

QUESTIONINGLY: THE DICTIONARY

Wherein we reveal the results of The New Yorker's June 1, 2012 Twitter game show, which asked readers to invent a new word for the English language

Compiled by Ben Greenman
for the New Yorker's Culture Desk (@CultureDesk)

adnominal adj. Having the qualities of a groan-worthy pun. (from @shelleyskylarks)

alcoholiday n A break from alcohol consumption, usually as a respite from a long period of heavy drinking. (from @MikeCalcagno)

anagramma n. An elderly relative whose speech is an odd jumble of out-of-order words. (from @BeccaPiano)

anoraknophobia n. Fear of raincoats. (from @JamesElliott8)

antisocyclical adj. An aversion to the use of social computing and technology depending on the time of day, month or year. (from @Editorialogy)

arihantine adj. Characterized by a capacity and drive to discover the inner truth of this reality and of humanity. (from @Arihanta1112)

Armaglibbon n. A brain or device meltdown caused by reading too many witty tweets within a short period of time. (from @KimiNoGomi)

articulo n. An eloquent person who also knows what she's talking about. (from @IlanMochari)

asenescence n. The lack of common symptoms of aging in a biological organism; a frozen state of physical and biological maturity. (from @JamesSheffield3)

audiosomnia n. The experience of hearing a sound while asleep and incorporating it into one's dream. (from @foalscap)

auntepenultimex n. An incestuous penultimex. (from @BenBassBeyond)

authenticide n. A political argument designed to bury the truth under a landslide of half-truths. (from @davesundown.)

babble n. A group of babies, similar to a gaggle of geese. (from @andyvenk)

Babyboomerolic n. one of a certain age who no longer understands most of what's going on around him. (from @Quixoteonce)

Batheist n. A baptised atheist. (from @dermotmagee)

bejaxed adj. At a loss for words; baffled. (from @thefakedara)

bood adj. Used to describe something that is simultaneously bad and good. (from @ginabruce)

boshing n. The practice of talking nonsense about someone or something (from @krowleytweet)

brühaha n. The state of giggling like a schoolgirl at anything said after five drinks. (from @orbyorb)

cabbage n. Rate of taxicabs passing by per unit time. (from @jopalal)

cambush n. Rotational action of wrist w/ handheld device of visual content imposed on person

regardless of interest. (from @breakfastqueen1)

campanervate v. To exhaust voters early in the presidential election campaign. (from @suzannejulig)

casualize v. To simplify a typically involved experience for mass consumption. (from @younglucas)

catastrophize v. To imagine and voice all the catastrophes that could happen. (from @anikawriter)

celibation n. The act of not getting lucky on your birthday. (from @ebayofpigs)

chaudandfroid n. A feeling of misery when someone else succeeds. (from @juan_murillo)

chiropera n. A piece of musical theater involving or related to bats, such as Die Fledermaus or Bat Boy: the Musical. (from @foalscap)

choicemail n. Deciding whether or not to answer a call or let it to voicemail. (from @ClantaSaws)

churf v. To chat to someone on the phone whilst simultaneously using the Internet. (from @Konisberg)

cleptpenia n. The tendency to accidentally wander off with another's writing utensil and later claim it as one's own. (from @Lmcquiston121)

cloister-flock n. Geese that land in monastery courtyard and disrupt vespers. (from @jonbenbak)

clurp n. Anything that's on the bottom of your shoe. (from @PagfordPages)

connectall v. Sending the same message via email, text and phone. (from @graypattern)

consistcize v. The process of making things consistent. (from @SmartChristy)

Corleonuopia n. An abundance of godfathers. (from @stravinskyite)

couch v. To fall asleep on the couch (used as part of a phrase, "go to couch"). (from @alisterio)

craptacular adj. Spectacularly bad. (from @adrianf)

cruciatereous adj. Being or causing extreme pain or displeasure. (from @orbyorb)

Deja vie n. When your entire life becomes eerily familiar, as if you've lived it all before. (from @seancarman)

demery n. A dream-like memory from early childhood that might or might not be true. (from @anushkajasraj)

doucherati n. Elitist scumbags (from @blzabub8)

dreambot n. A total hunk who might also be a robot. (from @katie__bloom)

droggy adj. Very tired and rundown. A combination of groggy and drowsy (from @srlynch)

droptone n. The low humming noise you make when you're disappointed in someone (from @ClantaSaws)

educorporitize v. To take advantage of the system of education, or related fields through purloining of public funds. (from @apersad)

eqtwitty n. The measure of self-worth one assigns to favorites, retweets, mentions and follows. (from @TomRussell8)

ethychoreal, adj. A way of describing a literary character/real person for whom it would be unfair to consider plain insane. (from @Ann13B3)

Eustacean tube n. A cylindrical cardboard mailer for the first issue of the New Yorker or any issue with Eustace Tilley on the cover. (from @janfip)

excusive adj. When someone is giving you a whole lot of BS excuses (from @AlexaJaccarino)

expaffuicate v. To erase without trace. (from @francisannan)

fakethrough n. A false claim of a landmark achievement following an impasse to create a perception of success (from @arisharp)

farsick adj. Acutely aching for a place that is not one's home; a nostalgic or even intangible connection to an other place. (from @afesh)

fauxlaws n. 1. The family of a romantic partner to whom you're not married. 2. people who keep asking when you're getting married. (from @callanstout)

fe pron. A third-person, gender-neutral, singular pronoun. i.e. he/she/fe (@Silvantius)

feedbactivity n. The uncontrollable urge to comment on the work of others. (from @kellythul)

flabbergastery n. A comprehensive state of things after a series of jaw-dropping events or astounding behaviors (from @heyitsmissmoss)

flanket n. A blanket that only covers your sides. (from @Ann_ONeill)

flart v. Trying to attract another through the emission of gas. (from @TrewBrit)

flich n. The stringy stuff on a banana. (from @RobKendt)

flirk: v. To flirt without attraction or in place of regular conversation, often as the result of boredom. (from @jane286)

flog n. An idiot, or someone who acts in a self-defeating or significantly counterproductive way. (from @NicoleNadeau)

flunder n. To walk like a flightless bird, awkwardly or pompously with arms held by the side or behind back. (from @dermotmagee)

flunderbunnet n. One who flunders. (from @dermotmagee)

flustrated v. Flustered and frustrated. (from @julia_suits)

foodlum n. Someone who forcibly tries to take away your freedom to choose what you eat. (from @AHAfables)

fooligan n. An extremely foolish lunatic. (from @eitherorbored)

fope n. A false sense of hope used to dissociate from ones fears. (from @fantasticsmag)

forework n. Attempted cuddling in anticipation of sex as relationship sours. (from @mdsand)

Freuss n. A person who makes up a fake word to complete a rhyme (derived from fraud + Seuss). (from @DrGalakowicz)

frex. n. An ex you are friends with. (from @1974shoes)

frictionous adj. An action/relationship characterized by friction. (from @SuzanDlouhy)

fround n. A facebook friend you've never met (from @dermotmagee)

funishment n. A task undertaken for amusement but which also hurts, eg rugby, or entering contests without hope of winning. (from @Apoplexo)

glamine n. a hoyden with luxurious tastes. (from @mayamcantu)

glutard:(noun) a person who suffers from celiac disease. the unhappy state of having celiac disease. (from @DrElena)

gruntled adj. Happy, contented in a half-hearted way. (from @groupsinging)

Gulphobia n. The fear of being caught with a giant Big Gulp Pepsi when Mayor Bloomberg is around. (from @ConceptModeling)

habited adj. The opposite of inhibited. (from @elliottholt)

hedoegoist n. A person who is being selfish for just what he does gives him pleasure (from @prometeatro)

hipslamist n. A person displaying islamist attitude and/or attire for reasons of social acceptance (from @hschenker)

Hollyrictus n. The unique, painful-but-amusing-to-watch stiff smile worn by all Oscar losers. (from @BeccaPiano)

horrimazed adj. horrified and amazed and unable to decide which emotion should win. (from @Amyrbond)

hym n. The awkward silence following an unfunny joke. (from @CamilloWeber)

Iagoistic adj. To be mercilessly cruel and/or heartless. (from @orbyorb)

illiterati n. A person who is overly proud of not reading. (from @palmiter_gene)

impartant adj. Something that is partially important. (from @holohanf)

incepid adj. Describes a situation with layers upon layers of mundane, uninspiring minutiae. (from @orbyorb)

inebation n. Drinking, the aftereffects of which is reading the email confirmations of the online purchases made whilst drunk. (from @cortexvortex)

insipient adj. About to become boring, as in the Presidential harangues (formed from insipid + incipient). (from @fjplam)

incumbent n. An existing piece of food in a mustache. (from @chelseaspray)

intermispurse v. To misplace a wallet or purse among or between other things. (from @Editorialogy)

Ipaddict n. A person addicted to their Ipad. (from @DaylaArabella)

iterspection n. The act of checking repeatedly, hoping, often irrationally, for a change—opening

the fridge, refreshing your inbox. (from @shelleyskylarks)

jalk v. to move quicker than walking but not as fast as jogging. (from @MartinJMagill)

jaunder n. A leisurely stroll. (from @DivaInTheGarden)

kanguru n. An academic who can jump from research to teaching and to mass communication, excelling in all three areas. (from @SantiagoIniguez)

lammy adj. Delicious. (from @laurenmechling)

lampy n. A situation or action that evokes a warm and good feeling on a personal level. (from @engelphilipp)

Latinargy n. The state of quality of being too lazy to learn Latin. (from @sermonboy)

libradoodle n. A scribble or comment etched in the margins of a library book, or the sort of half-breed who would do this. (from @BeccaPiano)

lingualect n. Linguistic intelligence, as it pertains to foreign language or skillful use of one's mother tongue. (from @daniel_krieger)

literaliterally intrj. For when you mean "literally" literally, and aren't just intensifying something figurative. (from @StanCarey)

logjamnesia n. Having so many passwords and PIN numbers you become forgetfully confused. (from @grumbo)

maleeria n. A disease that causes involuntary ogling. (from @JamesElliott8)

matronize v. When your mother is being condescending. (from @BAFroman)

meef n. Tastes like beef but it's not beef. It's not even meat. Something that's stuffed in those late night fifth-meal taco. (from @UnityofOiVey)

memoraphilia n. Erotic attraction to mementos of sentimental significance, or use of such for sexual satisfaction. (from @FullBrainPower)

metastawhatsie n. A problem that impairs its victims' judgement to the point they are unable to recognize said problem (from @TJMulhearn)

metawhore n. One who can't stop commenting upon commenting upon commenting. (from @MonicaCMiller)

metmetamatize: To be self-referential ad naseum. (from @shelleyskylarks)

Minajacle adj. An act or performance of disturbing quality. Ex: Nikki's act of Roman is minajacle. (from @madbulljt)

misintertweet v. To completely misread a tweet and its reply, leaving fellow readers perplexed and confused. (from @Zacross)

Mondazed adj. Stunned and zombie-like until lunch on Monday. (from @PlanneRags)

moose-stepping n. A method of walking for a taller than average fascist. (from @danandwatson)

multijubilateral n. A special anniversary involving two or more parties. (from @Editorialogy)

murderbalism n. Death at the hands (or mouth) of a cannibal. (from @carmenchampagne)

necorize v. To recognize something that used to be there. (from @cwodtke)

needia n. Mass communications targeted at insecure people seeking ego reinforcement. (from @arisharp)

nemis n. A tiny dreg of email; they can multiply rapidly and hang around for awhile. (from @StanPatty)

nohanitize v. To cleanse fifty years worth of waiting in a single evening. (from @brifar)

nomenclatter n. The sound of someone chewing too loud. (from @BeccaPiano)

Obecity n. The metropolitan area formerly known as New York. (from @stravinskyite)

obnoying adj. Obnoxious and annoying at the same time. (from @CynRing)

obscentive adj. A thing that motivates with pornography. (from @Ann_ONeill)

olave interj. So long or goodbye. (from @daverichard)

Olympublicize v. To constantly reminded about, advertise, or promote Olympic sports and associated events. (from @Editorialogy)

omniwhore n. The lady of the night who will cater to every customer with equal enthusiasm. (from @GreaterBombay)

onandonymous adj. The state of rambling on long after everyone has stopped paying attention to what you're saying. (from @foalscap)

ovoambulation n. Walking on eggshells, especially when visiting in-laws. (from @indiainks)

PACney n. The speech of corporations. (from @meh802)

palk v. Talk, lecture, or nagging by parents. (from @Bloomindc)

panttoos n. Tattooed legs. (from @joeyfero)

Pas de D'ohh n. That odd little dance you do on the sidewalk or in the hallway when you and a person headed the other way can't pick a lane. (from @BeccaPiano)

penultimex n. Object of your affection two relationships ago. (from @jamacjamac)

perfectionate v. To put off doing an incredibly good job until sometime in the future. (from @RobertWBogue)

Pfisting n. Sexual acts that require narcotics to be able to perform. (from @kathygrayson)

Picopepsic adj. Inclined towards smaller sodas. @ibrodie

pillowcoration n. Use of excessive decorative pillows on a bed. (from @ld777762)

polirictus n. The fixed smile politicians have, which is just short of totally false. (from @anandhalve)

pompoon n. pompous buffoon, e.g. Donald Trump (from @digdawg)

portmandemonium n. The frenzy created by people vying to coin the next buzzword, esp. in media. (from @shelleyskylarks)

portmanfaux n. Any obnoxious portmanteau falsely seen as clever by media; Eg "bromance, staycation"; possibly self-descriptive. (from @OnlySimulation)

portmantard (noun): A person who makes up stupid portmanteau words, often because of a contest or competition. (from @PagfordPages)

portmantolojism n. The feeling of self-satisfaction one experiences after coining the perfect portmanteau for a given situation. (from @shelleyskylarks)

profluvious adj. Nonsense word to trick others into revealing they are vocabulary regurgitators. Also *profluviously*, *profluviate*. (from @ElJamonNotorio)

prosequence n. A positive result. (from @dannylight)

pseudosociety n. Society functioning and based on opinion, perception, and ignorance; aociety without rational thought. @SusanMarie_NY

raceboxing n. checking any racial group on an application that might advance your career regardless of truth (from @edmaddenVA)

rascalinity n. Having qualities associated with being a bit of a naughty fellow. (from @ebayofpigs)

resplendently v. To make something more dazzling. (from @iremembernow)

ruebarb n. The feeling when a politician eventually regrets a particular attack on his/her opponent. (from @jgb18)

schadenfraud n. One who tries, but fails, to sound intelligent through deploying foreign words. (from @arisharp)

Schadenfrodo n. When you wish something bad would happen to a hobbit. (from @BeccaPiano)

Schtinkenfreude n. The joy of realizing that smell isn't coming from you. (from @jamesforeman)

scramfarious adj. Relieved at being rescued from a perilous situation. (from @WillKingSP)

seenic n. A person who, despite a desire to do so, does not believe anything on TV. (from @Tarka42)

shipeepees n. The most extreme form of diarrhea. (from @UpperWestSeid)

shplotchne n. That bizarre sound that comes out now and then as brain-tongue wiring short-circuits. (from @BeccaPiano)

simpnuancy n. Simplistic talk of issues devoid of nuance. (from @AnalystSomalia)

sincerious adj. Possessing an expression of serious sincerity. (from @jmadmart)

Singaporno n. An improbable fantasy about one's home city getting a world-class metro train network. (from @arisharp)

Skrillerize v. To cause a violent, yet oddly rhythmic, shaking underfoot. (from @orbyorb)

snirge v. To turn up one's nose in minor matters of taste; n. A petty snob (from @SmallVentures)

socmed n. 1. Health professionals on social media. 2. Medicine taken to alleviate symptoms associated

with social tech and information overload. (from @Editorialogy)

splurf v. To do a spit-take while laughing. (from @Gluonsrule)

stuckflation n. An economic situation of high unemployment and slow growth but, unlike stagflation, low inflation. (from @mattdebord)

swagasm n. The free-stuff shudder. (from @pppatticake)

textwalking n. A new and even more reckless form of jaywalking. (from @DailyEdits)

timor-de-Dr-piperis n. The fear of Dr. Pepper (from @NixonHunter)

trumor n. A rumor that turns out to be true. (from @NYDNBooks)

twattletale n. A person who reveals or informs truthful information about someone on Twitter. (from @ShaneReaney)

twearer n. To waste time on Twitter, reading and tweeting, when you should be doing something else. (from @angelapdodson)

tweetle v. To play negligently or incessantly on Twitter. (from @JoieDuhVivre)

tweevesdropping v. following an discussion on Twitter without participating in it. (from @FilmingDocs)

tweltschmerz n. The heavy feeling one gets when weary of the reality of Twitter. (from @BeccaPiano)

Twitterism n. Passing off someone else's tweet as your own. (from @sabrinatosti23)

twitwit n. A funny person on Twitter. (from @BobDanton1)

twurt n. An accidental tweet. (from @c_wavebro)

ummorage n. Excessive use of filler words when speaking. (from @edyssee)

unretirement n. A period of economically forced reentry into the workforce. (from @AHAfables)

Vice-Precedent n. A compelling statement that prompts a superior into action. (from @proustian)

you pron. The plural form of you. (from @dannylight)

wassailed v. To be caught unawares in the middle of a raucous flash mob. (from @orbyorb)

werf pron. The neutral third person singular for animate nouns. (from @byumico)

Yodaing n. Awkward sentence structure you speak with. (from @edyssee)

zockso n. A term of endearment (derived from how Siri pronounces “xoxo”). (from @UpperWestSeid)

(Once again, this has been QUESTIONINGLY: THE
DICTIONARY, wherein we reveal the results of
The New Yorker's June 1, 2012 Twitter game
show, which asked readers to invent a new word for
the English language.)