

AN ELEVEN-LETTER POSITIONAL LIST

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In the May 1978 Word Ways, John Meyer exhibited a list of 26 seven-letter words in which the central letter took each alphabetic value (A to Z) and the two three-letter ends were also words. In the August 1978 Word Ways, Leslie Card extended this exercise to nine-letter words, finding examples for all central letters but Q. In this article, we extend it further to eleven-letter words:

axiomAtical	blockAdings
crossB(arred)	underBought
extraCtable	guideCrafts
underDrains	screwDriver
adultErated	butchErings
grandFather	satinFlower
underGround	superGrants
overtHrower	unrigHtable
deterIorate	fluorIdates
interJangle	interJangle
underKeeled	(shrin)Kheads
perchLorate	oversLoping
blackMailed	poundMaster
heaveNwards	dragonFlies
demonOlogic	trampOlines
enterPrises	birthPlaces
butteRflies	timbeRlands
sweepStakes	thankSgiver
forgeTtable	roughTailed
genicUlated	prestUdying
extraVagate	promoVental
lightWeight	wheelWright
(bisse).Xtiles	(overe)Xpress
brachYdomes	staphYlions
hydraZ(oates)	hydraZonium

All eleven-letter and five-letter words can be found in Webster's Second or Third, or inferred from words therein, with the exception of those in parentheses which are in the OED.

As usual, the central letter Q is a problem. The best solution to date is COLLOQUISTS, where Collo is an Algerian town and the two Uists (N. Uist and S. Uist) are islands in the Outer Hebrides.