

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Aomawa Shields: How we'll find life on other planets | TED Talk

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

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

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.

exoplanet

n. a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system

(1) the closest **exoplanet** to Earth, (2) **exoplanet** mission

The **exoplanet** Kepler-186f is located 500 light-years from Earth and is believed to be habitable.

Venus

n. the planet second in order from the sun

(1) **Venus** orbiter, (2) surface of **Venus**

They launched a rocket toward **Venus**.

benign

adj. kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious

synonym: kind, gentle, harmless

(1) **benign** tumor, (2) a **benign** smile

The lump was discovered to be **benign**, and no further treatment was needed.

ethereal

adj. delicate, light, and airy; extremely refined or subtle; heavenly or spiritual

synonym:

airy, delicate, celestial

(1) **ethereal** beauty, (2) **ethereal** light

The **ethereal** music created a dreamlike atmosphere in the concert hall.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

steroid

n. any of several organic compounds that are produced in the body and have important physiological effects and affect the development and growth of sex organs

(1) **steroid** abuse, (2) a **steroid** hormone

Some **steroids** are banned for use by athletes because of their muscle-building effects.

scorch

v. to burn the surface of something, usually accidentally, with a hot iron or flame

synonym : char, burn, singe

(1) **scorch** your clothes, (2) careful not to **scorch**

The sun **scorched** the desert, making it uninhabitable.

contradict

v. to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with

synonym : conflict, oppose, belie

(1) **contradict** each other, (2) **contradict** the principle

The book contains numerous statements that **contradict** previous reports.

glamorous

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

synonym : alluring, bewitching, enchanting

(1) **glamorous** movie stars, (2) cast **glamorous** eyes
The south coast is less **glamorous** yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

headlight

n. a bright forward-facing light on a vehicle, typically used at night to illuminate the road ahead

synonym: headlamp, beam, lamp

(1) **headlight** adjustment, (2) **headlight** switch

My car's **headlight** must be replaced before I drive again at night.

iceberg

n. a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier

synonym: glacier, ice mass, floe

(1) hit an **iceberg**, (2) **iceberg** melting

The ship encountered a series of **icebergs** and had to change its course.

interweave

v. to combine or blend substantive parts or elements; to interlace; to mix or intermingle

synonym: intertwine, intertwist, interlace

(1) **interweave** threads, (2) **interweave** ideas

The author expertly tried to **interweave** the story's plot and characters.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------|---|
| 1. careful not to sc___h | v. | to burn the surface of something, usually accidentally, with a hot iron or flame |
| 2. ic____g melting | n. | a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier |
| 3. a st____d hormone | n. | any of several organic compounds that are produced in the body and have important physiological effects and affect the development and growth of sex organs |
| 4. he_____ht adjustment | n. | a bright forward-facing light on a vehicle, typically used at night to illuminate the road ahead |
| 5. ex_____et mission | n. | a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system |
| 6. st____d abuse | n. | any of several organic compounds that are produced in the body and have important physiological effects and affect the development and growth of sex organs |
| 7. surface of Ve__s | n. | the planet second in order from the sun |
| 8. int_____ve ideas | v. | to combine or blend substantive parts or elements; to interlace; to mix or intermingle |
| 9. Ve__s orbiter | n. | the planet second in order from the sun |
| 10. be___n tumor | adj. | kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious |

ANSWERS: 1. scorch, 2. iceberg, 3. steroid, 4. headlight, 5. exoplanet, 6. steroid, 7. Venus, 8. interweave, 9. Venus, 10. benign

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 11. the closest ex_____et to Earth | <i>n.</i> a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system |
| 12. con_____ct each other | <i>v.</i> to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with |
| 13. hit an ic_____g | <i>n.</i> a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier |
| 14. gl_____us movie stars | <i>adj.</i> highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people |
| 15. solar ast_____er | <i>n.</i> a physicist who studies astronomy |
| 16. cast gl_____us eyes | <i>adj.</i> highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people |
| 17. con_____ct the principle | <i>v.</i> to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with |
| 18. he_____ht switch | <i>n.</i> a bright forward-facing light on a vehicle, typically used at night to illuminate the road ahead |
| 19. et_____al beauty | <i>adj.</i> delicate, light, and airy; extremely refined or subtle; heavenly or spiritual |
| 20. low-r_v engine | <i>n.</i> a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute |
| 21. et_____al light | <i>adj.</i> delicate, light, and airy; extremely refined or subtle; heavenly or spiritual |
| 22. amateur ast_____er | <i>n.</i> a physicist who studies astronomy |

ANSWERS: 11. exoplanet, 12. contradict, 13. iceberg, 14. glamorous, 15. astronomer, 16. glamorous, 17. contradict, 18. headlight, 19. ethereal, 20. rev, 21. ethereal, 22. astronomer

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
2. Some _____ are banned for use by athletes because of their muscle-building effects.
n. any of several organic compounds that are produced in the body and have important physiological effects and affect the development and growth of sex organs
3. This question has fascinated solar _____ for decades.
n. a physicist who studies astronomy
4. The sun _____ the desert, making it uninhabitable.
v. to burn the surface of something, usually accidentally, with a hot iron or flame
5. The lump was discovered to be _____ and no further treatment was needed.
adj. kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious
6. The author expertly tried to _____ the story's plot and characters.
v. to combine or blend substantive parts or elements; to interlace; to mix or intermingle
7. My car's _____ must be replaced before I drive again at night.
n. a bright forward-facing light on a vehicle, typically used at night to illuminate the road ahead

ANSWERS: 1. rev, 2. steroids, 3. astronomers, 4. scorched, 5. benign, 6. interweave, 7. headlight

8. The _____ music created a dreamlike atmosphere in the concert hall.
adj. delicate, light, and airy; extremely refined or subtle; heavenly or spiritual
9. The _____ Kepler-186f is located 500 light-years from Earth and is believed to be habitable.
n. a planet that orbits a star outside of the solar system
10. The south coast is less _____ yet has many clean and appealing hotels.
adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
11. They launched a rocket toward _____.
n. the planet second in order from the sun
12. The ship encountered a series of _____ and had to change its course.
n. a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier
13. The book contains numerous statements that _____ previous reports.
v. to deny the truth of a statement by stating the opposite; to be in conflict with

ANSWERS: 8. ethereal, 9. exoplanet, 10. glamorous, 11. Venus, 12. icebergs, 13. contradict