

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Lisa Winer: Can you solve the river crossing riddle? | TED Talk

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

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

wildfire

n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

synonym: blaze, bonfire, flame

(1) **wildfire** spread, (2) arson-caused **wildfire**

The **wildfire** destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.

grassland

n. a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock

synonym: meadow, plain, savanna

(1) endangered **grassland**, (2) vast **grassland**

Meadows and pastures are examples of smaller-scale **grasslands** in many parts of the world.

wildebeest

n. (also "gnu") a large African antelope with a broad muzzle and curved horns, known for its annual migration

synonym: gnu

(1) grazing **wildebeest**, (2) **wildebeest** herd

The migration of **wildebeest** across the Serengeti is an awe-inspiring natural phenomenon.

inferno

n. a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs

synonym : hell, fiery pit, furnace

(1) a raging **inferno**, (2) devastating **inferno**

The building was consumed by an **inferno**, reducing it to ashes.

crocodile

n. a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

synonym : alligator, gator, croc

(1) **crocodile** hide, (2) saltwater **crocodile**

The **crocodile** attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear

raft

n. a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer

synonym : flatboat, boat, barge

(1) a **raft** for carrying horses, (2) a life **raft**

The rubber **raft** was swept out to sea.

outnumber

v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number

synonym : surpass, exceed

(1) **outnumber** our opponents, (2) **outnumber** males

The number of tourists in the city now **outnumbers** the locals.

instinct

n. an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

synonym : intuition, aptitude, feeling

(1) **instinct** for self-preservation, (2) aggressive **instinct**

When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial **instinct** was to flee.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ou_____er our opponents *v.* to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
2. aggressive in_____ct *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
3. ou_____er males *v.* to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
4. devastating in_____o *n.* a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs
5. wil_____st herd *n.* (also "gnu") a large African antelope with a broad muzzle and curved horns, known for its annual migration
6. endangered gr_____nd *n.* a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
7. wi_____re spread *n.* a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
8. in_____ct for self-preservation *n.* an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true
9. a raging in_____o *n.* a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs

ANSWERS: 1. outnumber, 2. instinct, 3. outnumber, 4. inferno, 5. wildebeest, 6. grassland, 7. wildfire, 8. instinct, 9. inferno

10. a r__t for carrying horses *n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
11. arson-caused wi____re *n.* a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
12. cr_____le hide *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
13. vast gr_____nd *n.* a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock
14. saltwater cr_____le *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
15. a life r__t *n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
16. grazing wil_____st *n.* (also "gnu") a large African antelope with a broad muzzle and curved horns, known for its annual migration

ANSWERS: 10. raft, 11. wildfire, 12. crocodile, 13. grassland, 14. crocodile, 15. raft, 16. wildebeest

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. When faced with a dangerous situation, his initial _____ was to flee.
n. an inborn behavioral pattern that is often responsive to specific stimuli; an innate feeling that causes you to act or believe that something is true

2. The migration of _____ across the Serengeti is an awe-inspiring natural phenomenon.
n. (also "gnu") a large African antelope with a broad muzzle and curved horns, known for its annual migration

3. Meadows and pastures are examples of smaller-scale _____ in many parts of the world.
n. a large area of land covered mainly by grass, with few or no trees, and typically used for grazing livestock

4. The building was consumed by an _____ reducing it to ashes.
n. a place or condition of intense suffering, especially Hell, in traditional Christian beliefs

5. The rubber _____ was swept out to sea.
n. a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer

6. The _____ destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.
n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

7. The number of tourists in the city now _____ the locals.
v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number

ANSWERS: 1. instinct, 2. wildebeest, 3. grasslands, 4. inferno, 5. raft, 6. wildfire, 7. outnumber

8. The _____ attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear
- n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

ANSWERS: 8. crocodile