

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Roey Tzezana: Could human civilization spread across the whole galaxy? | TED Talk

[https://www.ted.com/talks/roey_tzezana_could_huma
n_civilization_spread_across_the_whole_galaxy](https://www.ted.com/talks/roey_tzezana_could_human_civilization_spread_across_the_whole_galaxy)

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

daunting

adj. looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something

synonym : intimidating, stunning, disheartening

(1) face the **daunting** reality, (2) seem like a **daunting** task
My homework was **daunting** and complex, but it was also intriguing.

trudge

v. to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously

synonym : plod, slog, hike

(1) **trudge** through mud, (2) **trudge** up the hill

The hiker **trudged** through the dense forest, chopping his way with a machete.

gulf

n. a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land

synonym : chasm, divide, abyss

(1) **gulf** war, (2) **gulf** stream

The **Gulf** of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.

replicate

v. to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results

synonym: duplicate, imitate, reproduce

(1) **replicate** the cell, (2) **replicate** data

The experiment was **replicated** several times to ensure accuracy.

self-sufficient

adj. able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others

synonym: independent, self-reliant, self-sustaining

(1) **self-sufficient** economy, (2) **self-sufficient** renewable energy

He was determined to become **self-sufficient** and not rely on anyone else.

fishbowl

n. a round glass or plastic container used for keeping fish or other aquatic animals as pets

synonym: fish tank, aquarium

(1) **fishbowl** effect, (2) empty **fishbowl**

The goldfish in the **fishbowl** looked happy and healthy.

crunch

n. a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation

synonym: crushing, snapping, crisis

(1) financial **crunch**, (2) a gas **crunch**

The **crunch** of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.

propulsion

n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

synonym: propelling, driving, actuation

(1) **propulsion** technology, (2) nuclear **propulsion**

The spacecraft's **propulsion** system helped it travel through space.

swarm

n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

synonym : horde, hive, throng

(1) a **swarm** of mosquitoes, (2) locust **swarm**

A **swarm** of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.

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.

hurtle

v. to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way

synonym : throw, hurl, fling

(1) **hurtle** into a tunnel, (2) **hurtle** through life

The car **hurtled** down the highway at breakneck speed.

scavenge

v. to search for or gather useful material, particularly food or other resources, from discarded waste or other sources

synonym : search, scrounge, rummage

(1) **scavenge** for food, (2) **scavenge** for iron scraps

The raccoon **scavenged** through the garbage cans in search of food.

extinct

adj. no longer in existence

synonym : dead, obsolete, abolished

(1) **extinct** by human activity, (2) long- **extinct** volcano

Many species have become **extinct** due to habitat destruction and other human activities.

proliferate

v. to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner

synonym : multiply, spread, propagate

(1) **proliferate** cells, (2) **proliferate** weeds

The number of COVID cases continued to **proliferate** in many countries worldwide.

greet

v. to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone

synonym: welcome, salute, acknowledge

(1) **greet** a customer, (2) **greet** an idea

He **greeted** his friends with a warm smile and a hug.

sophistication

n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined

synonym: refinement, culture, elegance

(1) cultural **sophistication**, (2) linguistic **sophistication**

The new technology added a level of **sophistication** to the manufacturing process.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. sc____ge for food | <i>v.</i> to search for or gather useful material, particularly food or other resources, from discarded waste or other sources |
| 2. cultural sop_____ion | <i>n.</i> the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined |
| 3. hu___e through life | <i>v.</i> to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way |
| 4. fi____wl effect | <i>n.</i> a round glass or plastic container used for keeping fish or other aquatic animals as pets |
| 5. sc____ge for iron scraps | <i>v.</i> to search for or gather useful material, particularly food or other resources, from discarded waste or other sources |
| 6. pro_____on technology | <i>n.</i> the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means |
| 7. face the da_____ng reality | <i>adj.</i> looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something |
| 8. a gas cr___h | <i>n.</i> a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation |

ANSWERS: 1. scavenge, 2. sophistication, 3. hurtle, 4. fishbowl, 5. scavenge, 6. propulsion, 7. daunting, 8. crunch

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 9. long-ex____t volcano | <i>adj.</i> no longer in existence |
| 10. sel_____ent renewable energy | <i>adj.</i> able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others |
| 11. re_____te data | <i>v.</i> to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results |
| 12. linguistic sop_____ion | <i>n.</i> the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined |
| 13. pro_____te weeds | <i>v.</i> to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner |
| 14. g__f stream | <i>n.</i> a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land |
| 15. tr___e up the hill | <i>v.</i> to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously |
| 16. g__f war | <i>n.</i> a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land |
| 17. sel_____ent economy | <i>adj.</i> able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others |
| 18. financial cr___h | <i>n.</i> a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation |
| 19. gr__t an idea | <i>v.</i> to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone |

ANSWERS: 9. extinct, 10. self-sufficient, 11. replicate, 12. sophistication, 13. proliferate, 14. gulf, 15. trudge, 16. gulf, 17. self-sufficient, 18. crunch, 19. greet

20. hu___e into a tunnel *v.* to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way
21. empty fi_____wl *n.* a round glass or plastic container used for keeping fish or other aquatic animals as pets
22. tr___e through mud *v.* to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously
23. re_____te the cell *v.* to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results
24. seem like a da_____ng task *adj.* looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something
25. a sw__m of mosquitoes *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
26. ex_____t by human activity *adj.* no longer in existence
27. solar ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
28. pro_____te cells *v.* to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner
29. gr__t a customer *v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
30. amateur ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy

ANSWERS: 20. hurtle, 21. fishbowl, 22. trudge, 23. replicate, 24. daunting, 25. swarm, 26. extinct, 27. astronomer, 28. proliferate, 29. greet, 30. astronomer

31. nuclear pro_____on

n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

32. locust sw__m

n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

ANSWERS: 31. propulsion, 32. swarm

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. A _____ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.
n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

2. The car _____ down the highway at breakneck speed.
v. to move quickly and forcefully, especially in an uncontrolled or dangerous way

3. The experiment was _____ several times to ensure accuracy.
v. to make an exact copy of something; to repeat a process or experiment to confirm the results

4. The hiker _____ through the dense forest, chopping his way with a machete.
v. to walk or march slowly and heavily, typically due to exhaustion, difficulty, or reluctance; to move with effort or laboriously

5. The spacecraft's _____ system helped it travel through space.
n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

6. The number of COVID cases continued to _____ in many countries worldwide.
v. to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner

7. This question has fascinated solar _____ for decades.
n. a physicist who studies astronomy

ANSWERS: 1. swarm, 2. hurtled, 3. replicated, 4. trudged, 5. propulsion, 6. proliferate, 7. astronomers

8. The new technology added a level of _____ to the manufacturing process.
- n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
9. The _____ of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.
- n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
10. He _____ his friends with a warm smile and a hug.
- v.* to say hello to someone; to express welcome on meeting someone
11. Many species have become _____ due to habitat destruction and other human activities.
- adj.* no longer in existence
12. He was determined to become _____ and not rely on anyone else.
- adj.* able to provide for one's own needs without assistance from others
13. The goldfish in the _____ looked happy and healthy.
- n.* a round glass or plastic container used for keeping fish or other aquatic animals as pets
14. The _____ of the leaves underfoot was heard as they walked through the park.
- n.* a loud, crackling noise made by something being crushed or broken; a difficult or critical situation
15. My homework was _____ and complex, but it was also intriguing.
- adj.* looking challenging to manage in prospect; making someone anxious and less confident about carrying out something

ANSWERS: 8. sophistication, 9. Gulf, 10. greeted, 11. extinct, 12. self-sufficient, 13. fishbowl, 14. crunch, 15. daunting

16. The raccoon _____ through the garbage cans in search of food.

- v. to search for or gather useful material, particularly food or other resources, from discarded waste or other sources

ANSWERS: 16. scavenged