

Daily Bread Vocabulary & Expressions

1. **"Basta!"** A Sicilian term for "That's enough!"
2. **Brute** A savagely violent person or animal.
3. **Cantor** The religious official of a synagogue who conducts portions of a service. Cantors sing or chant all or parts of the prayers.
4. **Challah** A loaf of white bread leavened with yeast. It is often braided before baking and prepared especially for the Jewish Sabbath.
5. **Cossacks** In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Russian Tsarist regime employed Cossacks to terrorized and destroyed Jewish communities in Russia and Eastern Europe.
6. **Dotty** A crazy or eccentric person.
7. **"Dobroye utro"** A Russian phrase for *good morning*.
8. **Dowry** The money, goods, or estate that a wife brings to her husband at marriage.
9. **Gullible** A trusting person who is easily deceived or cheated.
10. **Immigrant** A person who migrates to another country, usually for permanent residence.
11. **knead** To work dough into a uniform mixture by pressing, folding, and stretching.
12. **muslin** A cotton fabric with a plain weave.
13. **pantomime** A speechless expression that represents something using extravagant and exaggerated mime, movements, or gestures.
14. **picilidda** A Sicilian word meaning *little girl*.

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15. **pinafore** A sleeveless apron young girls and women wore over a dress and was sometimes trimmed with ruffles.
16. **pogrom** An organized massacre that targeted peasants and Jewish communities in Russia and Eastern Europe.
17. **pomade** Scented ointment used for the scalp or hair dressing.
18. **Rabbi** The chief religious official of a Jewish synagogue, who delivers the sermons and performs ritualistic functions.
19. **Sabbath** A day of prayer or rest . The Christian Sabbath is on Sunday whereas Saturday is the Sabbath for Jewish persons.
20. **"Shape Up"** An expression longshoreman used to report to work at the docks to be chosen by the foreman.
21. **Shiksa** A term used by Jewish persons referring to a woman who is not Jewish.
22. **Schlepper** A person who carries and delivers large piles of wares, clothing, or piecework.
23. **Sicily** An Italian regional island in the Mediterranean. It is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea.
24. **Sift** To separate and retain the coarse parts of flour with a sieve-like tool.
25. **Strega** An Italian word for *witch*.
26. **Tendrils** Thin ringlets of hair that hang loose and away from the main part of a hair style.
27. **Tepid** Moderately warm; lukewarm
28. **Ved'ma** A Russian word for *witch*.
29. **Yeast** A commercial product containing living cells that is used in baking to make dough rise.
30. **Yiddish** A Germanic language of Ashkenazi Jews spoken in eastern and central Europe regions.