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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Elizabeth "Zibi" Turtle: What Saturn's most mysterious moon could teach us about the origins of life | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/elizabeth_zibi_turtle_what_saturn_s_most_mysterious_moon_could_teach_us_about_the_origins_of_life

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- dun** *adj.* having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed
synonym : dark, gloomy, somber
(1) **dun** horse, (2) **dun** him for the unpaid bills
The spider was camouflaged on the **dun-colored** rock, waiting for its next prey.
- crater** *n.* a huge bowl-shaped cavity in the earth or an object in space, usually created by an explosion or the impact of a meteorite
synonym : cavity, hole, pit
(1) **crater** lake, (2) lunar **crater**
An enormous **crater** marks the area where the vast volcanic explosion occurred.
- titanic** *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
synonym : colossal, massive, immense

(1) **titanic** battle, (2) **titanic** compound

The **titanic** ship sank on its maiden voyage.

hazy

adj. not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something

synonym : blurred, clouded, foggy

(1) **hazy** dream, (2) **hazy** atmosphere

My memories of the holiday were **hazy**.

stark

adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications

synonym : crude, blunt, desolate

(1) **stark** landscape, (2) **stark** truth

The scenery of the battlefield was **stark** and grey.

icy

adj. covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness

synonym : frosty, cold, glacial

(1) **icy** clouds, (2) cast **icy** eyes

The **icy** surface of the pond was not safe for skating.

Jovian

adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

synonym : Jupiter, giant planet

(1) **Jovian** satellites, (2) **Jovian** planet

The **Jovian** moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.

methane

n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

(1) atmospheric **methane**, (2) reduce **methane** emissions

The ignition of **methane** gas in the plant killed five employees.

shroud

n. a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically

synonym : cover, veil, cloak

(1) **shroud** of mystery, (2) **shroud** of suspicion

The protective **shroud** covered the body in the coffin at the funeral.

haze

n. atmospheric moisture, dust, or smoke that makes it less clear; a state of mental confusion caused by lack of clarity

synonym : fog, mist, brume

(1) a **haze** of illusion, (2) **haze** of tears

We couldn't see him through the **haze** of smoke.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym : cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

recognizable

adj. easy to become aware of or identify

synonym : noticeable, perceptible, definite

(1) to a **recognizable** degree, (2) **recognizable** landmark

His car was easily **recognizable** in the parking lot.

asteroid

n. a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

synonym : minor planet, planetoid, rocky planetesimal

(1) **asteroid** mining, (2) **asteroid** explorer

Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the **asteroid** belt to understand the early solar system better.

ethane

n. a colorless, odorless hydrocarbon gas with the molecular formula C₂H₆ that is a basic component of natural gas and is used as a fuel source and in the production of chemicals

synonym : natural gas, methane, propane

(1) **ethane** production, (2) **ethane** gas

Ethane combustion is an important energy source for heating and electricity generation.

dragonfly

n. a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest

(1) **dragonfly** passing over the water, (2) **dragonfly** larva
I caught a rare **dragonfly** in the mountains.

rotorcraft

n. an aircraft or vehicle that uses one or more rotors for lift, propulsion, and directional control, including helicopters, gyroplanes, and tilt rotors

synonym: helicopter, gyroplane, autogyro

(1) lithium-powered **rotorcraft**, (2) **rotorcraft** technology

The company specializes in the design and manufacturing of high-performance **rotorcraft**.

rover

n. a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon

synonym: vehicle, robot, explorer

(1) **rover** mission, (2) lunar **rover**

The **rover** on Mars is gathering data on the planet's surface and sending it back to Earth.

octocopter

n. a type of uncrewed, remote-controlled aerial vehicle or drone that is powered by eight electric motors and uses rotors to achieve vertical takeoff and landing, as well as maneuvering in various directions

synonym: drone, multicopter, UAV

(1) aerial **octocopter**, (2) six-rotor **octocopter**

The **octocopter** drone can hover and shoot stable aerial footage.

quake

v. to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time

synonym: shake, trembler, tremor

(1) **quake** in his boots, (2) **quake** with cold

The earth began to **quake**, and he knew he had to leave the building immediately.

descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

synonym: dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

veil

n. a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure

synonym: cover, mask, (verb) conceal

(1) **veil** of mystery, (2) **veil** her face

He lifted her **veil** with both hands.

immerse

v. to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered

synonym: dip, inundate, submerge

(1) **immerse** the cloth in the dye, (2) completely **immerse** the ingredient

He **immersed** himself in his research.

habitable

adj. able to be lived in, suitable or fit for living in, providing sufficient conditions for survival and well-being

synonym: inhabitable, livable, viable

(1) **habitable** planet, (2) **habitable** space

The astronauts discovered a potentially **habitable** planet in the neighboring galaxy.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

tantalize

v. to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable

synonym : tease, tempt, torment

(1) **tantalize** taste buds, (2) **tantalize** with promises

The smell of freshly baked cookies in the kitchen **tantalized** me.

manna

n. a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit

synonym : sustenance, nourishment

(1) **manna** from heaven, (2) **manna** in the desert

In the desert, the travelers survived by eating **manna**, a miraculous food on the ground.

Session 2: Spelling

1. cast i_y eyes *adj.* covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness
2. ta_____ze with promises *v.* to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable
3. to a rec_____ble degree *adj.* easy to become aware of or identify
4. i_y clouds *adj.* covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness
5. as_____id explorer *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
6. qu__e with cold *v.* to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time
7. Jo___n planet *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
8. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
9. qu__e in his boots *v.* to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time
10. ha_____le planet *adj.* able to be lived in, suitable or fit for living in, providing sufficient conditions for survival and well-being
11. rec_____ble landmark *adj.* easy to become aware of or identify

ANSWERS: 1. icy, 2. tantalize, 3. recognizable, 4. icy, 5. asteroid, 6. quake, 7. Jovian, 8. determinant, 9. quake, 10. habitable, 11. recognizable

12. v__l her face *n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
13. Jo___n satellites *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
14. ti_____c compound *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
15. lunar ro__r *n.* a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon
16. h__e of tears *n.* atmospheric moisture, dust, or smoke that makes it less clear; a state of mental confusion caused by lack of clarity
17. im_____e the cloth in the dye *v.* to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered
18. et___e gas *n.* a colorless, odorless hydrocarbon gas with the molecular formula C₂H₆ that is a basic component of natural gas and is used as a fuel source and in the production of chemicals
19. sh___d of mystery *n.* a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically

ANSWERS: 12. veil, 13. Jovian, 14. titanic, 15. rover, 16. haze, 17. immerse, 18. ethane, 19. shroud

20. sh___d of suspicion *n.* a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically
21. d_n horse *adj.* having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed
22. lunar cr___r *n.* a huge bowl-shaped cavity in the earth or an object in space, usually created by an explosion or the impact of a meteorite
23. completely im_____e the ingredient *v.* to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered
24. dr_____ly passing over the water *n.* a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest
25. ha_____le space *adj.* able to be lived in, suitable or fit for living in, providing sufficient conditions for survival and well-being
26. d_n him for the unpaid bills *adj.* having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed
27. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 20. shroud, 21. dun, 22. crater, 23. immerse, 24. dragonfly, 25. habitable, 26. dun, 27. opportune

28. atmospheric me_____e *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
29. lithium-powered rot_____ft *n.* an aircraft or vehicle that uses one or more rotors for lift, propulsion, and directional control, including helicopters, gyroplanes, and tilt rotors
30. as_____id mining *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
31. ma__a in the desert *n.* a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit
32. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
33. cr___r lake *n.* a huge bowl-shaped cavity in the earth or an object in space, usually created by an explosion or the impact of a meteorite
34. six-rotor oct_____er *n.* a type of uncrewed, remote-controlled aerial vehicle or drone that is powered by eight electric motors and uses rotors to achieve vertical takeoff and landing, as well as maneuvering in various directions

ANSWERS: 28. methane, 29. rotorcraft, 30. asteroid, 31. manna, 32. opportune, 33. crater, 34. octocopter

35. et___e production *n.* a colorless, odorless hydrocarbon gas with the molecular formula C₂H₆ that is a basic component of natural gas and is used as a fuel source and in the production of chemicals
36. st__k landscape *adj.* empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
37. ro__r mission *n.* a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon
38. ti_____c battle *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
39. de_____d by elevator *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
40. h__y atmosphere *adj.* not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something
41. ta_____ze taste buds *v.* to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable
42. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
43. st__k truth *adj.* empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications

ANSWERS: 35. ethane, 36. stark, 37. rover, 38. titanic, 39. descend, 40. hazy, 41. tantalize, 42. determinant, 43. stark

44. reduce me_____e emissions *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
45. de_____d a steep hill *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
46. a h__e of illusion *n.* atmospheric moisture, dust, or smoke that makes it less clear; a state of mental confusion caused by lack of clarity
47. v__l of mystery *n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure
48. dr_____ly larva *n.* a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest
49. ma__a from heaven *n.* a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit
50. h__y dream *adj.* not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something
51. rot_____ft technology *n.* an aircraft or vehicle that uses one or more rotors for lift, propulsion, and directional control, including helicopters, gyroplanes, and tilt rotors

ANSWERS: 44. methane, 45. descend, 46. haze, 47. veil, 48. dragonfly, 49. manna, 50. hazy, 51. rotorcraft

52. aerial oct_____er

n. a type of uncrewed, remote-controlled aerial vehicle or drone that is powered by eight electric motors and uses rotors to achieve vertical takeoff and landing, as well as maneuvering in various directions

ANSWERS: 52. octocopter

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I caught a rare _____ in the mountains.
n. a slender-bodied non-stinging insect having two pairs of large transparent wings that are outspread at rest

2. In the desert, the travelers survived by eating _____ a miraculous food on the ground.
n. a sweet-tasting and nutritious substance that, according to the Bible, was provided by God to the Israelites during their journey through the wilderness; any unexpected or miraculous source of sustenance or benefit

3. The spider was camouflaged on the _____ rock, waiting for its next prey.
adj. having a dull brownish-gray color, often used to describe the color of certain animals, such as a dun horse; (verb) to repeatedly and insistently demand payment of a debt or money owed

4. The ____ surface of the pond was not safe for skating.
adj. covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness

5. The astronauts discovered a potentially _____ planet in the neighboring galaxy.
adj. able to be lived in, suitable or fit for living in, providing sufficient conditions for survival and well-being

6. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

7. An enormous _____ marks the area where the vast volcanic explosion occurred.
n. a huge bowl-shaped cavity in the earth or an object in space, usually created by an explosion or the impact of a meteorite

ANSWERS: 1. dragonfly, 2. manna, 3. dun-colored, 4. icy, 5. habitable, 6. opportune, 7. crater

8. The ignition of _____ gas in the plant killed five employees.
- n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
9. The _____ ship sank on its maiden voyage.
- adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
10. The scenery of the battlefield was _____ and grey.
- adj.* empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
11. We couldn't see him through the _____ of smoke.
- n.* atmospheric moisture, dust, or smoke that makes it less clear; a state of mental confusion caused by lack of clarity
12. The protective _____ covered the body in the coffin at the funeral.
- n.* a length of cloth or other material used to cover or wrap a dead body; something that conceals or obscures something else, often used metaphorically
13. The _____ moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.
- adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
14. The _____ on Mars is gathering data on the planet's surface and sending it back to Earth.
- n.* a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon
15. She was _____ from an old Italian noble family.
- v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

ANSWERS: 8. methane, 9. titanic, 10. stark, 11. haze, 12. shroud, 13. Jovian, 14. rover, 15. descended

16. The company specializes in the design and manufacturing of high-performance _____.

- n.* an aircraft or vehicle that uses one or more rotors for lift, propulsion, and directional control, including helicopters, gyroplanes, and tilt rotors

17. His car was easily _____ in the parking lot.

- adj.* easy to become aware of or identify

18. The _____ drone can hover and shoot stable aerial footage.

- n.* a type of uncrewed, remote-controlled aerial vehicle or drone that is powered by eight electric motors and uses rotors to achieve vertical takeoff and landing, as well as maneuvering in various directions

19. Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the _____ belt to understand the early solar system better.

- n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

20. The earth began to _____ and he knew he had to leave the building immediately.

- v.* to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time

21. He lifted her _____ with both hands.

- n.* a piece of fine cloth worn by women to cover or conceal the face; (verb) to cover, conceal, or obscure

22. My memories of the holiday were _____.

- adj.* not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something

ANSWERS: 16. rotorcraft, 17. recognizable, 18. octocopter, 19. asteroid, 20. quake, 21. veil, 22. hazy

23. _____ combustion is an important energy source for heating and electricity generation.
- n.* a colorless, odorless hydrocarbon gas with the molecular formula C_2H_6 that is a basic component of natural gas and is used as a fuel source and in the production of chemicals
24. He _____ himself in his research.
- v.* to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered
25. The smell of freshly baked cookies in the kitchen _____ me.
- v.* to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable
26. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

ANSWERS: 23. Ethane, 24. immersed, 25. tantalized, 26. determinant