

VOCAB-u-lous!

Build a Fabulous Vocab

Words That Begin With J

Name _____

Date _____

“The words! I collected them in all shapes and sizes and hung them like bangles in my mind.”
—*Hortense Calisher, American writer, 1911–, Extreme Magic*

Enhance *your* collection with a jackpot of *J* words. They’ll help you jabber with anyone. Use a word from the Word Bank to complete each sentence below. Notice that one word fits two sentences. Yes, you may use your dictionary.

Word Bank	jabberwocky	jambalaya	jejune	jeopardize	jicama
	jihad	jocularity	jubilation	juxtaposition	

1. “I can’t believe you’d _____ everything you’ve worked so hard for by doing something as stupid as cheating on a test,” Maya’s father thundered.
2. Hugh’s horoscope in the newspaper said that the _____ of the planets indicated that he should just go back to bed and pull the covers over his head.
3. The Ninth Avenue street fair is a _____ for the senses: color, music, the cries of the street peddlers, and especially the food -- souvlaki, somosas, ices.
4. “Your term paper is _____,” Mr. Edwards told Terry at the end-of-semester conference. “I can’t make heads or tails of this meaningless nonsense.”
5. Robert’s completion of his doctoral dissertation and his successful defense caused _____ in his family.
6. “What the heck is this?” Dirck asked with suspicion, gingerly pulling a strip of _____ from his salad.
7. Rani told her classmates that defining _____ as “holy war” is too simplistic and that most Muslims thought the word referred to any important struggle.
8. Ms. Shea’s students found her _____ infectious; the woman seemed to be able to crack a few jokes no matter what happened during the day.
9. Kyle preferred his aunt’s _____ to his mother’s because Aunt June shared his passion for shrimp and really loaded them on.
10. “There’s no brain food in this newspaper anymore,” Mr. Peterson complained. “It becomes more _____ every day.”