

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Totally extreme words with a total in excess of 200 do exist but only in small numbers. These three are the most understandable ones I found:
20.4 TRUNCATO-ROTUND 21.5 UNCIRCUMSCRIPTIBLE 22.5 VIGINTIQUINTUPLE (the result of multiplying by 25)