

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Federica Bianco: How we use astrophysics to study earthbound problems | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

astrophysics

n. the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe

(1) **astrophysics** research, (2) neutrino **astrophysics**

He was studying **astrophysics** in an attempt to understand the origins of the universe.

restless

adj. unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy

synonym : agitated, anxious, disturbed

(1) a **restless** person, (2) **restless** waves

He felt **restless** and constantly changed his postures.

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.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym : detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity
The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

observatory

n. a building designed and equipped to observe the planets, the stars, the weather, etc.

(1) space **observatory**, (2) a meteorological **observatory**
That astronomical **observatory** stands at the top of the mountain.

astronomical

adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

synonym: huge, vast, enormous

(1) **astronomical** observation, (2) **astronomical** numbers
The cost of the new equipment was **astronomical** and beyond the company's budget.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population
She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

plume

n. a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat

synonym: feather, honor, token

(1) **plume** of smoke, (2) **plume** of feathers
The bird had a beautiful **plume** on its head.

skyline

n. the outline of buildings and other structures against the sky, especially when viewed from a distance

synonym: silhouette, cityscape, horizon

(1) **skyline** view, (2) downtown **skyline**
The **skyline** of the city was dotted with tall buildings.

evanescent

adj. fleeting or temporary; tending to fade or disappear quickly; of or relating to anything that has a short-lived existence or duration

synonym : fleeting, disappearing, transitory

(1) **evanescent** dream, (2) **evanescent** nature of fame
The beauty of the sunset was **evanescent** as it disappeared quickly behind the mountains.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

synonym : contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread
We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

smokestack

n. a vertical pipe or chimney, usually of brick or metal, through which smoke or exhaust gases from a fire or engine are discharged into the air

synonym : chimney, stack, flue

(1) **smokestack** emissions, (2) industrial **smokestack**
The **smokestack** on top of the factory released thick clouds of pollution into the air.

dashboard

n. a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview

synonym : control panel

(1) auto **dashboard**, (2) business **dashboard**
He noticed that the oil warning light on the **dashboard** of his car had turned on.

interstellar

adj. relating to or located in the space between stars

synonym : galactic, cosmic, intergalactic

(1) **interstellar** communication, (2) **interstellar** space
The **interstellar** medium comprises gas, dust, and cosmic rays that fill the space between stars.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

Session 2: Spelling

1. re____ss waves *adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
2. ex____e in popularity *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
3. eva_____nt dream *adj.* fleeting or temporary; tending to fade or disappear quickly; of or relating to anything that has a short-lived existence or duration
4. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
5. business da_____rd *n.* a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview
6. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
7. po_____e the thread *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
8. sk_____e view *n.* the outline of buildings and other structures against the sky, especially when viewed from a distance
9. a meteorological obs_____ry *n.* a building designed and equipped to observe the planets, the stars, the weather, etc.

ANSWERS: 1. restless, 2. explode, 3. evanescent, 4. resilient, 5. dashboard, 6. opportune, 7. pollute, 8. skyline, 9. observatory

10. ast_____cal observation *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
11. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
12. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
13. a re_____ss person *adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
14. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
15. ast_____ics research *n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe
16. ast_____cal numbers *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
17. smo_____ck emissions *n.* a vertical pipe or chimney, usually of brick or metal, through which smoke or exhaust gases from a fire or engine are discharged into the air
18. auto da_____rd *n.* a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview
19. space obs_____ry *n.* a building designed and equipped to observe the planets, the stars, the weather, etc.

ANSWERS: 10. astronomical, 11. resilient, 12. excite, 13. restless, 14. excite, 15. astrophysics, 16. astronomical, 17. smokestack, 18. dashboard, 19. observatory

20. eva_____nt nature of fame *adj.* fleeting or temporary; tending to fade or disappear quickly; of or relating to anything that has a short-lived existence or duration
21. ex_____e in anger *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
22. pl__e of feathers *n.* a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat
23. neutrino ast_____ics *n.* the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe
24. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
25. pl__e of smoke *n.* a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat
26. int_____lar space *adj.* relating to or located in the space between stars
27. int_____lar communication *adj.* relating to or located in the space between stars
28. po_____e the air *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

ANSWERS: 20. evanescent, 21. explode, 22. plume, 23. astrophysics, 24. opportune, 25. plume, 26. interstellar, 27. interstellar, 28. pollute

29. downtown sk____e

n. the outline of buildings and other structures against the sky, especially when viewed from a distance

30. industrial smo_____ck

n. a vertical pipe or chimney, usually of brick or metal, through which smoke or exhaust gases from a fire or engine are discharged into the air

ANSWERS: 29. skyline, 30. smokestack

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

2. He was studying _____ in an attempt to understand the origins of the universe.
n. the branch of physics concerned with the study of the properties and behavior of celestial objects and the physical processes that govern the behavior and evolution of the universe

3. The _____ on top of the factory released thick clouds of pollution into the air.
n. a vertical pipe or chimney, usually of brick or metal, through which smoke or exhaust gases from a fire or engine are discharged into the air

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

5. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.
v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

6. That astronomical _____ stands at the top of the mountain.
n. a building designed and equipped to observe the planets, the stars, the weather, etc.

7. He noticed that the oil warning light on the _____ of his car had turned on.
n. a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview

ANSWERS: 1. resilient, 2. astrophysics, 3. smokestack, 4. opportune, 5. exploded, 6. observatory, 7. dashboard

8. The _____ medium comprises gas, dust, and cosmic rays that fill the space between stars.
adj. relating to or located in the space between stars
9. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
10. The _____ of the city was dotted with tall buildings.
n. the outline of buildings and other structures against the sky, especially when viewed from a distance
11. The beauty of the sunset was _____ as it disappeared quickly behind the mountains.
adj. fleeting or temporary; tending to fade or disappear quickly; of or relating to anything that has a short-lived existence or duration
12. The bird had a beautiful _____ on its head.
n. a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat
13. He felt _____ and constantly changed his postures.
adj. unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
14. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.
v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
15. The cost of the new equipment was _____ and beyond the company's budget.
adj. relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude

ANSWERS: 8. interstellar, 9. excited, 10. skyline, 11. evanescent, 12. plume, 13. restless, 14. pollute, 15. astronomical

ANSWERS: