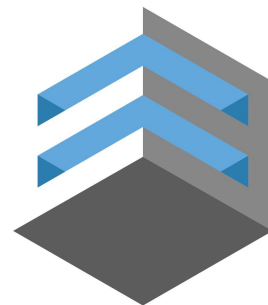


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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Prosanta Chakrabarty: Clues to prehistoric times, found in blind cavefish | TED Talk

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

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

ichthyology

n. the scientific study of fish, including their behavior, classification, anatomy, and ecology

synonym: fish science, fish biology

(1) expert in **ichthyology**, (2) **ichthyology** research

The university's marine biology department offers specialized courses in **ichthyology** for advanced students.

landmass

n. a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota

synonym: continent, mainland, landform

(1) large **landmass**, (2) continental **landmass**

Australia is the world's smallest continent by **landmass**.

vertebrate

adj. relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish

synonym: animal, chordate, backboned

(1) the muscle tissue of a **vertebrate**, (2) **vertebrate** biology

The presence of a backbone is a defining characteristic of **vertebrate** animals.

eyesight

n. the ability to see; visual acuity or sharpness

synonym: vision, sight, eyes

(1) impaired **eyesight**, (2) acute **eyesight**

His excellent **eyesight** allowed him to spot the bird in the dense foliage.

mammoth

adj. exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene

synonym: huge, large

(1) woolly **mammoth**, (2) a **mammoth** ship

The minister decided to review its **mammoth** public works projects.

diverge

v. to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course

synonym: separate, split, part

(1) **diverge** from tradition, (2) **diverge** from the main topic

As tectonic plates **diverge**, new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.

rhodopsin

n. a light-sensitive protein found in the retina of the eye, responsible for vision in low-light conditions

synonym: visual purple, purpuroxanthin, retinene

(1) visual **rhodopsin**, (2) photosensitive **rhodopsin**

Light entering the eye causes a chemical change in the **rhodopsin**, which begins the vision process.

sinkhole

n. a depression or hollow in the ground, often caused by the collapse of the surface layer after a cave or other underground space has been formed; a natural or human-made hole whose edges are formed by layers of soft rock or soil that have been eroded away

synonym: swallow hole, pit, depression

(1) urban **sinkhole**, (2) **sinkhole** formation

The homeowner's insurance didn't cover the damage caused by the **sinkhole** on their property.

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.

groundwater

n. water that is present beneath the surface of the ground,
especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
synonym: aquifer, well water, underground water

(1) **groundwater** supply, (2) contaminated **groundwater**
The town's main source of water is natural **groundwater**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. a ma_____h ship *adj.* exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene
2. woolly ma_____h *adj.* exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene
3. ex_____t by human activity *adj.* no longer in existence
4. the muscle tissue of a ver_____te *adj.* relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish
5. acute ey_____ht *n.* the ability to see; visual acuity or sharpness
6. si_____le formation *n.* a depression or hollow in the ground, often caused by the collapse of the surface layer after a cave or other underground space has been formed; a natural or human-made hole whose edges are formed by layers of soft rock or soil that have been eroded away
7. large la_____ss *n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota
8. contaminated gro_____er *n.* water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock

ANSWERS: 1. mammoth, 2. mammoth, 3. extinct, 4. vertebrate, 5. eyesight, 6. sinkhole, 7. landmass, 8. groundwater

9. gro_____er supply *n.* water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
10. ich_____gy research *n.* the scientific study of fish, including their behavior, classification, anatomy, and ecology
11. impaired ey_____ht *n.* the ability to see; visual acuity or sharpness
12. continental la_____ss *n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota
13. di_____e from the main topic *v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
14. urban si_____le *n.* a depression or hollow in the ground, often caused by the collapse of the surface layer after a cave or other underground space has been formed; a natural or human-made hole whose edges are formed by layers of soft rock or soil that have been eroded away
15. visual rh_____in *n.* a light-sensitive protein found in the retina of the eye, responsible for vision in low-light conditions
16. long-ex_____t volcano *adj.* no longer in existence
17. photosensitive rh_____in *n.* a light-sensitive protein found in the retina of the eye, responsible for vision in low-light conditions
18. expert in ich_____gy *n.* the scientific study of fish, including their behavior, classification, anatomy, and ecology

ANSWERS: 9. groundwater, 10. ichthyology, 11. eyesight, 12. landmass, 13. diverge, 14. sinkhole, 15. rhodopsin, 16. extinct, 17. rhodopsin, 18. ichthyology

19. ver_____te biology

adj. relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish

20. di_____e from tradition

v. to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course

ANSWERS: 19. vertebrate, 20. diverge

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His excellent _____ allowed him to spot the bird in the dense foliage.
n. the ability to see; visual acuity or sharpness
2. The presence of a backbone is a defining characteristic of _____ animals.
adj. relating to animals that have a backbone or spinal column, such as mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish
3. The homeowner's insurance didn't cover the damage caused by the _____ on their property.
n. a depression or hollow in the ground, often caused by the collapse of the surface layer after a cave or other underground space has been formed; a natural or human-made hole whose edges are formed by layers of soft rock or soil that have been eroded away
4. The university's marine biology department offers specialized courses in _____ for advanced students.
n. the scientific study of fish, including their behavior, classification, anatomy, and ecology
5. Light entering the eye causes a chemical change in the _____ which begins the vision process.
n. a light-sensitive protein found in the retina of the eye, responsible for vision in low-light conditions
6. The minister decided to review its _____ public works projects.
adj. exceedingly large or extensive; (noun) any of numerous extinct elephants widely distributed in the Pleistocene

ANSWERS: 1. eyesight, 2. vertebrate, 3. sinkhole, 4. ichthyology, 5. rhodopsin, 6. mammoth

7. The town's main source of water is natural _____.
- n.* water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
8. Many species have become _____ due to habitat destruction and other human activities.
- adj.* no longer in existence
9. As tectonic plates _____ new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.
- v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
10. Australia is the world's smallest continent by _____.
- n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota

ANSWERS: 7. groundwater, 8. extinct, 9. diverge, 10. landmass