

WORD WOES 2 (MAP)

Dedicated to Karel Schoeman (1939-2017)

2018

Size of wall: 13630 mm X 4450 mm X 375 mm

Edition of wall: 4

1/4 at MAP (Modern Art Projects) Richmond, Northern Cape Province

2/4 is to be adapted and built as a free-standing wall at the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, England in 2019

2 X artist proof walls were erected in the development of text and wall

Proof No. 1 at SMAC Gallery, Woodstock, Cape Town (2015)

Proof No. 2 at Liedjiesbos, Bloemfontein (2016)

WORD WOES (MAP) was created at the MAP (Modern Art Projects) Artists' Residency and Gallery in Richmond, Northern Cape Province

62 Loop Street, Richmond, Northern Cape 7090

Director: Harrie Siertsema

Associate: Morné Ramsay

The work *WORD WOES* (MAP) is a wall-structure created along a side wall of the expansive MAP Art Gallery. It is constructed of locally produced clay bricks each bearing a letter of the alphabet. These spell out singular words in curious Afrikaans/English linguistic relationships.

South Africa boasts eleven official languages. The largest South African language group is isiZulu, spoken by 22.7% of the population. The second largest language group, isiXhosa, is spoken by 16.0% of the population. Afrikaans (13.5%) and English (9.6%) rank third and fourth.

Afrikaans is spoken by almost all the the people of the Northern Cape Province where the *WORD WOES* (MAP) wall is located. It should be noted that under English/British rule in the early twentieth century, the Afrikaans language was outlawed at school and in public service. In *WORD WOES* each English word might be seen as hiding a secret Afrikaans word that it had once failed to exterminate.

The bilingual title *WORD WOES*, in English, implies a state of distress and sorrow caused by words, but in Afrikaans these same words instruct us to behave in a behave in a frenzied and wild manner.

The total of of 390 words 'spelled out' by the letter-bricks include both English and Afrikaans words of the same spelling, but having different meanings. To the English reader with no knowledge of Afrikaans the words will appear to be English only and their Afrikaans meanings will be lost. To Afrikaans readers the Afrikaans meanings will be clear and so might the English meanings since all Afrikaans speakers have a fair understanding of English.

The block-pattern formed by the overall grid is inspired by the pattern of a sheet of graph paper. These grating lines are enhanced by deep fluting between bricks. Some of my early artworks were motivated by my enjoyment of crossword puzzles. There is an oblique reference to these works in the vertical and horizontal arrangement of the brick letters of *WORD WOES*.

The manufacture of the bricks was undertaken by a local Richmond brick company called *Werk Trek of Vrek*, inherited and run by Mr. Trevor Snijders in collaboration with MAP. The *WORD WOES* project has managed to generate employment to several artisans and brickmakers of the impoverished town of Richmond.

Each alphabet brick has a single letter, cast in intaglio relief. Two blank bricks are used as filler between words.

The lines of words fray irregularly to the left and right of the wall where they are rounded off by blank bricks

The type-face for upper-case block letters was designed by Mr Trevor Snijders. A unique and rather ad hoc type-face was generated due to Mr Snijder's limited knowledge of typography

The forging and baking of the bricks in a large brick kiln under extreme warm weather conditions in the harsh open veld of this semi-desert Karoo landscape has given the bricks a rough and rustic appearance.

The wall was treated after construction with 3 coats of stone sealer.

It was constructed by a team of bricklayers, using scaffolds, profiles, wheelbarrows and brick force ties.

The new wall of letter bricks is anchored into MAP Gallery's pre-existing back-wall.

Measurement of a single alphabet brick 115 mm X 115 mm X 75 (measurements varying slightly)

Measurement of a single stock brick 115 mm 205 X X 75 mm (measurements varying slightly)

Total number of bricks on the facade as in the MAP, Richmond wall:

Number of bricks – letter A	155	Number of bricks – letter J	2	Number of bricks – letter S	174
Number of bricks – letter B	65	Number of bricks – letter K	69	Number of bricks – letter T	150
Number of bricks – letter C	0	Number of bricks – letter L	136	Number of bricks – letter U	25
Number of bricks – letter D	73	Number of bricks – letter M	52	Number of bricks – letter V	16
Number of bricks – letter E	318	Number of bricks – letter N	136	Number of bricks – letter W	42
Number of bricks – letter F	16	Number of bricks – letter O	149	Number of bricks – letter X	0
Number of bricks – letter G	112	Number of bricks – letter P	99	Number of bricks – letter Y	6
Number of bricks – letter H	29	Number of bricks – letter Q	0	Number of bricks – letter Z	0
Number of bricks – letter I	125	Number of bricks – letter R	198	Number of blanks – face	1593

Total number of 115 mm X 115 mm X 75 mm blank bricks for both edges, left and right, of the wall: 272

Related works include:

THE WRITING THAT FELL OFF THE WALL (1997)

See: <https://www.willemboshoff.com/product-page/writing-that-fell-off-the-wall>

WAILING WALL (2017 previously referred to as *JERUSALEM JERUSALEM*)

See: https://deskgram.net/p/1791664109549541702_415458515

WRITING IN THE SAND (2000)

See: <https://www.willemboshoff.com/product-page/writing-in-the-sand>

NEGOTIATING THE ENGLISH LABYRINTH

See: <https://www.willemboshoff.com/product-page/negotiating-the-english-labyrinth>

ORIGINS OF THE WORD WOES PROJECT

A direct relation may be drawn between the Word Woes work and an earlier work titled *PLATTER ROOSTER TASTING*

In May, 2011, I visited Stellenbosch to discuss the town's envisaged *Twenty* exhibition with SMAC Gallery. Painfully aware of the squabble over Afrikaans as a language of prerogative at Stellenbosch University at the time, I proposed an artwork consisting of one word that makes some sense in both English and Afrikaans, but of which the meanings in the two languages differ significantly. That work was to be titled *BOOM*. I envisaged it to be a big gabion wall (a bulky wall of stones stacked into a structure of wire baskets) Stones in two different shades would be stacked inside the wire baskets to spell the word 'boom' on both sides of the wall. The wall would be located in Jonkershoek, a get-away nature reserve where romantic couples often enjoy sanctuary in the shadows of large trees beneath spellbinding vistas of mountain cliffs. My gabion wall had to be wide, high and inviting enough to serve as a refuge for amorous kisses.

The word 'boom', in English, is rather onomatopoeic and spells out the noise of exploding bombs, as in the big *boom!* In the Russian navy, *boom!* is an accepted toast, like *cheers!* In a more sedate sense, *boom* is also a long pole, usually pivoted to go up and down to let traffic through. In Afrikaans *boom* is 'tree' a word that appeals to my life-long interest in and respect for flora. I have tried to learn the names of all the plants I have come across and I am doing quite well in this venture. *Boom*, however, has another, far more stress-free meaning in Afrikaans. To the unperturbed it indicates *marijuana (Cannabis sativa)*. The more easygoing students would immediately chuckle at this usage and might be tempted to slink behind the *BOOM* wall for a whiff or two of the beleaguered stuff. I wanted the work to poke some light-hearted fun at the obsessive linguistic preoccupation of the frantic local academic fraternity. It would clearly satisfy them on one level and most certainly raise eyebrows on another. Unfortunately I never made the artwork *BOOM*, but there is every reason to believe that I might make it one day.

The idea that one can have words of the same spelling in Afrikaans and English, which differ totally in meaning, stayed with me. When I was approached by *SMAC* gallery in Stellenbosch, to have a solo exhibition in 2012, the memory of *BOOM* milled about in my head and I began to collect similar words. During the year before the exhibition I managed to come up with two-hundred-and-forty words.

To stay with the idea of using the earthen substance (stones) envisaged for *BOOM*, I decided to use the sands and soils from the town of Darling, also in the Western Cape. I mapped out the words on small wooden plaques and arranged the plaques in a collage comprising a muted checkers design resembling a wall of 240 bricks. Each 'brick' contained a word and to form a perfect formatting, I allowed myself only six letters per plaque. To my disbelief I discovered three seven-letter words that did not fit into the design. They are *platter rooster* and *tasting*. These three words obviously had to feature somewhere and they turned into the title of the artwork.

WORD WOES (etching)

At the completion of *PLATTER ROOSTER TASTING* I was convinced that I would not find any new words, but in the two years that followed new words began to surface and when I was put to bed for months on end by an awful flu at the beginning of 2014, I had time to contemplate new additions. In the end the 240 words increased to 290 and in order to share the work with a wider audience, I decided to turn it into an edition of etchings with the new title *WORD WOES*. In English, this title laments issues related to words and in Afrikaans it instructs us to let go and be wild.

The idea of a brick wall was retained in the design of the *WORD WOES* etching, each block still containing one word.

WORD WOES (Wall)

The *PLATTER ROOSTER* collage and the *WORD WOES* etching were well received, but they merely resembled brick walls. In 2015, I built an actual wall out of real bricks. The bricks were carefully planned in collaboration with brickmakers from the small town of Richmond where fluent Karoo Afrikaans is the mother language and where everyone thinks that to speak even a broken kind of English, is rather grand.

I spent months consulting my English and Afrikaans dictionaries constantly discovering new words and the first *WORD WOES* wall was built in 2015 at SMAC Gallery in Woodstock, Cape Town. A second *WORD WOES* wall was built in 2016 in the garden of the *Liedjiesbos* (bush of little songs) estate in Bloemfontein. The number of words increased from the etching's 290 to 390. To honour the Afrikaans and English-speaking people of Richmond the wall was then built in their town, in 2018, still using their own brickmakers with their own type face design. The wall now had 451 words

What started of as 'fun with words' ended up as an idiosyncratic monument to language. Don't forget, just as much as the English words on the wall are a truly serendipitous Dada mix, so too are the Afrikaans words on the wall happy Dada flukes. There is actually such a monument to Afrikaans – the *taalmonument* in Paarl, Western Cape. Paarl is the neighbouring town to Stellenbosch where my exercise in the marriage of unlikely English and Afrikaans articulations began. An internet search for a monument to the English language did not deliver any results, so my wall might veritably also be the only monument to English in the world. As it turns out, Afrikaans is the only language in the world that has erected its own monument.

It would be ironic if the only monument to English were erected in England, in the Yorkshire Sculpture Park on the back of a language it had once tried to eliminate. Such a monument, it must be said, would also be a conceptual, *avant-garde* artwork, challenging existing concrete poetical expressions in all languages. The *WORD WOES* project is not intended to belittle any language over another. It began in a free-spirited way with *PLATTER ROOSTER* and it is still committed to build tolerant bridges between Afrikaans and English by appealing to a sense of humour.

The survival of Afrikaans under British colonial rule is due to the fact that it had developed in challenging circumstances for a few hundred years before English arrived. The English attempt at the linguistic cleanup of 'dirty' languages resulted in an unprecedented resolve to maintain and preserve Afrikaans that often bordered on the fanatical. Afrikaans is the language of choice of thousands of authors, all of them very well versed in English. A growing list of Afrikaans authors worthy of the Nobel prize is available. The irony is that they might only be awarded such as a result of their works being translated into and published in English.

The South African author J. M. Coetzee (born 1940-) received a whole host of awards, most notably the Nobel Prize for Literature (2003). All his writing is in English, but he is from Afrikaans heritage and he is fluent in Afrikaans. He is of the opinion the the South African 'condition' can be better expressed in Afrikaans than in English, stating that the English turn of phrase becomes somewhat strained in dealing with the land, and its people. In *White Writing* 1988, he says that one cannot write the South African landscape in English as eloquently as in Afrikaans.

There is no logical linguistic reason for the choice of words in *WORD WOES*. In a way they are a *Dada* list – a mini *Dada* dictionary. Their inclusion is strangely dependent on the throw of a dice, in this case, the dice is the fact that the English and Afrikaans meanings of these words of the same spelling have absolutely nothing to do with each other. In *Dada* poetry, for example, chance plays a definitive role. A book might, for example, be opened blind and at random. The very first piece of text one might put one's finger on is then used. This is repeated until some rather quaint and refreshing selection of texts is obtained. This method of unfathoming 'truth' is also called *logomancy*. The selection offered by the *WORD WOES* text is the fluke result of truly conceptual happenstance.

The marvel of it all is for the reasonably bilingual person to read a word from one of the two languages, and then, upon reflection, to find the meaning of that word in the other language slowly dawning upon them.

At first, I considered calling the work *LOST IN TRANSLATION* because the words play with irreconcilable meanings. This 'English-only' title would, however, only serve to anger sensitive members of the Afrikaans community and I decided to name the project after two of the words that strangely make sense when combined: *WORD WOES*.

The English often see Afrikaans words next to English signage and because of their expectation that all written expression everywhere must necessarily be English, one often gets quite humorous readings. My son, Willem junior, who lives in the United Kingdom, once tried to draw money from the automatic banking machine in the predominantly Afrikaans town of Parys and he could not because he thought the prominence of the word *jammer* on the monitor meant that the machine had been *jammed*, when in fact an apology was issued for the fact that the machine could not print paper slips. *Jammer* in Afrikaans means 'sorry'. An old English friend wondered for a while about

the meaning of the word *slegs* on a road sign – he read ‘only *slegs*’ and could not, for the life of him, figure out what kind of things the *slegs* are. In Afrikaans *slegs* means ‘only’.

WORD WOES (Yorkshire Sculpture Park 2019)

The wall envisaged for the Yorkshire Sculpture Park will be a free-standing wall. Its façade will duplicate the Richmond (MAP) wall, but the same text will be repeated on the back of the wall. This back and front repetition is an ironic stab at the obsession with bilingualism that existed in South Africa for most of the twentieth century. Every official document had to be issued twice, all signposting reflected two languages. The freestanding wall conforms to this duplication. The front/back repetition of text was also used in *WAILING WALL* (2017), a free-standing art wall built at NIROX Sculpture Park, west of Johannesburg.

All bricks on both sides (front and back) and both edges (left and right) of the wall as envisaged for the free-standing wall at Yorkshire Sculpture Park: (All of these are double the amounts given for the wall existing at MAP Gallery, Richmond)

Total number of bricks on the façade:

Number of bricks – letter A	310	Number of bricks – letter J	4	Number of bricks – letter S	348
Number of bricks – letter B	130	Number of bricks – letter K	138	Number of bricks – letter T	300
Number of bricks – letter C	0	Number of bricks – letter L	272	Number of bricks – letter U	50
Number of bricks – letter D	146	Number of bricks – letter M	104	Number of bricks – letter V	32
Number of bricks – letter E	636	Number of bricks – letter N	272	Number of bricks – letter W	84
Number of bricks – letter F	32	Number of bricks – letter O	298	Number of bricks – letter X	0
Number of bricks – letter G	224	Number of bricks – letter P	198	Number of bricks – letter Y	12
Number of bricks – letter H	58	Number of bricks – letter Q	0	Number of bricks – letter Z	0
Number of bricks – letter I	250	Number of bricks – letter R	396	Number of blanks – face	3186

Total number of 115 mm X 115 mm X 75 mm blank bricks for both edges, left and right, of the wall: 544

WORD WOES DICTIONARY

ENTRY

ENGLISH

AFRIKAANS

ALSO

Too, similarly, moreover

Thus, in this way, so, therefore

ANGEL

Imaginary celestial being with wings – male or female

Sharp-pointed stinger at rear-end of a bee, scorpion, etc.

ANGELS

Plural of angel

Plural of stingers of bees, scorpions, etc.

ARE	A verb – the plural present form of ‘is’	Veins, arteries
ARMLIKE	Resembling an arm	Poor, deprived, meager, pitiable
ARTS	Various types of creative activity	Special doctor, such as a children’s doctor, dentist or veterinarian
BAD	Not good, terrible, depraved, spoilt (child), spoiled (fruit)	To wash oneself in water; to bathe; a bath
BADDER	Worse, more bad	One who takes a bath
BADWATER	Water that is contaminated or treacherous (often a place name)	Bathwater
BAGGER	One who holds the key to political success, as in carpetbagger	Slime, mud; to remove underwater slime or mud by special means
BAKER	One who makes breads and cakes	A woman caring for a baby without breastfeeding it, dry nurse
BALK	Hesitant or unwilling to accept a proposal	Wooden beam
BALLING	To form into a ball; to employ a ball	An exile; one who is banished
BANE	Reason for anguish or annoyance	Lanes, as in racing or athletics
BANG	Loud explosive noise	To have fear and trepidation
BANGER	Sausage, usually eaten at breakfast	Greater fear; more trepidation
BARING	Exposing or revealing (of secrets, facts, the body)	Having a child or children; parturition
BARS	Metal rods; counters for serving drinks; societies of lawyers	To crack up; to burst open; a crack
BASE	Bottom support; plinth; main area to operate from	Bosses; persons in charge
BASTER	One who applies juice or fat (baste) to meat	Bastard; half-caste; hybrid; to interbreed
BEAMER	A fast ball directed at the head of a batsman	One who confirms or reiterates
BEAMING	An elated kind of smiling; happiness brandished as facial marvel	Confirming approval or corroboration; reiteration
BEARING	Positioning the body; reference to placement; relation (bearing on issues)	Venation of human body or plant leaves; pattern of blood vessels
BEDWING	A section or wing of a building allotted to beds	Curb, check; to quell (a mutiny), to hold in check; restrain (passion)
BEEF	Prepared meat from cows and bulls	To shiver, shake or tremble
BEEN	Past participle of the verb ‘be’	Bone; leg
BEER	Alcoholic drink distilled from yeast, malt, barley, hops etc.	Bear (shaggy, erect animal, mostly northern hemisphere)
BEES	Insects that give us honey	Cow, bull, ox
BELIEF	Acceptance that something exists or is true, especially without proof	To bestow love upon another person
BET	To risk money on the outcome of a race or game	To bathe or dab a wound; to wet someone’s forehead, feet, etc.
BETAS	More than one instance of the Greek letter <i>beta</i>	To touch, to touch sexually
BEVEL	Sloping surface or edge	Command, order
BIBBER	One who repeatedly and in excess enjoys alcoholic drink	To shiver or shudder from cold
BID	To make an offer; to greet (I bid you a fond farewell)	To pray
BIDDER	Buyer at an auction; those who make offers	One who prays
BIDDERS	Those who place offers at an auction	Those who pray; a group that prays
BIER	A framework supporting a coffin or corpse	Alcoholic drink from yeast-fermented malt or barley, beer
BITS	Small pieces, parts, or quantities of something	To be deliberately hurtful in one’s remarks; to be spiteful
BLARE	Loud, penetrating, mostly annoying sound	Leaves, foliage
BLESSER	One who bestows good wishes, blessings	More bald; thinner on top (of hair)
BLINK	A quick shut and open of the eye or eyes	Shiny, polished – as a surface
BLINKER	A device that blinds; a signal that flashes or blinks	More shiny, more polished
BODE	Sensing of a future event; omen	Messenger; courier
BOG	A soft, marshy, muddy area of ground	Nonsense; claptrap; drivel
BONE	One of many hard braces that link and support flesh, muscle and skeleton	Edible bean seeds; green beans (in husks); bean plants
BONK	To hit someone or something; to have sexual intercourse	Large, clumsy piece (<i>‘n bonk brood</i>); a lump (clay) (compare <i>bonkig</i>)
BOOM	Loud resonant bang; pole blocking road; surge in prosperity	Tree; marijuana

BOON	Useful, beneficial item	Singular, edible bean seed; singular bean plant
BOOR	Vulgar, unmannerly person	To drill; a tool that performs drilling
BOOS	Exclamations of sudden surprise; cries of disapproval	Fuming; angry
BOOT	Sturdy shoe; trunk of a car	Boat; ship
BOOTS	Sturdy shoes; trunks of cars; to deliver a hard kick	To imitate or copy someone – (<i>hy boots hulle na</i>)
BORE	To be dull and uninteresting, such a person; to drill	Hand drills or drilling machines
BOTS	Larvae of botflies, horse parasites; sheep bots come from flies in nostrils	To crash into
BOUT	Short spell of intense activity	Bolt, as in a steel nut and bolt
BRAKING	To slow down a vehicle by applying a brake	Vomiting, especially in a crude sense
BRAND	Name and advertising status of a product, campaign, etc.	Fire, to burn
BRANDER	One who establishes the status and name of a product, campaign, etc.	A large wave as it breaks on the sea shore
BRANDERS	Those who promote through advertising	Large waves as they break on the sea shore
BRANDING	Indicating a commercial name or line; advertising	Establishment of fire, burning
BREED	Animal stock, to rear a line of animals	Broad, wide
BRIEF	Lasting for a short while, underpants; written or spoken instructions	Letter; written note
BROOD	To mope or worry; offspring or litter of one parentage	Bread; basic food that supports life
BRUISING	Discolouring of skin on injured body; discolouring of spoiled fruit	Foaming, bubbling, effervescence
BULK	Massive size and weight of large items	Characteristic sound of a cow; to make a moo sound
BURGER	Type of bun, patty combination, e.g. 'hamburger' or 'veggie burger'	Citizen, member of a state or country
BURGERLIKE	Resembling a hamburger	Pertaining to citizenship; belonging to citizenry
BYE	Extra holes (golf); goodbye; advance in the absence of a competitor	Bees, honeybees
DAMP	Slightly wet, wetness rising or resident in walls	Vapour, steam, smoke
DANK	Offensively damp, mouldy and cold	To thank; thankfulness
DAPPER	Neat and trim in looks, posture or dress (mostly of men)	Courageous; daring; gutsy
DEERLIKE	Resembling a deer	With pity, misery or sadness
DEN	Lair of a wild animal; a room for leisurely or illicit activity	Pine tree
DIE	To pass away; to expire (as a flame or opportunity)	This, these
DIES	Stops living; expires	This; these
DIG	To create a hole in the ground, to rummage about	Compact, compressed or dense; to write poetry
DINK	A soft kick or hit; acronym for 'double income no kids'	To think
DOER	One who acts or does	Far away, way over there
DOG	Canine capable of barking, man's best friend	To have understood; to have a resident thought
DOLLIES	Plural of doll; frameworks to facilitate camera movement	OK, fine as in the expression: <i>Dit gaan dooddollies</i> 'things are great'
DONS	Puts on a hat or piece of clothing	Small piece of fluff, down or fur
DOOR	A mostly solid and hinged structure at the entrance to a building or room	Yellow part of an egg. An egg with two parts yellow is a <i>dubbeldoor</i>
DOPE	Banned performance enhancing substance; stupid person	Plural of baptism or christening
DOPING	Administering illicit drugs	Dunking of biscuit into drink; baptism
DOSE	Quantity of medicine or drug; to medicate correct amount	Boxes; packages
DOSSER	One who sleeps rough; a tramp; an idle person.	One who dresses outlandishly foppish
DOWER	Widow's share of her husband's estate	More deaf
DRAG	Pull along roughly, usually by force	Wear; clothing suitable for specific purpose
DRAKE	Male duck; artificial or natural 'mayfly' as bait in fly fishing	Plural of <i>draak</i> ('dragon' in English)
DRIES	To become dry	Groups of three.
DROP	To make something fall; to make or get lower or weaker	Liquorice (licorice) sweets; Liquorice pills or water

DUNK	To dip bread or other food into a drink or soup before eating it	Meaning or opinion (<i>hy het 'n hoë dunk van sy onderwyser</i>)
DYE	To colour by soaking in a solution or the solution itself	Those parts of human legs between the hip and the knee
ELDERS	People of greater age than the rest; senior leaders in a church or clan	Elsewhere, in another place
ELK	Red deer, native to North America	Each; every; both
ELSE	Otherwise; besides	Plural of <i>els</i> (awl - small pointed tool for making holes)
ERE	Before; earlier than	Honour and respect
EWE	Female sheep	Similarly; likewise
FEE	Payment; compensation; tip	Fairy; small, imaginary, winged female creature
FEES	Plural of 'fee' (payment and compensation)	Festival; celebration
FELLER	One who cuts down trees	More vehement, more drastic
FELLING	Act of cutting down trees	The outer rim of a wagon wheel
FLITS	To move swiftly, lightly (as insects do briefly in the sun)	Battery operated torch
FOP	A dandy, one who dresses in an effeminate way	To cheat; to trick or bamboozle
FRANK	Having an uncompromisingly honest or straightforward manner	Bitter or tart of taste
FRANKER	Of a more uncompromisingly honest or straightforward manner	More bitter or tart of taste
FRIES	Chips or sliced food cooked in hot fat or oil	A breed of cow, bull or ox originally from Friesland in the Netherlands
GAL	Girl or young woman	Contents of the gall bladder; bile (proverbial for its bitterness)
GANG	Band of criminals; group of labourers; motley crew	Passage in a building; channel of access
GANGLIKE	Having the appearance or behaviour of a gang or gangs	Acceptable, passable, adequate
GAPE	To be or become open; an opening	Yawns displayed when sleepy, tired or bored
GAPS	Breaks or holes between objects; openings; breaches	To steal furtively; to pinch or pilfer
GATE	Movable blockade allowing entrance or exit	Holes; gaps; cavities
GEE	Exclamation of surprise, enthusiasm or sympathy; to urge on	To give; to award; to donate
GEES	Commands to go faster; urges on (he gees up a mob/horse)	Spirit, ghost, temperament
GELD	To castrate a male animal	Money, medium of exchange, coins, notes; be valid (<i>iets laat geld</i>)
GELDING	Castrated animal, especially a male horse	The act of making something count, applicable or relevant
GELID	Extremely cold; frozen solid	Orderly formation of troops or detachment of men
GELLING	Of jelly or wax, becoming stiff, setting	A unit of liquid, gallon; a large volume – as 'gellings moeilikheid'
GENIES	Arabian spirits of folklore, imprisoned within oil lamp, granting wishes.	Past tense of 'sneeze'
GITS	Informal – unpleasant or nasty older persons (mean old gits)	In the expression <i>O gits!</i> – Oh my golly! Heavens! Jeepers
GLAD	Content and satisfied; happy	Glabrous, soft and smooth to the touch
GLADDER	More delighted or pleased; happier	More smooth; more slippery; more slick
GLANS	The rounded tip of the penis	Glossy shine; polished sheen
GRATE	To turn food or solids into small particles by rubbing or scraping	Fish bones
GRILLE	Grating of metal bars or wires used as a screen, usually to protect	Caprices; whims; indulgences
GRILLER	Metal framework for cooking.	One given to caprice, whims, fad or fancies
GRILLING	Cooking food over an open fire	Quirk, idiosyncrasy, odd habit
GRIM	Uninviting, as a 'grim expression', black, harsh, as 'grim humour'	Grin, a strained or sombre smile
GRIP	Firm hold; grasp tightly; understanding; get a good grip on facts.	Furrow, ditch, drain, slit-trench
GULP	To swallow in one motion; to 'knock back' a drink	Fastener of buttons, zip or laces in front of men's pants; zipper
GUN	A rifle or revolver; a ballistic weapon	To take pleasure in other's achievements, good fortune
GUNS	Weapons that shoot bullets	Favour; act of kindness
GUTS	Stomach, belly or intestines; courage, determination, spirit	Fast flowing, spouting (<i>reënwater guts uit die afleipyp</i>)
HAGLIKE	Having attributes of a slovenly woman (hag); witchlike	Treacherous, wretched, miserable

HAKE A common sea fish, often prepared commercially
HARE Fast running, long eared animal that resembles the rabbit
HARING Running or dashing at speed; he comes haring down the straight.
HARK To listen attentively; to call to memory
HARTLIKE Resembling a hart or adult male deer
HEEL Back part of the foot below the ankle
HELD Past participle of 'hold'; having grasped or detained
HER Third person singular pronoun; of the female
HERD A group of animals that live together
HERE In this place; in this position
HIP The projection of the pelvis and upper thigh bone
HIPPIE Person of alternative appearance, rejecting conformist values
HIPPIES Persons of alternative appearance, rejecting conformist values
HITS Punches by hand, bat or racket; strikes by missile or ball
HOE Long-handled, bladed tool used for weeding and tilling
HOED Of earth or soil, dug or weeded by means of a hoe
HOER One who uses a hoe to dig (earth) or thin out or dig up (plants).
HOES Tools for weeding and loosening soil
HOLDING Detaining someone or something; tenure of land, stocks or property
HOLE Tunnel or cavity in a solid substance
HOLLER To give a loud cry or shout
HOOF Hard shell that forms the foot of cattle, antelope, horses and camels
HOON Lout or hooligan, especially a youngster who drives recklessly
HOOP Round or semi-circular band of metal; large, arch-like jump
HOPE Expectation; anticipation
HOPING Expecting, eagerly awaiting or longing
HOT Warm, intense
HUNKER To squat down; to crouch down low
INTEL Information of military or political value
JAMMER Transmitter (or person) for jamming signals
JIG Lively dance, a template for guiding manufacture
KALE A cabbage with prominent stem, large leaves, but no head
KALES Cabbages with prominent stem, large leaves, but no head
KEEL Bottom part of a ship or boat that is under water
KEEP To have or retain possession; situation necessary for living
KILLER Murderer; slayer of animals; an animal that kills
KIND Items, people sharing similarity, generosity of temperament
KNAP Shaping a stone by striking it repeatedly (masonry or stone tools)
LAG To fall behind; to trail at the back; time difference
LANK Long, straight and wilted (hair)
LAP Hips, knees when seated; race-track circuit; drink with tongue
LATE Behind in time; occurring at the very end; deceased
LATTE Coffee made with espresso and hot steamed milk
LEEK Vegetable related to the onion but with elongated ball

Hooks; bent and sharp-ended metal fasteners
 Hair; locks or curls of hair
 A herring – a small silvery fish which is abundant in coastal waters.
 Rake; to scratch together by means of a rake
 Hearty, sincere, jovial, warm
 To heal; to make whole or repair; to nurse back to health
 Hero; celebrated brave man
 Previously; long since; in the past
 Fireplace for cooking; hearth
 Gentlemen; men
 A brief hop or jump (*sy voet is seer en hy hip rond op een been*)
 A short little hop (*die voëltjie gee 'n hippie oor die tuinslang*)
 Short little hops (*'n voëltjie kom met hippies aan oor die grasperk*)
 To foment trouble; to provoke into action
 How, why
 Hat, cap, headwear
 Prostitute, harlot, adulteress, whore
 Act or sound of coughing; to cough
 Something that is hollow
 Hovels; dens for disagreeable activity
 More hollow; more empty
 Forehead; person in charge; most important or main
 Scorn, mockery, derision (*hy verdra hoon van die bullebak*)
 Hope; expectation
 Heaps; piles; stacks; mounds
 Piling or stacking up
 Left-hand side
 To yearn or long for; to covet
 To pick up and load into a container or put into a different space
 Sorry; with apology
 Gout; dietary disease causing a type of arthritis
 A naked person; a man or woman wearing no clothes
 Naked people; men or women wearing no clothes
 Throat; gullet
 Notch; nick; prominent cut-mark
 More frigid or cold in attitude
 Child; youngster
 Tight-fitting; clever, brainy; deft and hard-working
 To laugh; laughter; chuckle
 Tall; long; extended; lengthy
 Cloth; fabric
 As in: *doene and late* – things done and things not done
 Slender woody shoots from a branch or stem of a tree or shrub
 Layman; one without expert or specialized knowledge

LEER	To stare unpleasantly, maliciously or lasciviously	Ladder, stepladder
LEES	Sediment at the bottom of a barrel of wine; dregs (fig.)	To read or peruse; to understand writing
LEG	A limb that supports the human body, tables or chairs etc.	To lay out charts; to explain problems
LET	Allow, not to prevent or forbid; lease	To pay attention; to mark ('mark my words' <i>let op my woorde</i>)
LETTERLIKE	Resembling a letter of the alphabet; resembling a message	Literally; a taking of words at their most basic, direct sense
LID	A cover, as of a container or can; fleshy, movable cover of the eye	Member; associate; limb of the body
LIED	Having told untruths, having made false statements	Song; piece of vocal music
LIES	Untruths, false statements, fibs	Groin; the thigh, especially higher up, near the body
LINKS	Connections between things or ideas; rings in a chain	Left, as in 'not right'; to the left-hand side
LINT	Fine, fluffy fibres shed by cloth or woollen material	Ribbon; narrow band of cloth for tying
LIT	Past participle of 'light'	Joint of the body; internode on a reed or grass
LOG	The trunk or large branch of a tree; to enter facts for the record	Clumsy, unwieldy, ungainly (hy is <i>log en beweeg met moeite</i>)
LOGGER	One who cuts down trees	More awkward or clumsy because of obesity
LONE	Single; having no companions	Salaries; loans; fees earned
LONG	Extended; lengthy; to have a strong wish or desire	Lung; organ that facilitates breathing
LOOM	Device for weaving a fabric; to appear in large shadowy form	Sense of dull, sleepy languor
LOON	Silly or foolish person (a lovesick loon)	Payment for a job done; salary; due punishment (<i>verdiende loon</i>)
LOOP	Curve folding back on itself; repeat of music tape or video	To walk; to stroll; course of a river
LOOPS	Curves that bend round and cross themselves	Of animals, to be randy, sexually excited. Dogs and cats <i>gaan op loops</i> .
LOOT	To burgle or ransack; booty; spoils	Offshoot of a plant; method of casting of the lot
LOOTS	Robs; raids	A hangar for vehicles such as bicycles or aeroplanes
LOSSES	Demise items such as time, funding, relationships; shortfalls	Loose ones; Those that are not fixed
LOWER	Nearer to the ground	Greenery or foliage in a forest or bush
LUG	To carry or drag; peg or hook for mounting or hanging	Air; atmosphere; sky; heavens
MALE	Gender of men as opposed to women; pertaining to men	Times; instances
MANE	Growth or ruff of hair on the neck of a horse, lion, etc.	Moons, especially moons orbiting planets such as Jupiter
MARE	A female horse, mule or donkey	A report, news or rumour, as in <i>treurmare</i> and <i>blymare</i> .
MARES	Plural of the female for horse, mule or donkey	News reports, tidings, rumours, as in <i>treurmares</i> 'tales of weeping'
MATE	A companion, especially in a pair; friend; to breed	Measurements; dimensions;
MATTER	Thing; physical substance; affair	More densely woven
MEET	To get together; to encounter	To measure; to size up
MERE	No more than; solely; smallest or slightest	Lakes; large inland bodies of water
MET	Past tense of meet	With; in accompaniment
MILT	Semen of a male fish; sperm-filled gland of a male fish	Spleen - abdominal organ that controls blood to create immunity
MINDER	One who looks after something or someone (baby-minder)	Less; fewer; a smaller amount; lower of rank or importance
MISLIKE	Not to like; Consider to be undesirable, unpleasant	In a derogatory sense - offensive, given to vomit
MITE	Microscopically small tick; small child or animal	Myth; unverifiable historical report; widely held false belief
MOLES	Small burrowing mammals; spies; flat, dark lumps on skin	Fracas; disturbance; quarrel
MOOR	Piece of overgrown upland; heath; to fasten a ship on shore	To murder; to massacre
MOOT	Subject to debate; uncertainty	Valley between two ridges; to cut into pieces
MORE	A greater amount or degree; additional; to a larger extent	Tomorrow; the day following today
NAG	To irritate with continuous demands or fault finding; old horse	Night; hours of darkness
NATTER	To talk casually, especially on unimportant matters; to chat	More wet or saturated in additional water or liquids
NODE	A point at which lines intersect; knob on a plant stem	Emergencies; crises; urgent situations; needs

NOUGAT	A candy made from sugar or honey, nuts, and egg white.	In the idiom 'trek nougat' – to be poor, battle to make ends meet
NUT	Fruit with hard kernel; edible fruit kernel	Use; usefulness; useful employ
ORAL	By word of mouth; related to the mouth	Everywhere; all over the place
ORE	Rock extracted from the earth for the making of metal	Ears; ear-shaped attachments, for example, ears of a jug
PAD	Thick, flat piece of material; bound paper sheets; launching surface	Road; highway; pathway; trail
PAL	Friend; comrade	Always; all the time
PALE	Faded or light in colour	Fencing posts; football posts
PALING	Becoming bleak and pale	Eel; snakelike fish
PALINGS	Instances of becoming pale	Eels
PANT	Taking short breaths in excitement or from fatigue	Pawn; wager; pledge
PARE	To trim or cut away the edges	Twosomes; groups of two
PARING	Trimming strips off (usually with a paring knife)	The act of two lovers or allies to move away together; a pairing off
PARS	More than one of the desired level to be attained (golf)	To squash or press grapes in winemaking
PARTY	A leisurely group gathering, for the sake of drink, eat and merriment	Some, selected, more or less, approximately
PASSER	One who hands something on; one who approves (passes) a law.	Adjustable instrument for measuring inside or outside measurements
PEER	Look intently; person of the same age or standing; noble person	Pear; pear tree
PENS	Instruments for writing or drawing	Stomach of an animal; belly
PERK	To surge in cheerfulness or liveliness; a benefit	Boundary; scope; range; lawn
PET	A darling animal; a favourite person	Cap; soft flat hat without a brim but with a front visor
PIE	Baked dish with a top and base of pastry: a meat pie	To urinate, to pee (informal)
PINK	A light rosy colour red and white; left-wing; homosexual	To delicately nudge a tear from the eye (<i>pink 'n traan weg</i>)
PLATTER	Large, flat plate or dish	More flat and level; more smooth and without lumps (surface)
POETS	Authors of verses or poetry	To shine shoes or leather objects; a prank or practical joke
POMP	Splendid ceremonial presentation	To pump or a pump; to force an answer
POND	Area of calm water, often with fish and plants	Unit of weight comprising sixteen ounces; British currency
PONDER	To think about something carefully, especially before making a decision	Of a certain weight (<i>Hy het 'n sestien ponder gevang</i>)
POOL	Area of still water; a patch of liquid, as 'pool' of blood	Pole as in either of two opposite ends; north or south pole
POP	To jump up; sudden, explosive sound – to 'pop' a balloon	Doll; term of endearment for a small girl
POWER	Ability or authority to perform; physical strength; energy	Poor; useless; ineffective; under-achieving
PRAM	Baby carriage, short for perambulator	Breast, especially of an animal
PRANG	To crash (a motor vehicle, bicycle or aircraft)	Press together, to squash firmly (<i>sy prang haar hande inmekaar</i>)
PROP	Supporting structure or item; to underpin or support	Bottle top; cork or other stopper
PUNT	Long, flat-bottomed boat; to kick a hand-released ball; to bet	Full-stop; point; tip; aim; purpose
PUT	To place down; to bring into position	Well; hole sunk into the earth; to benefit (<i>hy put genot daaruit</i>)
PUTTER	Golf club designed for close range hitting	One who manages a well
PUTTING	Placing or moving an item or view into position (putting of a coin, view)	Digging a well; benefitting from something
RAKER	Person who rakes, collects or gathers	More accurate; more precise
RAKING	Levelling or cleaning ground or floor with a rake	Touching, fondling; tangency; contact;
RAMP	Slope or incline in a road or walkway	Disaster; tragedy; catastrophe
RANG	Past tense of ring	Rank; position in the hierarchy of army, police, etc.
RANGE	Scope or extent; variety; large stove with several heating units	Ranks; positions in the hierarchy of army, police, etc.
RANK	A position in the chain of command; having a foul smell	Of plants, to creep; to grow along the ground or a trellis
RANKING	Place in line of achievements, status or social standing	Creeping action of plants
RANT	To ramble or rage in speech	Extended, sprawling hill

RAPE To force sexual intercourse; leaves of a kind of cabbage
RAPING Forcing unwanted sexual intercourse
RAPS Informal chatters; striking audible noises
RAT Rodent resembling a large mouse
RATE Measure or frequency compared to others; speed; tariff
RATS Large rodents resembling mice and moles
RATTING Killing rats; to inform on someone
RED A primary colour, such as of blood or strawberries
REDDER More red, especially when blushing
REEDS Tall, thick grass-like plants that grow near water
REEKS Stinks or smells unpleasantly
REEL A wheel that holds film, yarn, rope; to stagger or lurch
REIN Narrow leather strap with which to steer and check a horse
REUSE To utilize again; to use more than once
RIG To prepare a boat for sailing; apparatus set up for a purpose
ROB To steal, burgle or pinch
ROMP To prance about playfully, in an energetic way; to frolic
ROOF Structure covering a building, vehicle
ROOK Black crow; chess piece in tower battlement shape
ROOM Space; habitable or storage area, mostly with walls and door
ROOMWATER Water available in a room
ROOSTER Male domestic fowl; cock
ROOSTERS Male domestic fowls; cocks
ROT To become putrid; to decay
ROTS Putrifies; decomposes
ROWER Oarsman; one who propels a boat with oars
ROWERS Plural of oarsman
ROWING Propelling a boat by means of oars; the sport of boating by means of oars
RUG Shaggy, woven mat that covers part of a floor
RYE Wheat-like cereal plant used for whiskey, fodder and bread
SAG To fold or bend down under weight
SAGE Profoundly wise man; aromatic herb
SAKE For the purpose of; expression of irritation (for pity's 'sake'!)
SALE Transaction in which money, goods or services are traded
SAME Similar; identical, matching
SAT Past tense of sit; to have taken a seat
SEE To observe visually; region as denoted by a cathedral
SEEP To leak or flow slowly through a porous material or gap
SEER Diviner; one who can reveal the truth through special insight
SENT Past participle of 'send'
SIN Immoral act; to transgress against a divine law
SINLIKE Having an immoral, sinful quality, resembling a sin
SKATER One who glides on ice or moves on shoes fitted with small wheels
SKEET Target shooting at a clay pigeon

Turnips; round root vegetables
 Transporting believers to heaven at the second coming of Christ
 To mete out light corporal punishment, especially to children
 Gear; cog; driving mechanism of toothed wheels
 Remedies for illness, discomfort; answers for problems
 Quick and nimble of movement
 The configuration of gears
 To save (bring about salvation); to rescue
 Saviour; redeemer; rescuer
 Already; before; by now
 Series; sequence
 To organise, arrange or establish
 Pure of heart; chaste
 Giants; colossal or gigantic
 To aim; to aspire; to point toward
 Sea lion; the seal – a fish-eating, fish-like mammal with flippers
 Woman's dress or skirt
 Robbery, especially armed robbery; to plunder and steal
 Smoke or to smoke; to smoulder
 Cream; soft ointment
 Water in cream or extracted from a cream
 Metal framework for cooking; time table
 Metal frameworks for cooking; time tables
 Rat, rodent resembling large mouse
 Rock; large stone
 Thief; robber; burglar
 Plural of thief; robbers; burglars
 A scab formed over a wound; burglary, looting, thievery
 Back and spine; rear surface of human or animal body
 Rows; lines of objects or people
 Soft to the touch; gentle; smooth
 Myth, legend; fairy-tale; plural of saag (saw)
 Business affairs; matters (of the heart etc.); court cases
 Halls for gatherings, meetings and concerts; saddles
 Together, jointly, mutually
 Exhausted; worn out; tired; conked out; had it
 Sea; ocean
 Soap; cleansing material for washing dishes, clothing, etc.
 Hurtful; painful; sore; aching
 Cent, the smallest unit of the South African currency
 Sentence as a string of words; sense; meaning
 Detectable by the senses; satisfactory to the senses
 To laugh out loud; to laugh with free abandon
 Imaginary complaint; made-up ailment

SKEWER	Spike of wood or metal on which pieces of food are cooked	More skew; more twisted at incorrect angles
SKIES	Heavens; the firmament containing clouds, stars, sun, moon, etc.	Exclamation of apology (short for <i>askies</i>); 'sorry'
SKIM	To remove the top layer from a liquid; to peruse a text	Phantom; apparition
SKIMP	To use less items, materials, ideas, etc. than is required	To hint, insinuate or imply
SKINK	Smooth lizard with short or absent legs	To decant; to pour tea, coffee or other drinks
SKIP	Move with spring in the step; to omit some; large container	Boat; ship; seafaring vessel
SKITTER	Flitting about; move fast and quickly	Shimmer, glitter, sparkle, flash, coruscate
SLAG	Waste material at the smelting of ore	Loud bang or clash; to butcher an animal
SLAMS	To shut with force; to condemn or criticise harshly	Informal, objectionable term for Cape Malay people (From Islam)
SLANG	Informal and colloquial language not used in credible texts	Snake; long tube-like reptile with no legs
SLAP	To smack – an instance of such; to spank, cuff or clout	Yielding; elastic and limp; lacking rigidity
SLAPPER	One who slaps; a promiscuous or vulgar woman (informal).	More lithe, supple, more bendable
SLEEP	To slumber; state of rest when we are unaware of the world	To drag; to haul; to pull
SLEEPER	One who sleeps, slab of wood supporting railway tracks	A person or vehicle that drags or hauls
SLEEPERS	Those who sleep, slabs of wood supporting railway tracks	Persons or vehicles that drag or haul
SLIM	Thin of posture or figure	Astute; shrewd, clever, crafty
SLIMMER	More gracefully thin; more slender; more slight of build	More clever; more smart; more intelligent
SLINK	Move smoothly, quietly with gliding steps, in a stealthy way	To diminish in size, amount or power; to shrink
SLINKING	Smooth, quiet movement with gliding steps, in a stealthy way	A diminishing in size, amount, power; shrinking
SLINKS	Moves smoothly, stealthily	Clandestine, treacherous, cunning, crooked, conniving
SLOOP	One-masted sailboat	Cushion cover; to remove all fixtures from a building or ship
SLOPE	Incline; gradient; rise in a surface	Pillowcases
SLOPING	An incline (a sloping floor, hillside); leaning or slanting	The removal of all fixtures from a building or ship
SLOT	Narrow slit or gap; an allotted place on a program	Lock on a door; position of a forward player in rugby
SMALLER	Of a less size by comparison	More narrow; thinner
SMART	Elegantly dressed; clever; bright; hurting from insult or pain	Anguish over death; sadness at the loss of a loved one
SMARTLIKE	Resembling a clever or streetwise attitude	Given to much sadness and heartache
SNAGS	Unexpected, hidden obstacles; hitches or catches; difficulties	At night; when the dark of night settles in
SNAP	To break off suddenly; to nip at; sudden cracking sound	To understand or grasp; to comprehend
SNAPPER	A photographer; a reddish sea fish	One who grasps mentally, who 'gets it' -*
SNAPPING	Sudden break-off; nipping at; sudden cracking sound	Understanding, grasping; comprehending
SNARE	Trap for catching birds or animals	Strings, especially on a guitar, violin, harp and such
SNIP	To cut swiftly with scissors or shears; an act of such cutting	Girl who makes snappy, often cutting remarks; an off-cut
SNOOD	Hairnet or bag worn over hair at the back of the head; hood, scarf	Mean, base, vile, despicable
SOLDER	To fuse metal together with tin or lead; tin, lead used as such	Attic; space or room just below the roof of a building
SOLE	Exclusive; one and only; undersurface of a shoe; flatfish	Rubber, plastic or leather bottoms of shoes
SOME	A number of; certain	Hems on garments, tablecloths and such
SON	Male child; boy or man in relation to his parents	Sun; intensely bright star around which the earth orbits
SONDE	A probe that transmits information about the air, soil or sea	Sin; an immoral act considered to be wrongdoing against God
SOP	Piece of bread dipped in soup; ineffective action to appease	Soup; thick liquid dish of vegetables, meat and such
SPANNER	Tool for loosening and fastening bolts	One who erects fences or who rigs high tensile wires
SPANNING	Straddling, bridging; connecting across a divide or all along	Nervousness, nervous tension
SPAT	Past participle of spit (spew out); petty quarrel	To sprinkle a liquid; to scatter drops of fluid
SPIES	Secret agents; persons who secretly gather information	Spear; weapon with a long shaft and pointed tip

SPITS	Ejects saliva forcibly from the mouth	Mountain peak; climax; top of a pointed tower
SPOKE	Shaft connecting rim of wheel to centre; past tense of speak	Ghosts; spectres; apparitions
SPORE	Minute cell capable of propagation, as in fungi and ferns	Footprints; animal tracks
SPOT	Blemish; small round conspicuous mark; to notice something	To mock or ridicule; to make fun of or tease
SPOTTER	One who detects or spots something	One who mocks or ridicules
SPOTTING	Adorning with spots; noticing, observing something	Teasing, mockery
STAKER	One who gambles money on the outcome of a game or race	One who ceases to work
STAKERS	Those who gamble money on the outcome of a game or race	Those who cease to work
STAKING	To mark a territory (as in staking a claim)	To cease work; to strike (as an industrial action)
STALE	Not fresh; no longer interesting or exciting	More than one kind of steel; different steel alloys
STAMP	To put foot down with force; official mark on paper	Shove forcibly; crash into a vehicle, thing or person
STAR	Bright heavenly body visible at night; radiating pointed sign	Having a fixed, vacant appearance or stare
STAT	Short for photostat or statistic	Primitive town situated in rural area
STEEDS	Horses available for riding; stallions	Nevertheless; in spite of everything
STEEL	Hard, bluish-grey metal derived mostly from iron ore	To take from others without permission; to steal
STEELS	Types of steel; to prepare oneself mentally (one <i>steels</i> oneself)	Stealthy, furtive, surreptitious
STEM	Stalk on a plant; supporting shaft (as 'stem' of a wine glass)	Voice; vote as indication of choice
STEMMING	Stopping or restricting the flow of a liquid or tide; branching from	Voting, election; mood, frame of mind
STERLING	British money; excellent or valuable	One who belongs to the stars
STOMP	To tread heavily and noisily, often in display of anger	Tree trunk; blunt; having a bluntness
STOUT	Overweight and heavily built; strong and thick, as 'stout' beer	Naughty; disobedient; badly behaved
STOUTER	More overweight and heavily built; More strong and thick (as in beer)	More naughty; more disobedient; more badly behaved
STROKE	Hitting; heart attack; to move the hand gently across surface	Brush strokes; strips as in longish pieces of paper or cloth
SULKS	Displays bad temper by being silently morose	Such, as in 'as such'; in that case
SURE	Certain; convinced; confident	Acids; chemical compounds that eats away at substances
SWAM	Past tense of swim; having propelled the body through water	Fungal development; mouldy growth
SWEEP	To clean an area with a broom or brush; a swift movement	Whip as a piece of leather on a stick, used for flogging
SWEET	Sugary or syrupy to the taste; lovable and pleasant	Sweat; moisture that appears on skin through exercise
SWIG	To drink in a single gulp, a considerable measure of drink	To give in, to yield or succumb
TAG	Label; a nickname or other identifying mark	Call of surprise, cry of annoyance (<i>tag maar hulle is lui</i>)
TAKE	To lay hold of something; to appropriate; to accept	Chores; assignments; tasks
TALE	Story; fabricated account	Languages; tongues
TANG	Strong taste, flavour or smell	Pliers; tongs used for gripping objects and bending wire
TANS	To cause the skin to darken in the sun; to cure leather	Presently; occurring now; at the moment
TART	Tasty pastry dish; promiscuous woman; sharp tasting flavour	To tease; to mock; to make fun of
TASTING	Sensing food or drink on the tongue, experiencing a sample	Touching, feeling about
TEE	In golf, a small peg holding the ball – to 'tee' off	Tea; hot drink of boiling water and crushed leaves
TEEM	To be full of; to abound in (inner city streets teeming with life)	To speak in an unacceptably slow, drawn-out manner (<i>temerig</i>)
TEEN	Teenager or pertaining to teenagers (informal)	In opposition to; hostile to; adjacent to or touching
TEENS Y	Tiny, very small	Opposite page; contrary point of view
TELLING	Narrating or divulging	Score (as in a sports match); a number of points
TEN	The number 10; a group of ten	At, as in 'at best' (<i>ten beste</i>);
TIER	One of a number of rows, staggered one above the other	Tiger; a huge, dark-yellow cat with black stripes
TOE	One of the five digits of a foot; the lower end of something	At that time or then; whilst; close (the lid)

TOELOOP	A skater's jump at full turn, initiated with the help of the supporting foot	Concourse or assembly of people, crowd, throng
TOG	Football boot; to put on clothes	Yet; nevertheless; in spite of that
STONE	Quality of sound; condition of things like muscles or places	Toes; digits of the human foot or of the feet of birds, etc.
TONG	Chinese secret society; handle used for lifting	Tongue; organ of speech and of taste
TOR	Hill, rocky outcrop	A big bug; robust insect with hard shell
TOT	Very young child; small measure of alcoholic drink; to add	Until; in anticipation of; pending
TOWER	Tall, narrow building; to rise to great height, one who tows	Magic; conjuring power
TRAP	Device used to ensnare animals; to catch and hold	Step on staircase; rung on ladder; to step on; to run over
TRAPPER	Person who traps wild animals	One who pedals; a foot pedal on a bicycle
TREE	Large woody plant with branches	Footstep; unit of space measured by a step when walking
TROG	One regarded as contemptible or socially inferior	Feeding trough for pigs and other animals
TROMMEL	Rotating barrel for washing, sifting and sorting ore and coal.	A trunk, canister or box; toolbox
TROPE	Word expressing a figurative or metaphoric sense	Tropics; region between tropics of Cancer and Capricorn
TROTS	To move at a pace faster than a walk	Pride; self-importance; self-esteem
TUG	To pull, jerk or tow; a hard or sudden pull; towing boat	To chastise or castigate; to inflict punishment
TWEE	Unduly and affectedly quaint; pretty or sentimental	The number two – one has two hands, eyes, etc.
VALE	Valley: vale of tears (often in place names or poetic - Vale of Glamorgan)	A pale one, one lacking in vitality - a lacklustre one
VALES	Valleys, especially in place names or poetic use	Pale ones; colourless, grey ones
VAN	Covered truck used for transporting goods or people	From or of; belonging to; from the time when
VEER	To change direction; to swerve off course	Feather; blade facilitating spring-loaded suspension
VEG	Short for vegetables	To fight in battle; to dispute an issue in a vehement way
VEIL	Shroud; cloth worn by women to cover the face	To sell by auction
VEILING	To put on a veil; to conceal	An auction
VEINS	Tubes that carry blood in body; ore-bearing streaks in rock	To feign; to pretend; to put on (as an air or attitude)
VELVET	Smoothly woven silk, cotton, nylon – soft to the touch	Fatty tissue under the skin; fat close to the skin of pork or beef
VENT	To find expression for; opening that allows air or gas to flow	Coarse, uncouth fellow; impolite, annoying man
VESTING	Material used in the making of vests, garments	Stonhold, fortress,
VET	Abbreviation for 'veterinarian'; to approve critically	fat (as in both 'obese' and in 'animal fat')
VIES	To compete keenly in order to achieve something	Angry; annoyed; irritated
VROOM	Roaring sound of engine or implement	Pious; living by deep religious standards
WAG	Of animals, to move the tail rapidly; to wave a finger	To wait; to stay; to pause in one's activities; a guard
WAGGERY	Remarks made in a humorous, playful, mischievous, or facetious manner	Frequent or excessive spells of having to wait
WAKER	One who awakes from sleep, or academic dormancy	One who keeps vigil against things that might go wrong
WAN	Pale or sickly of complexion; weak or strained, of a smile	To glean grain; (there and) then, as in <i>dan en wan</i>
WAND	A long, thin stick, especially one that can create magic	Wall; inside wall-surface of a hollow space
WANT	To desire; to wish or yearn for; to crave	Because; for the reason that
WAR	Conflict; state of armed conflict; confrontation	State of bedevilment or confusion
WARE	Ceramics or porcelain of specific type; manufactured articles	Genuine; authentic; indisputable; legitimate
WARTS	Small outgrowths on the skin	Furtively, as in <i>woerts warts</i> (whizz – 'this way and that')
WATERFEE	A payment in terms of water supply and administration	A water fairy
WATERFEES	Payments in terms of supply and administration of water	A festival held on water or because of water
WED	To marry; married to	To wager or gamble; to place a bet
WEN	Boil, swelling or growth on the skin, especially an oily cyst	To win; to gain field or prominence
WEND	To find one's way; to go somewhere slowly or indirectly	To turn to; to fix trust or reliance on a person or something

WET Damp; drenched; soaked; to drench; to water plants
WETTER More covered or saturated with water or other liquid
WIG Head covering made of false or real hair
WINK To close and open one eye briefly
WINS Triumphs; experiences victory or success
WIT Sharpness of reason; intelligent humour
WITTER To speak at length about trivial matters; chatter
WOES Afflictions; miseries; sorrows and distress
WORD Utterance; single unit of expression in speech or writing
WORDING Text, writing, speech
WORSE More bad in any sense, as more awful, evil or sick
WRONG Not correct or true; incorrect

Law; commandment; rule; regulation
Unpleasant, despicable rascal (pejorative)
Small child; tapering wedge of some material; to wedge
To motion for someone to come; to beckon
Profit; proceeds; turnover; advantage, windfall
White, as the colour of milk; ashen
More white, whiter
With wild abandon; unkempt and untamed
To become; to turn out to be; to develop into
Becoming, developing
Sausages; different types of sausages
To twist or entwine string or hair into a tight bundle or tress

Casual rules for the selection of words

WORD WOES is an eccentric dictionary made up of words of the same spelling in English and Afrikaans but with totally different meanings. The meanings contained in its expressions are meant to be straight-forward, easily understandable, aimed at astonishment and admiration for their linguistic flair. I hope to ambush a certain slice of our former bilingual society with the work's quaintness and I mean to keep them at a standstill for some time in front of the work, pondering the marvelousness of our differences. Preference is given to words that are more or less easily identifiable and that might cause the greater interest.

My friends playfully came up with two small sentences that read true for both languages: "My hand is in warm water" or "My pen is in my hand." Unfortunately all these words are totally synonymous for Afrikaans and English and none such totally similar words are admitted in *WORD WOES*. Entries were omitted if they did not succeed as excellent examples of a true kind of *difference*.

Words that might normally be accepted in the game of *Scrabble* are suitable, but note the following relaxed rules:

TESTED WORDS

REASONS FOR EXCLUDING WORDS FROM WORD WOES

Words that are synonymous in English and Afrikaans are not allowed. The project is based on words spelled exactly the same, but that carry no similarities of meaning.

Exact synonyms in Afrikaans and English not allowed

hang, arm, hand, was, spit, drank, hinder, note, verse, rose, grief, pan, vat, ring, stand, stank, sending, slinger, sing, plot, filter, water, warm, tirade, stink, hand, later, letter, blind, film, sit, spring, item, arm, inkpot, etc.

When the degree of synonymy in English and Afrikaans is too great, words are disallowed.

Near synonyms in Afrikaans and English not allowed

pure, blank, grade, rose, note, innerlike, manlike, prater, skipper, plotter, flap, span, state, slurp, bale, bedding, bolster, mild, slip, waker, plate, etc.

Words with more than one meaning, of which one of the meanings is the same in English and Afrikaans are also disqualified.

elf
mars
spit
mark
ken (removed in WW 3)
spring

'Eleven' in Afrikaans is OK, but as Santa's little helper (same meaning in English and Afrikaans) it is disqualified.
Mars, 'to spoil' in English and 'to march' in Afrikaans, is acceptable, but 'Mars' as the planet Mars in both languages falls out.
Spit is 'to eject saliva' in English and in Afrikaans it is to turn soil over, but a roasting on a skewer is the same in both languages
Mark as 'tick' or 'to denominate' is OK in English, but the synonymity as *market* in both languages disqualifies it.
Ken is 'chin' in Afrikaans, but in both languages it denotes one's range of knowledge or insight.
Both languages have *spring* as a sense of 'jump' but in English it is also a natural source of water.

Strained meaning - avoid

toner
toning

In Afrikaans, 'one who shows' - it is conceivable that the word can be used, but it is not in the Afrikaans dictionary.
In Afrikaans, 'act of showing' - it is conceivable that the word can be used, but it is not in the Afrikaans dictionary.

Avoid informal, colloquial or seldom used words.

dwang
vader
swat
toon
laggies
suffer
hook
bedel

OK - *dwang* 'coercion' in Afrikaans. Not OK - 'serious trouble' (he is in the *dwang*) in colloquial English.
OK - 'father' in Afrikaans and an abbreviation. Not OK - 'Dark Vader', a character from the *Star Wars* films.
OK - 'to hit or slap' in English. Not OK 'to study' in informal Afrikaans.
OK - 'toe' in Afrikaans. Not OK - short for 'cartoon' film in informal English.
OK - bits of laughter in Afrikaans. Not OK - US slang for laid back, leisurely slickers who are always late and 'lag' behind.
OK - In English, 'to hurt from bad, unpleasant things'; Not OK - 'more mentally worn out', from *suf*, is strained Afrikaans.
OK in English. As an exclaiming *Hook!* 'stop! (from *hokaai!*) not OK in Afrikaans
In some English universities, an official with ceremonial duties. OK in Afrikaans - to beg for handouts, privileges or money

Children sensitive

arsering

In Afrikaans, hatching applied to drawing; shading-in in line drawings; English: free-spirited adults only

No foreign or archaic, obscure, pedantic, scientific or overly technical words.

<i>tome</i>	'Reins of a horse' in Afrikaans; 'book' in old English.
<i>nog</i>	In English, 'small block or peg of wood' (seldom used) and short for 'eggnog'; In Afrikaans it means 'more' or 'still'.
<i>brag</i>	'To boast' in English; 'to have brought' in archaic Afrikaans.
<i>rust</i>	'Oxidation' in English; 'to rest' in archaic Afrikaans
<i>ween</i>	'To be of opinion' in archaic English; 'to cry' in Afrikaans
<i>lam</i>	'To hit', a verb in nineteenth century English; 'lamb' in Afrikaans.
<i>slams</i>	In English, 'shuts with force', 'smashes'; in Afrikaans – of the Cape Coloured Muslim people (derogatory)
<i>prat</i>	In English, 'incompetent or stupid person', idiot, 'buttocks'; 'proud' in Afrikaans is archaic
<i>reef</i>	In English, 'ridge of rock, coral, or sand', 'vein of ore'; 'hand sail' is too obscure in Afrikaans
<i>roes</i>	In English, as plural for 'roe' deer, it is too obscure; acceptable as 'rust' in Afrikaans
<i>frees</i>	In English, to release from confinement or slavery, 'to let go'; 'to mill or trim' metal is too obscure in Afrikaans
<i>big</i>	OK in English. <i>Big</i> as 'piglet' or 'young pig' in Afrikaans is too obscure
<i>weens</i>	In Afrikaans 'because of' but the English 'to be of the opinion' or 'to think or suppose' is too archaic

No abbreviations unless they are used so often that they have become common language

<i>bros</i>	Disqualified as abbreviation for 'brothers' in English; but acceptable as 'brittle' in Afrikaans
<i>mag</i>	Acceptable as 'power' in Afrikaans; unacceptable as abbreviation for 'magazine' in English
<i>bots</i>	Acceptable as 'to crash' in Afrikaans; unacceptable as the abbreviation for 'robots' in English.
<i>gat</i>	English abbreviation for 'gatling' gun not acceptable. Afrikaans for 'hole'

Words with diacritical marks, capital letters or spelling discrepancies are not allowed

<i>reël/reel</i>	'To stagger' or 'film spool' in English is acceptable; as 'rule' or 'precept' in Afrikaans, it is not allowed
<i>reëls/reels</i>	'To stagger' or 'film spools' in English is acceptable; as 'rules' or 'precepts' in Afrikaans, it is not allowed
<i>blase/blasé</i>	'Blisters' in Afrikaans; but <i>blasé</i> in English has an acute accent mark and is not accepted.
<i>waterbase</i>	In Afrikaans, authorities dealing with water issues; In English it should be two words: <i>water base</i> 'consisting mainly of water'.
<i>roofing</i>	In English, 'material and process for constructing a roof; In Afrikaans 'scabbing' or 'robbing' - the spelling is strained, obscure.
<i>winding</i>	In English, 'twisting movement or course'; as 'windy' the spelling is strained and obscure in Afrikaans.
<i>winning</i>	In English, 'to be victorious'; as 'making progress or headway' the spelling is strained and obscure in Afrikaans.
<i>rooms</i>	Acceptable in English, but the capitalised Afrikaans <i>Rooms</i> is rejected (pertaining to the Roman Catholic Church).

EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULES

Exceptions to abbreviations are allowed if they are more generally used than their proper terms

<i>vet</i>	English abbreviation for 'veterinarian'; 'obese' in Afrikaans.
<i>veg</i>	English abbreviation for 'vegetables'; 'to fight' in Afrikaans.
<i>stat</i>	In English, short for photostat or statistic; 'primitive town' situated in rural area in Afrikaans
<i>teen</i>	In English, a teenager or pertaining to teenagers (informal); Afrikaans for 'in opposition to'; 'hostile to'; 'adjacent to' or 'touching'
<i>intel</i>	English abbreviation for military or political information – now an accepted word. Afrikaans for 'picking up and loading in'.
<i>latte</i>	In English, 'coffee made espresso steamed in hot milk' – not spelled as <i>lattè</i> . Afrikaans for long, straight stems or wooden slats
<i>vroom</i>	OK - as 'prude' or 'God-fearing' in Afrikaans; OK - as onomatopoeic English for a certain machine sound, often used

Singular words

<i>waterfees</i>	Mostly two words in English, but instances of fusion into singular words exist. OK in Afrikaans
<i>waterfee</i>	Mostly two words in English, but instances of fusion into singular words exist. OK in Afrikaans
<i>badwater</i>	Mostly two words in English, but instances of fusion into singular words exist. OK in Afrikaans
<i>roomwater</i>	Mostly two words in English, but instances of fusion into singular words exist. OK in Afrikaans