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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Lucianne Walkowicz: Let's not use Mars as a backup planet | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- 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**.
- trove** *n.* a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
synonym : hoard, collection, assemblage
(1) **trove** of information, (2) stumble on a **trove**
The treasure **trove** of ancient artifacts was a museum's dream come true.
- sag** *v.* to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something
synonym : droop, slump, bend
(1) **sag** my jaw, (2) **sag** with fatigue
The old mattress **sagged** in the middle, making it uncomfortable to sleep on.

outpace

v. to move or proceed at a faster rate than someone or something else; to surpass or exceed someone's or something's performance or ability

synonym: outdistance, outstrip, overtake

(1) **outpace** market share, (2) **outpace** economic growth
Her running speed allowed her to **outpace** her competitors and win the race.

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.

rover

n. a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon

synonym: vehicle, robot, explorer

(1) **rover** mission, (2) lunar **rover**

The **rover** on Mars is gathering data on the planet's surface and sending it back to Earth.

Martian

adj. of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants

(1) **Martian** geography, (2) **Martian** surface

There is very little water in the **Martian** atmosphere.

spaceflight

n. the act of traveling into space, either by means of crewed or uncrewed spacecraft; the technology and infrastructure required to support space travel

synonym: space travel, orbital flight

(1) private **spaceflight**, (2) **spaceflight** industry

Spaceflight technology has advanced significantly since the first man landed on the moon in 1969.

tantalize

v. to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable

synonym: tease, tempt, torment

(1) **tantalize** taste buds, (2) **tantalize** with promises

The smell of freshly baked cookies in the kitchen **tantalized** me.

exhale

v. to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently

synonym: breathe out, expel, emit

(1) **exhale** a big sigh, (2) **exhale** cigarette smoke

He took a deep breath and slowly began to **exhale**.

rainforest

n. a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

(1) **rainforest** destruction, (2) tropical **rainforest**

The destruction of the **rainforest** is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

inflict

v. to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something

synonym: impose, levy, administer

(1) **inflict** a heavier tax, (2) **inflict** a hard blow

The storm **inflicted** significant damage on the town.

interplanetary

adj. relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication

synonym: interstellar, planetary, celestial

(1) **interplanetary** debris, (2) **interplanetary** exploration

Scientists are working on developing **interplanetary** travel to explore other planets in our solar system.

titanic

adj. of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

synonym: colossal, massive, immense

(1) **titanic** battle, (2) **titanic** compound

The **titanic** ship sank on its maiden voyage.

lifeboat

n. a small boat designed to be launched from a larger vessel in case of an emergency, typically used to rescue

passengers or crew members in danger of drowning
synonym : rescue boat, safety boat, emergency vessel

(1) launch **lifeboat**, (2) coastal **lifeboat** station

The passengers were evacuated from the sinking ship and boarded the **lifeboat**.

inhospitable

adj. harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you

synonym : sterile, unfriendly, unwelcoming

(1) **inhospitable** environment, (2) in an **inhospitable** manner

He trekked across some of the most **inhospitable** mountains in the world.

paradox

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

synonym : incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap

There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

physicist

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

hubris

n. excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin

synonym : arrogance, conceit, pride

(1) political **hubris**, (2) **hubris** in business

The athlete's **hubris** resulted in him underestimating his competition and losing the game.

colonize

v. to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

synonym : settle, occupy, inhabit

(1) **colonize** planets, (2) **colonize** for cultivation
European powers **colonized** much of the Americas in the
16th and 17th centuries.

surmount

v. to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or
challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something
synonym: overcome, conquer, prevail

(1) **surmount** fears, (2) **surmount** challenges
You can **surmount** any obstacle in your path with
determination and hard work.

Session 2: Spelling

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. lunar ro__r | <i>n.</i> a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon |
| 2. co____ze for cultivation | <i>v.</i> to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers |
| 3. stumble on a tr__e | <i>n.</i> a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth |
| 4. r_v up the crowd | <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 |
| 5. political hu____s | <i>n.</i> excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin |
| 6. private spa_____ht | <i>n.</i> the act of traveling into space, either by means of crewed or uncrewed spacecraft; the technology and infrastructure required to support space travel |
| 7. ou____e market share | <i>v.</i> to move or proceed at a faster rate than someone or something else; to surpass or exceed someone's or something's performance or ability |
| 8. in____t a hard blow | <i>v.</i> to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something |

ANSWERS: 1. rover, 2. colonize, 3. trove, 4. rev, 5. hubris, 6. spaceflight, 7. outpace, 8. inflict

- | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9. talented ph_____st | <i>n.</i> a scientist who specializes in the field of physics |
| 10. launch li_____at | <i>n.</i> a small boat designed to be launched from a larger vessel in case of an emergency, typically used to rescue passengers or crew members in danger of drowning |
| 11. French pa_____x | <i>n.</i> a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange; |
| 12. int_____ary exploration | <i>adj.</i> relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication |
| 13. ta_____ze taste buds | <i>v.</i> to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable |
| 14. ex_____e a big sigh | <i>v.</i> to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently |
| 15. ta_____ze with promises | <i>v.</i> to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable |
| 16. in_____t a heavier tax | <i>v.</i> to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something |
| 17. ou_____e economic growth | <i>v.</i> to move or proceed at a faster rate than someone or something else; to surpass or exceed someone's or something's performance or ability |

ANSWERS: 9. physicist, 10. lifeboat, 11. paradox, 12. interplanetary, 13. tantalize, 14. exhale, 15. tantalize, 16. inflict, 17. outpace

18. amateur ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
19. tropical rai_____st *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
20. the pa_____x of the heap *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
21. hu____s in business *n.* excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
22. ex____e cigarette smoke *v.* to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently
23. inh_____ble environment *adj.* harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you
24. su_____nt challenges *v.* to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something
25. ro__r mission *n.* a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon
26. su_____nt fears *v.* to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something
27. low-r_v engine *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

ANSWERS: 18. astronomer, 19. rainforest, 20. paradox, 21. hubris, 22. exhale, 23. inhospitable, 24. surmount, 25. rover, 26. surmount, 27. rev

28. rai_____st destruction *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
29. Ma_____n geography *adj.* of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
30. coastal li_____at station *n.* a small boat designed to be launched from a larger vessel in case of an emergency, typically used to rescue passengers or crew members in danger of drowning
31. solar ast_____er *n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
32. spa_____ht industry *n.* the act of traveling into space, either by means of crewed or uncrewed spacecraft; the technology and infrastructure required to support space travel
33. tr__e of information *n.* a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
34. theoretical ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
35. int_____ary debris *adj.* relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication
36. co_____ze planets *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers
37. ti_____c compound *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

ANSWERS: 28. rainforest, 29. Martian, 30. lifeboat, 31. astronomer, 32. spaceflight, 33. trove, 34. physicist, 35. interplanetary, 36. colonize, 37. titanic

38. s_g with fatigue v. to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something
39. ti_____c battle *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
40. in an inh_____ble manner *adj.* harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you
41. Ma_____n surface *adj.* of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
42. s_g my jaw v. to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something

ANSWERS: 38. sag, 39. titanic, 40. inhospitable, 41. Martian, 42. sag

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Scientists are working on developing _____ travel to explore other planets in our solar system.
adj. relating to or occurring between planets, particularly regarding space travel or communication
2. The storm _____ significant damage on the town.
v. to cause harm, injury, or suffering to someone or something
3. There are many theories to explain this _____.
n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
4. The smell of freshly baked cookies in the kitchen _____ me.
v. to tease or torment by presenting something desirable but out of reach or unattainable; to tempt or lure with the promise of something desirable
5. There is very little water in the _____ atmosphere.
adj. of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
6. The treasure _____ of ancient artifacts was a museum's dream come true.
n. a valuable collection of rare or interesting things, usually on the earth
7. The _____ on Mars is gathering data on the planet's surface and sending it back to Earth.
n. a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon

ANSWERS: 1. interplanetary, 2. inflicted, 3. paradox, 4. tantalized, 5. Martian, 6. trove, 7. rover

8. You can _____ any obstacle in your path with determination and hard work.
- v.* to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something
9. This question has fascinated solar _____ for decades.
- n.* a physicist who studies astronomy
10. The athlete's _____ resulted in him underestimating his competition and losing the game.
- n.* excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
11. The passengers were evacuated from the sinking ship and boarded the _____.
- n.* a small boat designed to be launched from a larger vessel in case of an emergency, typically used to rescue passengers or crew members in danger of drowning
12. _____ technology has advanced significantly since the first man landed on the moon in 1969.
- n.* the act of traveling into space, either by means of crewed or uncrewed spacecraft; the technology and infrastructure required to support space travel
13. 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
14. The _____ ship sank on its maiden voyage.
- adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

ANSWERS: 8. surmount, 9. astronomers, 10. hubris, 11. lifeboat, 12. Spaceflight, 13. rev, 14. titanic

15. He trekked across some of the most _____ mountains in the world.

adj. harsh and difficult to stay in or grow; unfriendly and unwelcoming towards people who visit you

16. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

17. European powers _____ much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

v. to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

18. The old mattress _____ in the middle, making it uncomfortable to sleep on.

v. to droop or hang down, especially due to a lack of support or the weight of something

19. Her running speed allowed her to _____ her competitors and win the race.

v. to move or proceed at a faster rate than someone or something else; to surpass or exceed someone's or something's performance or ability

20. He took a deep breath and slowly began to _____.

v. to breathe out air or vapor from the lungs or mouth; to release or emit something slowly or gently

21. The destruction of the _____ is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

n. a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

ANSWERS: 15. inhospitable, 16. physicist, 17. colonized, 18. sagged, 19. outpace, 20. exhale, 21. rainforest