

# YORKSHIRE DIALECT TEACHER SHEET

## 1. What do you feel like?

A bonny hubbleshoo – a right mess  
Black bright – really mucky  
Champion – great  
Chuffed – pleased  
Dowly – not brilliant  
Failin’ – going downhill  
Fair clemmed – very hungry/thirsty  
Fair to middlin’ – ok  
Gaumless – daft  
Gradely – excellent  
Grand – very good  
Gurt big – fat/heavy/huge

In fine fettle – really clean / really good  
Just fair – below average  
Mardy – whiny/a whinge  
Nesh – cold/a bit useless  
Nicely – fine  
Nobbut middlin’ – alright  
Pogged – full (of food)  
Proper badly – very ill  
Ready to pop mi clogs – ready to die  
Throng – very busy  
Wick – lively

## 5. Farming Words

Byre – cow shed  
Coo-oose – cow shed  
Delph-‘oile – quarry  
Flaycrow – scarecrow  
Groop – drain in a cow shed  
Hairy band – rough string (eg for tying hurdles together)  
Laithe – barn  
Lye – scythe

Mistal – cow shed  
Pig-‘oile – pig-sty  
Pleef – plough  
Ploo – plough  
Pooak – sack  
Shippon – cow-shed  
Staggarth – stack yard  
Stee – ladder  
Strickle – sharpening tool

## 6. Dry-stone Walling Words

**Bank** – steep bank created by making a lynchett above it

**Batter** – the angle on both sides of a stone wall (to give a triangular shape to it for strength)

**Beddy** – good layers within the stone (particularly in sandstone) that mean it lies level

**Bellying** – when a wall bulges out cos there’s not enough through stones, and the fillings have slipped down inside

**Cap-steans** – stones that cap the wall

**Collapse** – when a wall falls over (cos of frost heave, or people or sheep climbing over it, or because the weather has got in, or because the footings are wrong, or the wall is unstable because it’s only standing on one leg)

**Courses** – the level lines of stones in the walls

**Cripple’oil / creep hole / criplaws** – very low gateway through a wall that enables sheep, but not cattle, to creep through into the next field

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**Dressed with a hammer** – using a hammer to bash off bits of the stones to give a smarter appearance to the face of the wall, or to get the stone to fit properly in the wall

**End in and end out** – one on top of two and two on top of one – to give the wall a better grip

**Filling stones** – between the two sides of the wall

**Five types of walling stones** – footings, through, fillings (heartings), walling, top (cap)

**Footings** – foundation stones

**Frost heave** – when the ground freezes, it rises, and sinks when it thaws out – over the years, this loosens the whole wall

**Gaps** – where the wall has fallen

**Gate-stoop** – wooden gate post

**Gudgeons** – the iron pegs that the gate hangs from

**Hearting** – the filler stones in between the two sides of the wall

**Limestone and grit-stone/sandstone** – limestone is shorter, smoother, more slippery and often rounder than grit-stone or sandstone, so is harder to wall with. Sandstone/grit-stone has better length (for making good through-stones) is rougher and beddy

**Lynchetts/strip lynchetts** – levelled terraces on a slope – to create a level area for ploughing

**Never put a stone back down** – always find a place for every stone you pick up

**Packers** – small often flat stones to pack between the layers of the wall to keep them level

**Riving** – to pull a wall apart

**Smoot-hole** – to let rabbits through so they could be trapped or snared

**Standing on one leg** – when a wall is built on a steep slope, so the footings are nowhere near level

**Stiles/stee** – to enable humans to cross the wall without tumbling it down

**Through stones** – to tie together the two sides of the wall

**Topstones** – same as cap-steeans

**Two rows of throughs** – two layers of through stones to bind the wall together

**Wall headstones** – the big strong (sometimes dressed) stones that end the wall at a gateway

**Walling frame and lines** – triangular wooden frame that drops over the top of the wall to ensure the batter is kept correct. And lines ensure the line of the wall keeps straight.

**Walling stones** – for the main part of the walls

**With a rack of your eye** – check by eye – eg the line of the wall, or to find a particular stone for the wall

## 7. Animals and insects

‘oss – horse

Arran – spider

Attercop – spider

Black-clock – type of beetle

Bummlekite – bumblebee

Cleg – horse-fly

Cuddy – donkey (or hedge-sparrow!)

Dowdy cow – ladybird

Forkin’ robin – earwig

Gallowa – small horse or pony

Gowk – cuckoo

Lop – flea

Mawk – maggot

Moak – donkey

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Mowdywarp – mole  
Shepster – starling  
Steg – gander  
Stoggy – wood pigeon

Twinge – earwig  
Twitchbell – earwig  
Yaffle – green woodpecker

## **8. General Words**

‘appen as mebbe - might  
‘oss-muck- horse muck  
Allus- always  
Bairn- child  
Cake oyal - mouth  
Don’t fret thissen – don’t worry yourself  
Ee by gum- well I never!  
Ey up- hello  
Gawp- look  
Ginnel- passageway  
Lug oyal- ears  
Nobbut a lad  
Now then- steady on  
Nowt - nothing

Offcumden- stranger  
Owt- anything  
Sit thissen dahn-sit yourself down  
Sithee- see here now  
Sling thi ‘ook- get lost  
Sneck- passageway  
Snicket- passageway  
Summat-something  
Thee - you  
Think on  
Thissen- yourself  
Thou- you  
Tyke