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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Fabio Pacucci: Could the Earth be swallowed by a black hole? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

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.

supernova

n. a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant

synonym: explosion, detonation, blast

(1) extragalactic **supernova**, (2) **supernova** remnant

The **supernova** explosion created a bright new star in the night sky.

exterminate

v. to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds

synonym: eradicate, eliminate, wipe out

(1) **exterminate** pests, (2) **exterminate** communism

The government **exterminated** the invasive species to protect native plants and animals.

wreak

v. to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events

synonym: cause, inflict, bring about

(1) **wreak** a lot of changes, (2) **wreak** further damage

The virus has **wreaked** havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.

havoc

n. widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events

synonym: destruction, devastation, ruin

(1) cause **havoc**, (2) play **havoc** in the mind

The storm wreaked **havoc** on the town, causing widespread damage and power outages.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym: frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

inescapable

adj. impossible to avoid or evade

synonym: unavoidable, inevitable, ineluctable

(1) **inescapable** fate, (2) an **inescapable** position

The consequences of his actions were **inescapable**, and he had to face the consequences.

warp

v. to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something

synonym: twist, distort, deform

(1) **warp** under pressure, (2) become **warped**

The ship's hull was **warped** from years of use in rough seas.

gravitational

adj. relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)

synonym: weighty, heavy, earthbound

(1) **gravitational** energy, (2) **gravitational** waves

The **gravitational** force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.

gobble

v. to eat or swallow something hurriedly, noisily, and greedily; to make the sound of a male turkey

synonym: devour, gulp, swallow

(1) **gobble** down food, (2) **gobble** up the competition

I always **gobble** my breakfast quickly because I'm usually in a rush.

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.

emit

v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.

synonym: give off, radiate, expel

(1) **emit** a gamma ray, (2) **emit** air pollution

During the unloading, the container box **emits** a clicking sound.

deflect

v. to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone

synonym: deter, redirect, sidetrack

(1) **deflect** a blow, (2) **deflect** his criticism

The soccer player was able to **deflect** the ball away from the goal.

minuscule

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym: tiny, insignificant, microscopic

(1) **minuscule** amount, (2) **minuscule** letters

This ore emits **minuscule** quantities of radiation

collide

v. to hit something violently when moving

synonym: clash, slam, contradict

(1) **collide** head-on, (2) **collide** in midair

The interests of the two countries **collide**.

galactic

adj. relating to or concerning the galaxy or galaxies; having characteristics or qualities that are vast, extensive, or cosmic in scope

synonym: cosmic, celestial, enormous

(1) **galactic** scale, (2) a **galactic** system

The Milky Way is a **galactic** collection of billions of stars and planets.

shadowy

adj. dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain

synonym: dim, dark, obscure

(1) **shadowy** doorway, (2) **shadowy** past

The **shadowy** figure in the corner of the room made me uneasy.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym: surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

Session 2: Spelling

1. environmental det _____nt
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
2. as _____id explorer
n. a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
3. wr __k a lot of changes
v. to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
4. as _____id mining
n. a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
5. ter _____ng experience
adj. very frightening or intimidating
6. gra _____nal waves
adj. relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
7. become w __ped
v. to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something
8. cause ha __c
n. widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events
9. ga _____ic scale
adj. relating to or concerning the galaxy or galaxies; having characteristics or qualities that are vast, extensive, or cosmic in scope

ANSWERS: 1. determinant, 2. asteroid, 3. wreak, 4. asteroid, 5. terrifying, 6. gravitational, 7. warp, 8. havoc, 9. galactic

10. wr__k further damage *v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
11. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
12. go___e up the competition *v.* to eat or swallow something hurriedly, noisily, and greedily; to make the sound of a male turkey
13. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
14. ine_____le fate *adj.* impossible to avoid or evade
15. mi_____le amount *adj.* extremely small; tiny
16. de_____t a blow *v.* to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
17. e__t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
18. e__t air pollution *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
19. co_____e head-on *v.* to hit something violently when moving
20. gra_____nal energy *adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
21. ext_____te communism *v.* to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds
22. w__p under pressure *v.* to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something

ANSWERS: 10. wreak, 11. astonishing, 12. gobble, 13. astonishing, 14. inescapable, 15. minuscule, 16. deflect, 17. emit, 18. emit, 19. collide, 20. gravitational, 21. exterminate, 22. warp

23. a ga____ic system *adj.* relating to or concerning the galaxy or galaxies; having characteristics or qualities that are vast, extensive, or cosmic in scope
24. an ine_____le position *adj.* impossible to avoid or evade
25. sh_____y doorway *adj.* dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain
26. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
27. mi_____le letters *adj.* extremely small; tiny
28. go___e down food *v.* to eat or swallow something hurriedly, noisily, and greedily; to make the sound of a male turkey
29. sh_____y past *adj.* dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain
30. de_____t his criticism *v.* to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
31. extragalactic su_____va *n.* a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
32. play ha__c in the mind *n.* widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events
33. ext_____te pests *v.* to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds
34. su_____va remnant *n.* a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant

ANSWERS: 23. galactic, 24. inescapable, 25. shadowy, 26. terrifying, 27. minuscule, 28. gobble, 29. shadowy, 30. deflect, 31. supernova, 32. havoc, 33. exterminate, 34. supernova

35. 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
36. co_____e in midair *v.* to hit something violently when moving

ANSWERS: 35. determinant, 36. collide

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
2. The Milky Way is a _____ collection of billions of stars and planets.
adj. relating to or concerning the galaxy or galaxies; having characteristics or qualities that are vast, extensive, or cosmic in scope
3. The _____ explosion created a bright new star in the night sky.
n. a powerful and luminous explosion that occurs in some stars, resulting in an extremely bright, short-lived object that later fades into a supernova remnant
4. The _____ force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.
adj. relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
5. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
6. 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
7. This ore emits _____ quantities of radiation
adj. extremely small; tiny

ANSWERS: 1. emits, 2. galactic, 3. supernova, 4. gravitational, 5. astonishing, 6. determinant, 7. minuscule

8. The government _____ the invasive species to protect native plants and animals.
- v. to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds
9. The ship's hull was _____ from years of use in rough seas.
- v. to twist or bend out of shape, especially as a result of being heated; to distort or twist the meaning or sense of something
10. The virus has _____ havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.
- v. to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
11. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.
- adj.* very frightening or intimidating
12. 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
13. The soccer player was able to _____ the ball away from the goal.
- v. to cause something, especially a criticism or attack, to be directed away from someone
14. I always _____ my breakfast quickly because I'm usually in a rush.
- v. to eat or swallow something hurriedly, noisily, and greedily; to make the sound of a male turkey
15. The consequences of his actions were _____ and he had to face the consequences.
- adj.* impossible to avoid or evade

ANSWERS: 8. exterminated, 9. warped, 10. wreaked, 11. terrifying, 12. asteroid, 13. deflect, 14. gobble, 15. inescapable,

16. The storm wreaked _____ on the town, causing widespread damage and power outages.

n. widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events

17. The interests of the two countries _____.

v. to hit something violently when moving

18. The _____ figure in the corner of the room made me uneasy.

adj. dark, dim, or vague, as if obscured by shadows; mysterious or uncertain

ANSWERS: 16. havoc, 17. collide, 18. shadowy