

10/26/25

# Elegant English

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Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes  
 Number of players: Unlimited  
 Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers  
 Suitable for visually impaired players.

## Overview:

The words in this game are not obscure, but they are not commonly used in everyday conversation. For example, most of us would say, "The star of that movie had black hair and very pale, white skin." But perhaps a more elegant word choice would be to say that the movie star had *alabaster* skin.

In this game, we provide a list of "elegant" words. You should first try to come up with the correct definitions on your own. If you can't, we have provided three definitions from which you must choose the correct one.

We will be posting this game format regularly until we complete the alphabet. This week, we are looking at elegant words that begin with the letter K.

## Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first word and ask for its definition. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year's blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the other teams may "buzz" in and answer.
4. If no one comes up with the correct definition, read the three possible answers.
5. As before, the first player/team to signal may give an answer. If the answer is incorrect, the others may "buzz" in.
6. Score 10 points for each correct answer. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** In this game, we provide a list of words that are not obscure, but not very commonly used. You should first try to come up with the correct definitions on your own. If you can't, we have provided three definitions from which you must choose the correct one.

## QUESTIONS

1. Lanyard: (LAN•yerd)  
A: A strap to hold something, such as a whistle, around the neck.  
B: A pen or area of a farm where sheep are kept.  
C: A chain or rope that is attached to an anchor.
2. Limpid: (LIM•pid)  
A: A small marine mollusk in the barnacle family.  
B: Numb; unable to move.  
C: Very clear; unclouded.
3. Lyceum: (lie•SEE•um)  
A: The area of a church that is exclusively used for sermons.  
B: A room or building where historical documents are preserved.  
C: A hall for public lectures.
4. Laconic: (la•CON•ic)  
A: Lazy; shiftless.  
B: Using very few words; brief and to the point.  
C: A person, or idea, that is flawed or defective.
5. Lugubrious: (la•GOO•bree•iss)  
A: Excessively mournful or gloomy.  
B: Drunk.  
C: Having a tendency to overeat.
6. Lachrymose: (LACK•rah•mohse)  
A: Unimaginative; dull.  
B: A glue used in heavy construction.  
C: To shed, or to cause, tears.
7. Lapidary: (LAP•ah•derry)  
A: A gem cutter.  
B: A rabbit breeder.  
C: A system of interconnected beehives.
8. Lido: (LEE•dough)  
A: A traditional Japanese home.

- B: An Italian dessert, made with coffee and chocolate.  
C: A beach resort, usually one that is considered fashionable.
9. Logorrhea: (log•ah•REE•ah)  
A: An excessive use of words. .  
B: A condition of being constantly exhausted.  
C: Blockage or jam in a river used for transport
10. Lucre: (LOO•kerr)  
A: Plants and animals that live in polluted waters.  
B: Money, especially when acquired in a dishonorable way.  
C: A source of light equal to a 1000-watt lightbulb.
11. Lamé: (la•MAY)  
A: Fabric with interwoven metallic threads.  
B: Trim on a dress or blouse that is made of diamonds and other gemstones.  
C: A gauzy fabric that is often worn over other garments.
12. Lexigram: (LEX•ah•gram)  
A: A symbol that represents a word.  
B: A timeline that notes when words first appeared in print.  
C: A work of art made out of letters and words.
13. Libretto (Lib•BRET•oh)  
A: A large candelabra meant to sit atop a grand piano.  
B: A manual used by libraries (before the advent of the computer) that sorted the book collection by subject matter.  
C: The words of an opera or musical play.
14. Lilliputian (Lil•ee•PYOO•shen)  
A: A very large grove of flowering trees or shrubs, often lilacs.  
B: A loud, but very beautiful, speaking or singing voice.  
C: Very small.
15. Lithe  
A: Description of a very accomplished liar.  
B: Slim, and moving with ease and grace.  
C: Term for an extremely intelligent person.

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## ANSWERS

1. A: Lanyard: A strap to hold something, such as a whistle, around the neck.
2. C: Limpid: Very clear; unclouded.
3. C: Lyceum: A hall for public lectures.
4. B: Laconic: Using very few words; brief and to the point.
5. A: Lugubrious: Excessively mournful or gloomy.
6. C: Lachrymose: To shed, or to cause, tears.
7. A: Lapidary: A gem cutter.
8. C: Lido: A beach resort, usually one that is considered fashionable.
9. A: Logorrhea: An excessive use of words.
10. B: Lucre: Money, especially when acquired in a dishonorable way.
11. A: Lamé: Fabric with interwoven metallic threads.
12. A: Lexigram: A symbol that represents a word.
13. C: Libretto: The words of an opera or musical play.
14. C: Lilliputian: Very small.
15. B: Lithe: Slim and moving with ease and grace.