FUNCTIONAL TAUTONYMS

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Numerical Tautonyms such as GULP (G + U = 28 and L + P also = 28) have appeared in previous issues of Word Ways. Letters (in this case 2) from each half of the word are added (+) according to their alphabetical values. However, there are other ways of achieving numerical tautonyms. There are numerical tautonyms in which the 2 letters from each half of the word are subtracted (−) according to their alphabetical values.

1  BATS  B − A = T − S
2  CARP  C − A = R − P
3  LISP  L − I = S − P
4  PLEA  P − L = E − A
5  FARM  F − A = R − M
6  KEYS  K − E = Y − S
7  VOLE  V − O = L − E
8  MELD  M − E = L − D
9  JANE  J − A = N − E
10 YOND  Y − O = N − D
11 LAMB  L − A = M − B
12 MATH  M − A = T − H
13 NARE  N − A = R − E
14 WISE  W − I = S − E
15 PATE  P − A = T − E
16 SCUE  S − C = U − E
17 RAVE  R − A = V − E
18 SAWE  S − A = W − E
19 TAXE  T − A = X − E
20 YEUA  Y − E = U − A
21 VAZE  V − A = Z − E

(Ethiopia)

Numerical tautonyms in which the 2 letters from each half of the word are both multiplied (x) or both divided (÷) are rare:
25 EEYA  (Indonesia)  E x E = Y x A
3  CALD  (cold)  C ÷ A = L ÷ D

These 4-letter words each use 2 of the 4 different functions:

AABA is a sponge; CHES = old spelling of CHESS; KOMB = old spelling of COMB; WEDG = old spelling of WEDGE; WIDH in Libya; TOGE = old word for a cloak of loose coat; BROU = old spelling of BROW;
WOB = old spelling of WEB; HEU = old form of HEW, HUE.

1  AABA  A ÷ A = B − A
2  BANG  B x A = N ÷ G
3  BANK  B + A = N − K
4  DARN  D ÷ A = R − N
5  TOAD  T − O = A + D
6  FAYS  F x A = Y − S
7  SLAG  S − L = A x G
8  GAME  G + A = M − E
9  RIDE  R − I = D + E
10 BEND  B x E = N − D
11 PEAK  P − E = A x K
12 ALMA  A x L = M − A
13 MARE  M ÷ A = R − E
14 SEAM  S − E = A + M
15 PACE  P − A = C x E
16 KERB  K + E = R − B
17 PAVE  P + A = V − E
18 RAND  R x A = N + D
19 SARA  S x A = R + A
20 BRED  B + R = E x D
21 VAIL  V − A = I + L
22 WARD  W − A = R + D
23 WARE  W x A = R + E
24 CHES  C x H = E + S
25 YANK  Y x A = N + K
26 KOMB  K + O = M x B
27 LOCI  L + O = C x I
28 WEDG  W + E = D x G
29 not possible
30 BOKS  B x O = K + S
31 not possible
32 WIDH  W + I = D x H
33 LUCK  L + U = C x K
34 none found
35 TOGE  T + O = G x E
36 BROU  B x R = O + U
37 not possible
38 WOB  W + O = B x S
39 none found
These 6-letter words each use 3 of the 4 different functions:

1. AARRED (Western Sahara) \[ A \times x = R \div R = E - D \]
2. AAKIBA (Syria) \[ A + A = K - I = B \times A \]
3. BAURAC \[ B + A = U - R = A \times C \]
4. ACADIE \[ A + C = A \times D = I - E \]
5. OCTOAD \[ O \div C = T - O = A + D \]
6. FARCIC (farcical) \[ F \times A = R \div C = I - C \]
7. GALEGA (plant genus) \[ G \times A = L - E = G \div A \]
8. HADDAH \[ H \div A = D + D = A \times H \]
9. RICCIA (Italy) \[ R - I = C \times C = I \div A \]
10. BENDEE (Hibiscus genus) \[ B \times E = N - D = E + E \]
11. PECHAK (Afghanistan) \[ P - E = C + H = A \times K \]
12. KAMALA* (yellow dye) \[ K + A = M - A = L \div A \]
13. MARELA (Mali) \[ M \times A = R - E = L + A \]
14. ANWICK (UK) \[ A \times N = W - I = C + K \]
15. PANACE (a healing herb) \[ P - A = N + A = C \times E \]
16. PAPAGI (a US Indian people) \[ P \times A = P \div A = G + I \]
17. QARANC \[ Q \times A = R - A = N + C \]
18. SANDRA \[ S - A = N + D = R \times A \]
19. SATARA (India) \[ S \times A = T - A = R + A \]
20. ASTAYE (Ethiopia) \[ A + S = T \div A = Y - E \]
21. TAZEAU (Haiti) \[ T + A = Z - E = A \times U \]
22. VAWARD (vanguard) \[ V \times A = W - A = R + D \]
23. BUWAWA (Nigeria) \[ B + U = W \times A = W \div A \]
24. CHIOYA (Zimbabwe) \[ C \times H = I + O = Y - A \]
25. YANKEE \[ Y \div A = N + K = E \times E \]
26. ZAMBUE (Mozambique) \[ Z \div A = M \times B = U + E \]

MALAKA (to possess) \[ M - A = L \div A = K + A \] is a transposal of KAMALA*

These 8-letter words each use all 4 different functions:

14. SEGGANNA (Libya) \[ S - E = G + G = A \times N = N \div A \]
18. SANDRARA (Madagascar) \[ S - A = N + D = R \times A = R \div A \]