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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Karen J. Meech: The story of 'Oumuamua, the first visitor from another star system | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

lookout

n. a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence

synonym : watchman, sentinel, guard

(1) **lookout** team, (2) on the **lookout** for danger

The **lookout** tower provided a clear view of the surrounding area.

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.

astronomer

n. a physicist who studies astronomy

synonym : stargazer, cosmologist, astrophysicist

(1) amateur **astronomer**, (2) solar **astronomer**

This question has fascinated solar **astronomers** for decades.

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.

comet

n. a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun

synonym: meteor, asteroid, meteoroid

(1) the surface of the **comet**, (2) **comet** Halley

The **comet's** bright tail could be seen in the night sky.

constellation

n. a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people

synonym: asterism, array, pattern

(1) the stars of the Scorpion **constellation**, (2) northern **constellation**

Navigators still use the Little Bear **constellation** at sea.

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.

unwieldy

adj. challenging to move or handle because of its size, shape, or weight; difficult to manage or organize because of its enormity or complexity

synonym: bulky, cumbersome, ungainly

(1) **unwieldy** amount of information, (2) **unwieldy** rules and regulations

A piano is an **unwieldy** thing to get down a flight of stairs.

Arthurian

adj. relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him

(1) the **Arthurian** cycle, (2) **Arthurian** romances

The **Arthurian** legends of King Arthur and the knights of the Round Table are popular literary motifs.

linguist

n. a person who speaks several foreign languages; a person who studies or teaches languages or linguistics

synonym: grammarist, philologue, polyglot

(1) foreign **linguist**, (2) cognitive **linguist**

Though I love literature, I'm a bad **linguist**.

scout

n. a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations

synonym: scoutmaster, explorer, surveyor

(1) boy **scout**, (2) **scout** troop

The company sent a **scout** to explore new business opportunities in the overseas market.

leftover

adj. not consumed or used at the end of something

synonym: extra, residual, unused

(1) **leftover** from a party, (2) **leftover** goods

The chef will make soup with the **leftover** ham bone.

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.

eject

v. to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position

synonym: discharge, expel, emit

(1) **eject** a player from a game, (2) **eject** huge amounts of pollutant

Our immune system can **eject** disease germs from the body.

dusty

adj. covered with or characterized by dust; having a dry, powdery texture or appearance; having a lot of dust or dirt in the air

synonym : stale, filthy, grimy

(1) **dusty** road, (2) **dusty** bookshelf

The abandoned warehouse was covered in a thick layer of **dusty** debris.

shiver

v. to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly

synonym : quiver, tremble, shake

(1) **shiver** with delight, (2) **shiver** in fear

I **shiver** in the cold winter air as I wait for the train.

distill

v. to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements

synonym : extract, condense, purify

(1) **distill** a liquid, (2) **distill** information

She decided to **distill** her thoughts into a more manageable list.

mince

v. to chop or cut food into very small pieces, often with a knife or food processor; to walk in an affected or dainty manner, as if taking very small steps; to soften the impact of one's speech by using tactful language or diplomatic phrasing

synonym : chop, grind, dice

(1) **mince** around town, (2) **mince** meat

Be sure to **mince** the garlic finely for the pasta sauce.

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.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned

synonym : later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

firefly

n. a flying nocturnal insect common in warm regions with a tail that shines in the dark

(1) the glow of a **firefly**, (2) sparkle like **firefly**

In that country, there is a culture of eating live **firefly** squid.

oblong

n. an elongated shape that is roughly rectangular or oval in shape

synonym: rectangle, elongated, extended

(1) **oblong** shape, (2) **oblong** box

The **oblong** table was perfect for hosting a large dinner party.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym: perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

wobble

v. to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down

synonym: sway, rock, totter

(1) **wobble** a few steps, (2) **wobble** chair

The table **wobbled** a little when I put my drink on it.

nod

v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym: respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

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.

rethink

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

fingerprint

n. a unique pattern of ridges and valleys on the surface of a finger that can be used to identify a person

synonym: print, mark, impression

(1) **fingerprint** at a crime scene, (2) **fingerprint** identification

The police used a **fingerprint** scanner to identify the suspect.

meteorite

n. a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space

synonym: meteor, shooting star, asteroid

(1) **meteorite** impact, (2) **meteorite** shower

The **meteorite** fragments were collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis.

archaeology

n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures

(1) the institute of **archaeology**, (2) prehistoric **archaeology**

She teaches **archaeology** at the local university.

remnant

n. a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something

synonym : remainder, leftover, residue

(1) **remnant** of the past, (2) **remnants** of fabric

The only **remnant** left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.

celestial

adj. relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens

synonym : heavenly, divine, ethereal

(1) **celestial** bliss, (2) **celestial** navigation

The **celestial** bodies in the night sky were beautiful to behold.

driftwood

n. wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel

synonym : floatwood, beachwood, logwood

(1) **driftwood** art, (2) beach **driftwood**

A large **driftwood** branch provided a perfect perch for the seagull to rest on.

shred

v. to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount

synonym : rip up, tear up, cut

(1) **shred** paper into little pieces, (2) **shred** lettuce for a salad

There is not a **shred** of evidence that he is guilty.

throe

n. a severe or intense spasm of pain, such as a pang of childbirth or the spasms of a dying person; a period of intense stress or difficulty

synonym : spasm, pang, throb

(1) the **throes** of a financial crisis, (2) **throes** of death

She writhed in the **throes** of pain during labor.

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.

tumble

v. to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance

synonym : fall, stumble, plummet

(1) **tumble** down the hill, (2) confidence **tumbles** as unemployment rates rose

The value of the currency **tumbled** against major international currencies.

trajectory

n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space

synonym : course, curve, orbit

(1) career **trajectory**, (2) a **trajectory** missile

The company has shown an excellent growth **trajectory** over the years.

synoptic

adj. relating to a brief and general overview or summary of something, often used to describe a concise account or summary of a written work or event

synonym : summary, concise, condensed

(1) **synoptic** chart, (2) **synoptic** problem

The **synoptic** view of the city from the observatory was breathtaking.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. di____l a liquid | <i>v.</i> to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements |
| 2. ob____g shape | <i>n.</i> an elongated shape that is roughly rectangular or oval in shape |
| 3. sparkle like fi____y | <i>n.</i> a flying nocturnal insect common in warm regions with a tail that shines in the dark |
| 4. sy____ic problem | <i>adj.</i> relating to a brief and general overview or summary of something, often used to describe a concise account or summary of a written work or event |
| 5. on the lo____t for danger | <i>n.</i> a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence |
| 6. foreign li____st | <i>n.</i> a person who speaks several foreign languages; a person who studies or teaches languages or linguistics |
| 7. re____k a marketing plan | <i>v.</i> to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it |
| 8. sc__t troop | <i>n.</i> a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations |
| 9. cognitive li____st | <i>n.</i> a person who speaks several foreign languages; a person who studies or teaches languages or linguistics |

ANSWERS: 1. distill, 2. oblong, 3. firefly, 4. synoptic, 5. lookout, 6. linguist, 7. rethink, 8. scout, 9. linguist

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 10. the glow of a fi____y | <i>n.</i> a flying nocturnal insect common in warm regions with a tail that shines in the dark |
| 11. prehistoric arc_____gy | <i>n.</i> the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures |
| 12. un____dy rules and regulations | <i>adj.</i> challenging to move or handle because of its size, shape, or weight; difficult to manage or organize because of its enormity or complexity |
| 13. ej__t huge amounts of pollutant | <i>v.</i> to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position |
| 14. int_____lar space | <i>adj.</i> relating to or located in the space between stars |
| 15. le____er goods | <i>adj.</i> not consumed or used at the end of something |
| 16. me_____te impact | <i>n.</i> a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space |
| 17. a tra_____ry missile | <i>n.</i> the curved path followed by an object moving through space |
| 18. le____er from a party | <i>adj.</i> not consumed or used at the end of something |
| 19. career tra_____ry | <i>n.</i> the curved path followed by an object moving through space |
| 20. northern con_____ion | <i>n.</i> a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people |

ANSWERS: 10. firefly, 11. archaeology, 12. unwieldy, 13. eject, 14. interstellar, 15. leftover, 16. meteorite, 17. trajectory, 18. leftover, 19. trajectory, 20. constellation

21. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
22. sy_____ic chart *adj.* relating to a brief and general overview or summary of something, often used to describe a concise account or summary of a written work or event
23. du__y road *adj.* covered with or characterized by dust; having a dry, powdery texture or appearance; having a lot of dust or dirt in the air
24. beach dr_____od *n.* wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel
25. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
26. mi__e meat *v.* to chop or cut food into very small pieces, often with a knife or food processor; to walk in an affected or dainty manner, as if taking very small steps; to soften the impact of one's speech by using tactful language or diplomatic phrasing
27. mi__e around town *v.* to chop or cut food into very small pieces, often with a knife or food processor; to walk in an affected or dainty manner, as if taking very small steps; to soften the impact of one's speech by using tactful language or diplomatic phrasing
28. ob____g box *n.* an elongated shape that is roughly rectangular or oval in shape

ANSWERS: 21. industrious, 22. synoptic, 23. dusty, 24. driftwood, 25. afterward, 26. mince, 27. mince, 28. oblong

29. un____dy amount of information *adj.* challenging to move or handle because of its size, shape, or weight; difficult to manage or organize because of its enormity or complexity
30. ex____e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
31. re____k the role of the manager *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
32. sh____r with delight *v.* to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly
33. me____te shower *n.* a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space
34. fin____nt identification *n.* a unique pattern of ridges and valleys on the surface of a finger that can be used to identify a person
35. ind____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
36. wo____e a few steps *v.* to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down
37. n_d at each other *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
38. as____id mining *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

ANSWERS: 29. unwieldy, 30. excite, 31. rethink, 32. shiver, 33. meteorite, 34. fingerprint, 35. industrious, 36. wobble, 37. nod, 38. asteroid

39. ast_____cal numbers *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
40. fin_____nt at a crime scene *n.* a unique pattern of ridges and valleys on the surface of a finger that can be used to identify a person
41. co__t Halley *n.* a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun
42. a meteorological obs_____ry *n.* a building designed and equipped to observe the planets, the stars, the weather, etc.
43. confidence tu___es as unemployment rates rose *v.* to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance
44. the surface of the co__t *n.* a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun
45. th__es of death *n.* a severe or intense spasm of pain, such as a pang of childbirth or the spasms of a dying person; a period of intense stress or difficulty
46. ce_____al bliss *adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
47. dr_____od art *n.* wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel

ANSWERS: 39. astronomical, 40. fingerprint, 41. comet, 42. observatory, 43. tumble, 44. comet, 45. throe, 46. celestial, 47. driftwood

48. cast i_y eyes *adj.* covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness
49. boy sc__t *n.* a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations
50. n_d courteously *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
51. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
52. amateur ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
53. tu___e down the hill *v.* to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance
54. sh__d paper into little pieces *v.* to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount
55. the institute of arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
56. begin to r_t *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
57. re_____ts of fabric *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something

ANSWERS: 48. icy, 49. scout, 50. nod, 51. excite, 52. astronomer, 53. tumble, 54. shred, 55. archaeology, 56. rot, 57. remnant

58. as____id explorer *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
59. ej__t a player from a game *v.* to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position
60. space obs_____ry *n.* a building designed and equipped to observe the planets, the stars, the weather, etc.
61. int_____lar communication *adj.* relating to or located in the space between stars
62. sh__d lettuce for a salad *v.* to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount
63. sh___r in fear *v.* to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly
64. 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
65. the Ar_____an cycle *adj.* relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him
66. ast_____cal observation *adj.* relating to astronomy or the study of celestial bodies and phenomena; very large or immense in scale or magnitude
67. i_y clouds *adj.* covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness
68. 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: 58. asteroid, 59. eject, 60. observatory, 61. interstellar, 62. shred, 63. shiver, 64. supernova, 65. Arthurian, 66. astronomical, 67. icy, 68. supernova

69. ce_____al navigation *adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
70. wo___e chair *v.* to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down
71. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
72. du__y bookshelf *adj.* covered with or characterized by dust; having a dry, powdery texture or appearance; having a lot of dust or dirt in the air
73. the th___es of a financial crisis *n.* a severe or intense spasm of pain, such as a pang of childbirth or the spasms of a dying person; a period of intense stress or difficulty
74. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
75. the stars of the Scorpion
con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
76. Ar_____an romances *adj.* relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him
77. lo_____t team *n.* a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence
78. solar ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
79. re_____t of the past *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something

ANSWERS: 69. celestial, 70. wobble, 71. afterward, 72. dusty, 73. throe, 74. rot, 75. constellation, 76. Arthurian, 77. lookout, 78. astronomer, 79. remnant

80. di____l information

v. to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements

ANSWERS: 80. distill

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. 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
2. The abandoned warehouse was covered in a thick layer of _____ debris.
adj. covered with or characterized by dust; having a dry, powdery texture or appearance; having a lot of dust or dirt in the air
3. The _____ view of the city from the observatory was breathtaking.
adj. relating to a brief and general overview or summary of something, often used to describe a concise account or summary of a written work or event
4. In that country, there is a culture of eating live _____ squid.
n. a flying nocturnal insect common in warm regions with a tail that shines in the dark
5. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
6. The _____ bright tail could be seen in the night sky.
n. a celestial object consisting of a nucleus of ice and dust that goes around the sun
7. The company has shown an excellent growth _____ over the years.
n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space

ANSWERS: 1. astronomical, 2. dusty, 3. synoptic, 4. firefly, 5. nodded, 6. comet's, 7. trajectory

8. The _____ legends of King Arthur and the knights of the Round Table are popular literary motifs.

adj. relating to king Arthur and the tales and legends associated with him

9. This question has fascinated solar _____ for decades.

n. a physicist who studies astronomy

10. The ___ surface of the pond was not safe for skating.

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

11. The chef will make soup with the _____ ham bone.

adj. not consumed or used at the end of something

12. The police used a _____ scanner to identify the suspect.

n. a unique pattern of ridges and valleys on the surface of a finger that can be used to identify a person

13. She teaches _____ at the local university.

n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures

14. The news of her promotion _____ her.

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

15. She decided to _____ her thoughts into a more manageable list.

v. to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements

16. The table _____ a little when I put my drink on it.

v. to move or shake unsteadily from side to side or up and down

ANSWERS: 8. Arthurian, 9. astronomers, 10. icy, 11. leftover, 12. fingerprint, 13. archaeology, 14. excited, 15. distill, 16. wobbled

17. The company sent a _____ to explore new business opportunities in the overseas market.

- n.* a person or group sent out to obtain information, gather intelligence, or make observations, typically in a military context; a person or group sent out to explore or prospect for new opportunities, resources, or locations

18. There is not a _____ of evidence that he is guilty.

- v.* to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount

19. I _____ in the cold winter air as I wait for the train.

- v.* to shake or quiver with cold, fear, or excitement; to tremble or vibrate rapidly

20. We have to _____ our company's product lineup for further growth.

- v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

21. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.

- v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

22. 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

23. A large _____ branch provided a perfect perch for the seagull to rest on.

- n.* wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel

24. She writhed in the _____ of pain during labor.

- n.* a severe or intense spasm of pain, such as a pang of childbirth or the spasms of a dying person; a period of intense stress or difficulty

ANSWERS: 17. scout, 18. shred, 19. shiver, 20. rethink, 21. rot, 22. supernova, 23. driftwood, 24. throes

25. Be sure to _____ the garlic finely for the pasta sauce.

- v. to chop or cut food into very small pieces, often with a knife or food processor; to walk in an affected or dainty manner, as if taking very small steps; to soften the impact of one's speech by using tactful language or diplomatic phrasing

26. Our immune system can _____ disease germs from the body.

- v. to force someone to put out or leave a particular place or position

27. The _____ medium comprises gas, dust, and cosmic rays that fill the space between stars.

- adj. relating to or located in the space between stars

28. The _____ fragments were collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis.

- n. a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space

29. The value of the currency _____ against major international currencies.

- v. to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance

30. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.

- adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

31. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.

- adv. after the time mentioned

32. Though I love literature, I'm a bad _____.

- n. a person who speaks several foreign languages; a person who studies or teaches languages or linguistics

ANSWERS: 25. mince, 26. eject, 27. interstellar, 28. meteorite, 29. tumbled, 30. industrious, 31. afterward, 32. linguist

33. 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
34. A piano is an _____ thing to get down a flight of stairs.
- adj.* challenging to move or handle because of its size, shape, or weight; difficult to manage or organize because of its enormity or complexity
35. The _____ bodies in the night sky were beautiful to behold.
- adj.* relating to the sky or the heavens; of or like the sky or the heavens
36. Navigators still use the Little Bear _____ at sea.
- n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
37. The _____ tower provided a clear view of the surrounding area.
- n.* a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence
38. That astronomical _____ stands at the top of the mountain.
- n.* a building designed and equipped to observe the planets, the stars, the weather, etc.
39. The only _____ left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.
- n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
40. The _____ table was perfect for hosting a large dinner party.
- n.* an elongated shape that is roughly rectangular or oval in shape

ANSWERS: 33. asteroid, 34. unwieldy, 35. celestial, 36. constellation, 37. lookout, 38. observatory, 39. remnant, 40. oblong

ANSWERS: