

## **Section 5, Chapter 39:**

### **Suggested Order for Diagnosis & Remediation of Insane (e.g., was, laugh, Thames, lough, victuals)**

The following lists of "INSANE"<sup>53</sup> words are arranged by order of frequency, utility, and ease of learning. Only the initial lists of words are taught systematically in most basal readers. These lists can be used in a number of ways. They can be used as a diagnostic-prescriptive tool for individual students or as a curriculum guide to ensure that all students are given an opportunity to learn these words that no one can be expected to learn on their own.

It is not the purpose of this list to teach a teacher how to teach these words. As they are "INSANE" words, some of them will be very difficult for many students to learn. The only recommendation we make here is that students are given many, many opportunities to display their knowledge of the reading and spelling of these words. We are not in favor of the unit system in which we move on from one unit to the next regardless of the amount of real mastery that has taken place.

You may notice that some words occur in the "TYPE #2: FANCY WORDS" and/or "TYPE #4 TRICKY WORDS" as well as in the TYPE #3, the "INSANE." As we tell our students, we are not responsible for the spellings of these words. Whoever is responsible is no longer here. All we can do is to make the best of the language and its peculiarities. We like to have fun with it just as we prefer to make lemonade with the lemons of our language.

---

<sup>53</sup> Many teachers call them "OUTLAWS" because the words refuse to follow phonic patterns

**LEVEL A**  
Group 1

**Pronounce it**

again  
children  
could  
father  
other  
should  
the  
was  
work  
**very**

uh G'en  
chill drun  
kood  
fah thur  
uth thur  
shood  
thuh (or thee)  
wuzz  
wurk  
**vary** (cf. er=air)

**LEVEL A**  
Group 3

**Pronounce it**

as  
colored  
doesn't  
have  
put  
**some**  
**to**  
wants  
what  
wouldn't

azz  
kullurd (Br. coloured)  
duzzint  
hav  
poot (as in foot)  
**sum**  
**too, two**  
wahnts  
hwut  
woodint

**LEVEL A**  
Group 5

**Pronounce it**

brother  
couldn't  
eyes  
his  
is  
**there**  
unwanted  
wasn't  
worker  
**your**

"bruther"  
"koodint"  
"I'z"  
"hizz"  
"izz"  
**their & they're**  
"un w-on tid"  
"wuzzint"  
"wurker"  
**yore**

**LEVEL A**  
Group 2

are  
color  
does  
from  
pretty  
shouldn't  
they  
want  
were  
**would**

ar  
kullur (Br. colour)  
duzz  
frum  
pritty  
shoodint  
thay  
wahnt  
wur  
**wood**

**LEVEL A**  
Group 4

baby  
coloring  
come  
eye  
**here**  
putting  
**two**  
worked  
**you**  
wanted

"bay bee"  
"kulluring" (colouring)  
"kum"  
"I"  
**hear**  
"pooting" like footing  
**"too" & to**  
"wurkt"  
"yoo" **ewe**  
"w-on tid"

**LEVEL B**  
Group 1

angry  
any  
beauty  
cherry  
**climb**  
country  
gone  
listen  
many  
where

"ang gree"  
"enny"  
"byoo tee"  
"chair ree"  
**clime**  
"kun tree"  
"gawn"  
"lissen"  
"menny"  
"hwair"

**LEVEL B**  
Group 2

anybody  
beautiful  
answer  
somebody  
cherries  
climbs  
**four**  
**heard**  
listens  
much

**Pronounce it**

"enny buddy"  
"byoo tee ful"  
"Ann sir"  
"sum buddy"  
"chair reeze"  
"klimes"  
**for & fore**  
**"herd"**  
"lissens"  
"mutch"

**LEVEL C**  
Group 1

coughing  
often  
picture  
quiet  
seven  
through  
tough  
Tuesday  
worry  
whose

**Pronounce it**

"koffing"  
"off fun"  
"pick chur"  
"kwy it"  
"sev vun"  
"throo"  
"tuff"  
"tooze dee"  
"wurry"  
"hooze"

**LEVEL C**  
Group 5

coughs  
nobody  
pictures  
quietly  
roughest  
seventh  
sorriest  
thorough  
who  
worried

**Pronounce it**

"koffs"  
"no buddy"  
"pick churs"  
"kwy it Lee"  
"ruff fist"  
"sevventh"  
"sah ree ist"  
"THUR Ro"  
"hoo"  
"wurr reed"

**LEVEL B**  
Group 3

answers  
anyhow  
**aunt**  
beautifully  
Christmas  
climbed  
fourteen  
laugh  
listened  
such

"Ann Sirs"  
"enny how"  
"ant" or "awnt"  
"byoo tuh fully"  
"Kriss muss"  
"klimed"  
"for teen"  
"laff"  
"lissend"  
"sutch"

**LEVEL C**  
Group 2

although  
coughed  
people  
pony  
quieter  
seventeen  
tougher  
uncle  
whom  
worries

"all tho"  
"kofft"  
"peeple"  
"Poe nee"  
"kwy it tur"  
"sevven" "teen"  
"tuffer"  
"unkle"  
"hoom"  
"wurr reeze"

**LEVEL D**  
Group 1

ache  
among  
breakfast  
comb  
company  
history  
honest  
minutes  
cousin  
trouble

"ake"  
"uh mung"  
"breck fist"  
"koam"  
"kum puh nee"  
"hiss tree"  
"on nist"  
"min nuts"  
"kuzzin"  
"trubble"

**LEVEL B**  
Group 4

**one**  
answered  
anyone  
**aunts**  
cannot  
climber  
Christian  
**fourth**  
laughed  
listening

**won**  
"Ann sird"  
"enny wun"  
**ants** or "awnts"  
"ken not"  
"klime mur"  
"Kriss chun"  
**"forth" 4th**  
"laft"  
"liss ning"

**LEVEL C**  
Group 3

picnic  
quietest  
rough  
seventy  
though  
Tony  
toughest  
uncles  
woman  
worrying

"PICK Nick"  
"kwy it ist"  
"ruff"  
"sevven tee"  
"tho"  
"Toe nee"  
"tuff ist"  
"unkles"  
"woom mun"  
"wurr ree ing"

**LEVEL D**  
Group 2

ancient  
aches  
circle  
companies  
combs  
a sandy desert  
dishonest  
isn't  
minute  
troubles

"ain chunt"  
"akes"  
"sir kull"  
"kum puh neeze"  
"koams"  
"dezz zurt"  
"diss on nist"  
"izzint"  
"min nut"  
"trubbles"

**LEVEL B**  
Group 5

listeners  
once  
anywhere  
answering  
babies  
catch  
climbing  
countries  
front  
laughing

"liss nurs"  
"wunce"  
"enny hwair"  
"Ann sirring"  
"Bay bees"  
"ketch"  
"klime ming"  
"kun trees"  
"frunt"  
"laffing"

**LEVEL C**  
Group 4

cough  
everybody  
picnics  
ponies  
rougner  
Saturday  
sorry  
thoroughly  
Wednesday  
women

"koff"  
"ev ree buddy"  
"PICK Nick's"  
"Poe neeze"  
"ruffer"  
"Satter dee"  
"sah ree"  
"THUR Oh Lee"  
"Wennis Dee"  
"wimmin"

**LEVEL D**  
Group 3

cousins  
lamb  
ached  
apron  
circled  
combed  
daughter  
dishonestly  
double  
honor

"kuzzins"  
"lam"  
"aked"  
"a prun"  
"sir kuld"  
"koamd"  
"dawter"  
"diss on niss lee"  
"dubble"  
"on nur"

<b>LEVEL D</b> Group 4	<b>Pronounce it</b>	<b>LEVEL E</b> Group 3	<b>Pronounce it</b>	<b>LEVEL F</b> Group 2	<b>Pronounce it</b>
aching	"aking"	copiers	"coppo yurs"	<b>aisle</b>	"I'll"
limb	"lim"	usually	"yoo zhoo ul lee"	chameleons	"kuh MEAL yuns"
money	"munny"	copy	"koppo"	cameos	"kammy O's"
because	"be kuzz"	naturally	"natch chur ul lee"	<b>isle</b>	"I'll"
circling	"Sir Kling"	seconded	"seck kun did"	anchors	"ang kurs"
daughters	"daw turs"	secretary	"seck ruh tairy"	antiques	"ant teeks"
combing	"koaming"	<b>sewed</b>	<b>sowed/so'd</b>	biscuit	"bisk kit"
dishonor	"diss on nur"	soldiered	"soal jurd"	bouquets	"boo Kays" or "Bo Kaze"
doubled	"dubbed"	solidly	"sah lid lee"	buoys	"boys" or "BOO eeze"
honesty	"on nist tee"	soldered	"sodderd"		
<b>LEVEL D</b> Group 5		<b>LEVEL E</b> Group 4		<b>LEVEL F</b> Group 3	
<b>dessert</b> <sup>54</sup>	"Dee Zurt"	tongue	"tung"	unique	"yoo neek"
dishonesty	"diss on ist tee"	toward	"tord"	<b>isles</b>	<b>"I'lls" aisles</b>
dishonorable	"diss on nur uh bul"	soldering	"soddering"	chaos	"Kay Oss"
doubling	"dubbling"	unnaturally	"un natch chur ul lee"	buried	"Bare Reed"
ghost	"goast"	copies	"kop pees"	buoyant	"boy yunt "
headache	"hed ake"	unusually	"un yoo zhoo ul lee"	brunette	"broo net"
honey	"hunny"	sewer pipe	"Soo wur pipe"	aisles	"i'lls" TRICKY
limbs	"lims"	soldiering	"soal jurring"	alphabet	"Al fuh bet"
palace	"pal liss"	sewing	"so wing"	anchored	"ank kurd"
honestly	"on niss lee"	secondly	"seck und lee"	biscuits	"biss kits"
<b>LEVEL E</b> Group 1		<b>LEVEL E</b> Group 5		<b>LEVEL F</b> Group 4	
area	"air ree uh"	copied	"kop peed"	alphabetical	"Alfa Bet uh k'l"
copying	"koppo ying"	nobody	"no buddy"	Bar Mitzvah	"bar mitts vuh"
natural	"natch chur ul"	secretaries	"seck ruh tair reeze"	bogue	"boag"
second	"seck kund"	<b>sewers</b>	<b>"soo wurs"</b>	burial	"bairy yul"
secret	"see krit"	<b>sewers</b>	<b>sowers</b>	burying	"bairy ying"
solder	"sodder"	statues	"statch chooze"	butte	"byoot" as in toot
soldier	"soal jur"	stomach	"stum mick"	canoe	"kuh noo"
solid	"sahl lid"	towards	"tords"	chaotic	"Kay Ot tick"
usual	"yoo zhoo ul"	tricycle	"try sickle"	uniquely	"Yoo Neek Lee"
sew	"so" TRICKY	vase	"vase" or "vahhz"	Anchorage	"Ang kur ridge"
<b>LEVEL E</b> Group 2		<b>LEVEL F</b> Group 1		<b>LEVEL F</b> Group 5	
areas	"air ree uzz"	adios	"add dee oass"	bologna	"buh lone E"
copier	"koppo ur"	anchor	"ang kur"	burials	"bairy yulls"
seconds	"seck kunds"	antique	"ant teek"	canoes	"kuh news"
secrets	"see kritz"	bass drum	"bace drum"	canopy	"canna P."
<b>sews</b>	<b>sows so's</b>	<b>bouquet</b>	<b>"boo Kay /Bo Kay"</b>	cello	"chello"
solders	"sodders"	buoy	"boy" or "Boo E."	ole	"oh LAY"
soldiers	soal jurs	bury	"bair ree"	anchoring	"ang kur ring"
unusual	un yoo zhoo ul	cameo	"kammy O."	Beethoven	"BAY Toav vin"
solids	sah lids"	chameleon	"kuh MEAL yun"	buoyancy	"boy un see"
unnatural	un natch chur ul	island	"I lund"	shoes	"shooze"

<sup>54</sup> Homophone: desert meaning to leave. desert & desert are heteronyms.

**LEVEL G**  
Group 1

jury	"jurry"
leprechaun	"lep ruh kon"
Mardi Gras	"Mar Dee Grah"
Michael	"My kull"
nephew	"neff fyoo"
physical	"fizz uh kull"
poverty	"pah vur tee"
recollect	"reck kah lect"
salve	"savv"
signing	"sine ning"

**LEVEL G**  
Group 2

Sean	"Shawn"
Socrates	"sock ruh tees"
recollection	"reck kuh leck shun"
juries	"jurr reeze"
lymph	"limf"
medicine	"med uh sin"
mortgage	"moar gidge"
nephews	"Neff fyooze"
physically	"fizz uh klee"
prologue	"pro log"

**LEVEL G**  
Group 3

epilogues	"ep puh logs"
injury	"in jury"
maestro	"my stro"
medicinal	"muh diss in null"
mortgages	"mor gidges"
obscenity	"ob senn uh T"
physician	"fizz ish shun"
rhapsody	"rap suh dee"
shalom	"shuh LOAM"
salaam	"suh Lahm"

**LEVEL G**  
Group 4

maniac	"May nee yack"
mustache	"muss tash"
obscenities	"ob senna T's"
psalm "Som"	(Rhymes with Tom)
rhapsodies	"rap suh deeze"
sieve	"sivv"
<b>word</b>	"sord" (soared)
salmon	"sam mun"
synagogue	"sin uh gog"
physicians	"fizz zish shuns"

**LEVEL G**  
Group 5

injuries	"in jurr reeze"
kayak	"Kie Yack"
maniacal	"muh NIE uh kull"
mediocre	"Me dee O kur"
menace	"menn niss"
mustaches	"muss tash us"
physique	"fizz zeek"
pious	"Pie us"
psalms "soms"	(rhymes with Tom's)
spaghetti	"spuh get tea"

**LEVEL H**  
Group 1

Chanukah1	"Hahn nuh kuh"
chutspah	"h-h-hoots" puh"
conquer	"kong kur"
conscience	"con shunts"
debt	"det"
deuce	"doose"
diarrhea	"die uh ree yuh"
echo	"eck ko"
feud	"fyood"
frijoles	"free ho lays"

**LEVEL H**  
Group 2

<b>choir</b>	"quire"
compromise	"kom pruh mize"
conquers	"kong kurs"
debts	"dets"
conscientious	"con she EN shus"
dinghy	"ding E."
indebted	"in det tid"
ghetto	"getto"
echoes	"eck koze"
feuds	"fyoods"

**LEVEL H**  
Group 3

engine	"in jun"
feuded	"fyoo did"
issue	"ish shoo"
Hanukah	"Hahn nuh kuh"
Hanukkah	"Hahn nuh kuh"
choirs	"kwires"
compromises	"kahm pruh mize zizz"
conquered	"kahng kurd"
conscientiously	con she EN shus lee
cyst	"sist"
debtor	"detter"

**LEVEL H**  
Group 4

<b>chord</b>	"cord" & cored
compromising	"com pruh mize zing"
conquering	"kong kur ring"
cushion	"kush shun"
cystic	"sis tick"
debtors	"det turs"
engines	"in jins"
feuding	"fyoo ding"
<b>halves</b>	"havvz" <b>haves</b>
issues	"ish shooze"

**LEVEL H**  
Group 5

Jose	"Ho Zay"
ghoul	"gool"
<b>chords</b>	"cords"
compromise	"com pruh mize"
conqueror	"kahng kur rurr"
cystic fibrosis	"sis tick fie bro sis"
engineers	"in jin neers"
fatigue	"fuh TEEG"
feudal	"fyoo dull"
Hanukkah	"Hahn nuh kuh"
cf. Chanukah	

**LEVEL I**  
Group 1

align	"uh line"
attaché	"at uh shay"
chapeau	"shuh Poe"
Basque	"bask"
beaux	"Bo" or "boze"
bleu cheese	"bloo"
boutique	"boo teek"
c'est la vie	"say la vee"
champagne	"sham pain"
charades	"sha raids"

**LEVEL I**  
Group 2

an exposé of	"ex po ZAY"
au gratin	"aw grah tin"
Babylon	"Babba Lon"
bayou	"by yoo"
<b>coups</b>	"kooze" (coos)
bon jour	"bone zhoor"
cafe	"kaff Fay"
chablis	"shuh blee"
chandelier	"shan duh leer"
chassis	"shassy" or "chassy"

LEVEL I Group 3	Pronounce it	LEVEL J Group 2	Pronounce it	LEVEL K Group 1	Pronounce it
anxiety	"ang zi it tee"	infamous	"in fuh muss"	faux pas	"Foe paw"
au revoir	"oh ruh vwahr"	lingerie	"Lon zhur ray"	gourmet	"goor may"
Bach	"bock"	<b>masque</b>	<b>"mask"</b>	impugn	"im pyoon"
beaucoup	"Bo Koo"	<b>oui</b>	<b>we, wee</b>	Jacques	"Zhock"
beret	"bare Ray"	pneumonia	"noo moan yuh"	lasagna	"luh Zahn yuh"
bon soir	"bone swahr"	psych	"sike"	<i>merci beaucoup</i>	"Mair see bo koo"
cache	"kash" cash	quiche	"keesh"	Ms.	"Mizz"
chagrin	"shuh grin"	Sioux	"Soo"	Oedipus	"Edda puss"
chanson	"shan Saw'n"	suave	"swahv"	papier mache	"paper muh shay"
chateau	"shuh TOE"	subtle	"suttle"	pistachio	"pizz stahsh she O"

LEVEL I Group 4		LEVEL J Group 3		LEVEL K Group 2	
alias	"A lee us"	infamy	"in fuh me"	psychiatrist	"sigh Kigh uh trist"
asinine	"ass sin nine"	rosé wine	"roe Zay"	psychiatric	"sigh kee at trick"
audacity	"aw dass sitty"	savoir faire	"sav vwah fair"	ribald	"rib buld"
baroque	"bah roke"	trousseau	"troo so"	rouge	"roozh"
coup	"koo"	ouija	"wee gee"	<b>sleight</b>	<b>slight</b>
blase	"blah zay"	yacht	"yot"	negligee	"neg luh zhay"
boudoir	"boo dwahr"	au revoir	"Oh rev vwahr"	souffle	"soo flay"
c'est la guerre	"Say la Gair"	buffet	"buff fay"	<b>suite</b>	<b>sweet</b>
chamois	"shammy"	bon appetit	"bone ah pet teet"	<b>subpena</b>	"suh pee nuh"
chaperone	"shap per roan"	psyche	"sike" or "sigh key"	<b>subpoena</b>	"suh pee nuh"

LEVEL I Group 5		LEVEL J Group 4		LEVEL K Group 3	
adieu	"uh dyoo"	psycho	"sigh Ko"	superfluous	"soo PURR floo us"
apropos	"ap pruh POE"	passe	"pass say"	technique	"teck neek"
audacious	"aw day shus"	blasé	"blah zay"	<b>tenace</b>	<b>"tennis"</b>
<b>bade</b>	"bad" TRICKY	deja vu	"day zhuh voo"	<b>victuals</b>	<b>"vittles"</b>
<b>beau</b>	"BO" TRICKY	psychic	"sigh kick"	vineyard	"vin yurd"
blackguard	"blag gurd"	vinyl	"vigh nill"	yarmulka	"yah mull kah"
Bordeaux	"Bor doe"	vague	"vaig"	beau geste	"BO zhest"
aye	"I" TRICKY	touche	"too shay"	beaucoup	"BO koo"
chalet	"shal Lay"	tincture	"tink shur"	beaux arts	"boze ar"
CCCP <sup>55</sup>	SSSR	plaque	"plack"	machete	"muh shetty"

LEVEL J Group 1		LEVEL J Group 5		LEVEL K Group 4	
acetylene	"uh settle lin"	psychotic	"sigh cot tick"	brusque	"brusk"
bon voyage	"bone voy ahzh"	boatswain	"bo sun"	burlesque	"burr lesk"
cafe	"caff fay"	brochure	"bro shur"	canapes	"canna pays"
charivari	"shiv vuh ree"	camaraderie	"cahm mur rod dur ree"	chauffeur	"show fur"
chivalry	"shiv vull ree"	<b>draught</b>	<b>draft</b>	<b>cheque</b>	<b>"check"</b>
depot	"dee Poe"	eau	"O"	cologne	"kuh loan"
encore	"on core"	epitome	"uh pit tuh me"	debut	"day byoo"
fiancé	"fee on Say" (male)	escargots	"S car go"	elite	"E leet"
fiancée	"fee on Say" (female)	filet mignon	"fill lay mean yoan"	finale	"fin nal Lee"
hors d'oeuvres	"or durves"	chic	"sheek"	fjord	"fee yord"

<sup>55</sup> Russian letters seen on TV

**LEVEL K**  
Group 5

cabaret "cab buh ray"  
 chauvinist "show vin ist"  
 grotesque "grow tesk"  
 Iroquois "Ear ruh koy"  
 khaki "kack key"  
 lymph "limf"  
 nouveau riche "noo vo reesh"  
 nouveaux riches "noo vo reesh"  
 danke schoen "dahn ka shane"  
**sol**<sup>56</sup> "**sole**" or **so**

**"LEVEL L**  
Group 1

bisque "bisk"  
 cachet "cash shay"  
 chef "shef"  
**fillet** "fill lay"  
 indicted "in die tid"  
 nonchalant "non shuh lahnt"  
**quay** "key"  
 ricochet "Rick O'Shay"  
 subtlety "suttle tee"  
 tete a tete "tait uh tait"

**LEVEL L**  
Group 2

brogue "broag"  
 connoisseur "kon nuh soor"  
 eau de cologne "oh duh kuh loan"  
**gaol** "jail"  
 impious "im pee us"  
 nonchalance "non shuh Lahnts"  
 query "queer E"  
 risque "riss Kay"  
 Tao "Dow"  
 valet "val lay"

**LEVEL L**  
Group 3

carte blanche "cart blawnsh"  
 croutons "kroo tahns"  
 eau de vie "oh duh vee"  
 gaoler "jailer"  
 impotent "im puh tunt"  
 panache "pun naish"  
**queue** "Q" (cf. **cue**)  
 Roquefort "Roak furt"  
 Taoism "Dowism"  
 voila "vwah lah"

**LEVEL L**  
Group 4

Chianti "key ahn tee"  
 chanteuse "shan toose"  
 duce "doo chay"  
 éclair "ay clair"  
 jai alai "high lie"  
 mademoiselle "Mad duh mwah zell"  
 panacea "pan nuh see uh"  
 reservoir "rezz zur vwahr"  
 roulette "roo let"  
 vogue "voag"

**LEVEL L**  
Group 5

vous "voo"  
 Eau Clair "Oh Clair"  
 euchre "yoo kurr"  
**lough** "**lock**" cf. **loch**  
 Monsieur "moan zoor"  
 renege "ree neg"  
 rhetoric "ret tur rick"  
 Rousseau "roo so"  
 Sault Ste. Marie "Soo Saint  
 Muh ree"  
**wont** "wahnt" just like  
 want! Don't  
 confuse with  
 won't!

---

<sup>56</sup> The musical scale goes: do  
 re me fa sol la ti do!

