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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Stephen Petranek: Your kids might live on Mars.

Here's how they'll survive | TED Talk

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

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

astronaut

 a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere

synonym: spaceman, cosmonaut

(1) astronaut mission, (2) astronaut in training

The shuttle **astronaut** trained for months before embarking on the space mission.

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.

preposterous

adj. absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason or common sense

synonym: ridiculous, absurd, nonsensical

(1) preposterous claim, (2) preposterous price

The idea that aliens built the pyramids is preposterous.

whim

 a sudden idea or desire, especially one that cannot be reasonably explained

synonym: fancy, caprice, whimsy

(1) at the **whim** of circumstance, (2) **whim** of youth He quit his job on a **whim** and moved to a new city.

asteroid

 a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

synonym: minor planet, planetoid, rocky planetesimal

(1) **asteroid** mining, (2) **asteroid** explorer

Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the **asteroid** belt to understand the early solar system better.

obliterate

 to wipe out, destroy, or conceal all signs of something utterly; to remove completely from recognition or memory

synonym: destroy, eliminate, erase

(1) **obliterate** all traces, (2) **obliterate** data

The accident at that nuclear power plant **obliterated** the local ecosystem.

prosper

v. to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish

synonym: thrive, flourish, succeed

(1) **prosper** in the long run, (2) **prosper** as a trading hub With careful planning and hard work, she was able to **prosper** in her new business venture.

excite

- v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate
- (1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion The news of her promotion **excited** her.

livable

adj. capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably;suitable for human habitation

synonym: habitable, comfortable, pleasant

(1) livable city, (2) livable housing

Finding a safe and **livable** neighborhood is important when looking for a new place to live.

louse

 a small, wingless insect that lives on the bodies of mammals and birds, often considered a parasite; a contemptible or despicable person

synonym: bug, insect, parasite

(1) pubic louse, (2) louse egg

The child was sent home from school because of a lice infestation caused by one **louse**.

pundit

 an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue

synonym: expert, commentator, punditry

(1) conservative **pundit**, (2) sports **pundit**

The political **pundit** provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.

determinant

 a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

musky

adj. having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss

synonym: musty, earthy, pungent

(1) musky aroma, (2) musky perfume

The **musky** scent of the old book filled the air of the dusty library.

slack

adj. lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude

synonym: loose, lax, floppy

(1) a slack rope, (2) slack performance

The team's **slack** attitude towards deadlines caused the

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project to fall behind schedule.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) industrious worker, (2) industrious student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

falcon

 a bird of prey characterized by its sharp talons and hooked beak; typically having a long tail and wingspan and known for its swift and agile flight

synonym: hawk, eagle, kestrel

(1) falcon feathers, (2) peregrine falcon

The **falcon's** keen eyesight makes it an excellent hunter.

crater

 a huge bowl-shaped cavity in the earth or an object in space, usually created by an explosion or the impact of a meteorite

synonym: cavity, hole, pit

(1) crater lake, (2) lunar crater

An enormous **crater** marks the area where the vast volcanic explosion occurred.

evaporate

v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually

synonym: vaporize, disappear, vanish

(1) **evaporate** the water, (2) **evaporate** almost overnight The sun will **evaporate** the mist.

glacier

 a slowly moving mass of ice formed from snow on mountains or near the North Pole or the South Pole

synonym: iceberg, ice floe

(1) **glacier** retreat, (2) **glaciers** move tardily The **glaciers** of the ice age have shaped Fjord.

humidifier

 a device or appliance that adds moisture or humidity to the air in a room or building to increase comfort and

alleviate dryness

synonym: moisturizer, mist maker

(1) humidifier filter, (2) portable humidifier

I bought an ultrasonic **humidifier** to add moisture to the dry air in my bedroom.

humid

adj. having a high amount of moisture or water vapor in the air; damp; muggy

synonym: damp, muggy, moist

(1) humid climate, (2) uncomfortably humid

The air was so **humid** that my clothes felt damp.

moxie

- n. courage, determination, and strength of character; also a slang term used to mean energy, enthusiasm, or nerve synonym: courage, confidence, initiative
- (1) moxie brand, (2) moxie spirit

Her **moxie-driven** attitude was key to overcoming the challenges she faced as a first-generation college student.

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.

rover

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

indefinitely

adv. without any fixed or definite limit; for an unknown or unspecified period of time

synonym: endlessly, permanently, perpetually

(1) postpone a meeting **indefinitely**, (2) **indefinitely** suspended

The construction project has been delayed indefinitely due

to the pandemic.

hydroponic

adj. relating to the cultivation of plants in nutrient-rich water instead of soil, often using specialized equipment or systems to optimize growth and production

synonym: soilless, aquaponic, aquacultural

(1) **hydroponic** vegetables, (2) **hydroponic** farm The **hydroponic** garden in my kitchen allows me to grow fresh herbs and vegetables year-round.

probabilistic

adj. characterized by the influence of chance or probability;
 involving the use of statistical models or methods to
 estimate likelihoods or risks

synonym: probable, statistical, likely

(1) **probabilistic** model, (2) **probabilistic** approach In a **probabilistic** system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance.

inflate

v. to fill something with air or gas so that it becomes bigger and rounder

synonym: blow up, expand, puff up

(1) **inflate** a tire, (2) **inflate** expense reports She **inflated** the balloons for the party.

shove

- v. to push someone or something in a rough way synonym: push, jab, elbow
- (1) **shove** a person aside, (2) **shove** hamburger into my mouth

He forcibly **shoved** the flyer into my bag.

lava

 molten rock that has been extruded from a volcano and solidified; a highly fluid, highly heated substance or material

synonym: molten rock, magma, volcanic rock

(1) lava flow, (2) molten lava

The volcano's eruption caused a **lava** river to flow down the mountainside.

terraform

- v. to transform the environment or land of a planet, moon, or other celestial body to make it habitable for life, typically by introducing or modifying the atmosphere, temperature, or topography
- (1) **terraform** Mars, (2) **terraform** the planet

The company plans to **terraform** the barren land into a lush green park.

reengineer

v. to redesign or restructure something such as a machine, system, organization, etc.

synonym: redesign, remodel, revamp

(1) **reengineer** work processes, (2) **reengineer** the organizational structure

As technology evolves, we need to **reengineer** our work styles.

hubris

 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.

equator

- an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)
- (1) south of the **equator**, (2) above the **equator** Ecuador is on the **equator**.

adaptable

adj. able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

synonym: flexible, adjustable, elastic

(1) **adaptable** enough for the environment, (2) an **adaptable** person

We seek a candidate who possesses **adaptable** fighting potential.

verge

 the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border

synonym: brink, edge, margin

- (1) **verge** of bankruptcy, (2) on the **verge** of tears He stood on the **verge** of a major discovery.
- n. a factory or workshop where metal castings are produced, often using a furnace or molten metal

synonym: metalworks, forge

(1) **foundry** industry, (2) **foundry** equipment
The **foundry's** castings undergo rigorous testing to ensure they meet quality standards.

disrupt

foundry

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

spacefaring

n. the act or practice of traveling or exploring outer space, typically to advance scientific knowledge, develop new technologies, or establish a human presence beyond Earth; the ability to travel and explore space

synonym: space navigation, space exploration, spaceflight

(1) **spacefaring** nation, (2) the future of **spacefaring** exploration

Spacefaring technology has allowed us to explore the vast expanse of the universe.

Session 2: Spelling

1.	glr retreat	n.	a slowly moving mass of ice formed from snow on mountains or near the North Pole or the South Pole
2.	portable humer	n.	a device or appliance that adds moisture or humidity to the air in a room or building to increase comfort and alleviate dryness
3.	glrs move tardily	n.	a slowly moving mass of ice formed from snow on mountains or near the North Pole or the South Pole
4.	lie housing	adj.	capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation
5.	adle enough for the environment	adj.	able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
6.	the future of spang exploration	n.	the act or practice of traveling or exploring outer space, typically to advance scientific knowledge, develop new technologies, or establish a human presence beyond Earth; the ability to travel and explore space
7.	evte almost overnight	v.	to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
8.	coze planets	ν.	to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large

ANSWERS: 1. glacier, 2. humidifier, 3. glacier, 4. livable, 5. adaptable, 6. spacefaring, 7. evaporate, 8. colonize

numbers

9.	moe spirit	n.	courage, determination, and strength of character; also a slang term used to mean energy, enthusiasm, or nerve
10.	foy industry	n.	a factory or workshop where metal castings are produced, often using a furnace or molten metal
11.	protic model	adj.	characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
12.	protic approach	adj.	characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
13.	ine a tire	<i>v</i> .	to fill something with air or gas so that it becomes bigger and rounder
14.	evte the water	<i>v</i> .	to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
15.	wm of youth	n.	a sudden idea or desire, especially one that cannot be reasonably explained
16.	south of the eqr	n.	an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)
17.	political hus	n.	excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
18.	indus student	adj.	hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 9. moxie, 10. foundry, 11. probabilistic, 12. probabilistic, 13. inflate, 14. evaporate, 15. whim, 16. equator, 17. hubris, 18. industrious

19.	environmental detnt	n.	a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
20.	crr lake	n.	a huge bowl-shaped cavity in the earth or an object in space, usually created by an explosion or the impact of a meteorite
21.	vee of bankruptcy	n.	the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
22.	exe the crowd	<i>v</i> .	to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
23.	exe rebellion	<i>v</i> .	to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
24.	postpone a meeting indely	adv.	without any fixed or definite limit; for an unknown or unspecified period of time
25.	lie city	adj.	capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation
26.	lunar crr	n.	a huge bowl-shaped cavity in the earth or an object in space, usually created by an explosion or the impact of a meteorite
27.	Man surface	adj.	of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
28.	di t a well-ordered condition	ν.	to prevent or stop something, especially

ANSWERS: 19. determinant, 20. crater, 21. verge, 22. excite, 23. excite, 24. indefinitely, 25. livable, 26. crater, 27. Martian, 28. disrupt

an event, activity, or process, from

a problem or disturbance

continuing in the usual way by causing

ANSWERS: 29. indefinitely, 30. terraform, 31. reengineer, 32. hydroponic, 33. adaptable, 34. humid, 35. disrupt, 36. shove, 37. lava

38. hu d climate adj. having a high amount of moisture or water vapor in the air; damp; muggy 39. pre____ous price adj. absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason or common sense 40. sh e a person aside to push someone or something in a rough way 41. ree____er work processes to redesign or restructure something ν. such as a machine, system, organization, etc. 42. pre____ous claim adj. absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason or common sense 43. hu s in business excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin 44. hyd____ic vegetables adj. relating to the cultivation of plants in nutrient-rich water instead of soil. often using specialized equipment or systems to optimize growth and production the point at which something is about to 45. on the ve e of tears n. happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border a vehicle designed to travel over rough 46. ro r mission terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon 47. mu y aroma adj. having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss 48. at the w m of circumstance a sudden idea or desire, especially one n. that cannot be reasonably explained

ANSWERS: 38. humid, 39. preposterous, 40. shove, 41. reengineer, 42. preposterous, 43. hubris, 44. hydroponic, 45. verge, 46. rover, 47. musky, 48. whim

ANSWERS: 49. slack, 50. prosper, 51. musky, 52. industrious, 53. astronaut, 54. falcon, 55. terraform, 56. obliterate, 57. humidifier

alleviate dryness

64. a sl k rope

65. conservative pu t

66. obl____te all traces

67. as____ut in training

- and Jupiter
- adj. lacking in tension or firmness; loose or not tight; having a relaxed or lazy attitude
- an expert, authority, or knowledgeable n. commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
- to wipe out, destroy, or conceal all signs of something utterly; to remove completely from recognition or memory
- a person trained by a space agency to n. travel outside the Earth's atmosphere

ANSWERS: 58. colonize, 59. equator, 60. prosper, 61. inflate, 62. Martian, 63. asteroid, 64. slack, 65. pundit, 66. obliterate, 67. astronaut

ANSWERS: 68. pundit, 69. louse, 70. falcon, 71. asteroid, 72. spacefaring, 73. foundry, 74. determinant, 75. rover

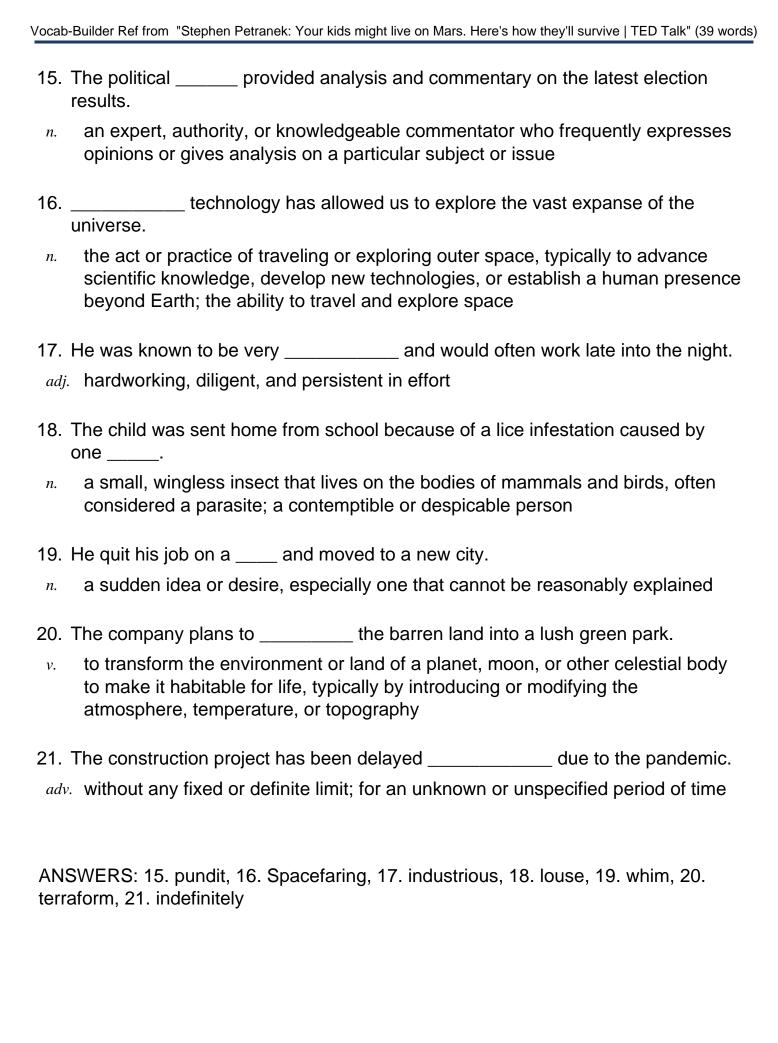
- 76. molten I_a
- 77. lo__e egg
- 78. mo__e brand

- molten rock that has been extruded from a volcano and solidified; a highly fluid, highly heated substance or material
- a small, wingless insect that lives on the bodies of mammals and birds, often considered a parasite; a contemptible or despicable person
- courage, determination, and strength of character; also a slang term used to mean energy, enthusiasm, or nerve

ANSWERS: 76. lava, 77. louse, 78. moxie

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

	The scent of the old book filled the air of the dusty library. having a strong, earthy smell that is often reminiscent of musk or moss
2. n.	The of the ice age have shaped Fjord. a slowly moving mass of ice formed from snow on mountains or near the North Pole or the South Pole
	In a system, the outcome is uncertain and can vary based on chance. characterized by the influence of chance or probability; involving the use of statistical models or methods to estimate likelihoods or risks
	Finding a safe and neighborhood is important when looking for a new place to live. capable of being lived in comfortably and sustainably; suitable for human habitation
5. v.	The news of her promotion her. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
6. v.	As technology evolves, we need to our work styles. to redesign or restructure something such as a machine, system, organization, etc.
7. <i>n</i> .	The shuttle trained for months before embarking on the space mission. a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere
	SWERS: 1. musky, 2. glaciers, 3. probabilistic, 4. livable, 5. excited, 6. reengineer, astronaut



22.	She the balloons for the party.
ν.	to fill something with air or gas so that it becomes bigger and rounder
23.	Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the belt to understand the early solar system better.
n.	a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
24.	He stood on the of a major discovery.
n.	the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
25.	The air was so that my clothes felt damp.
adj	having a high amount of moisture or water vapor in the air; damp; muggy
26.	The garden in my kitchen allows me to grow fresh herbs and vegetables year-round.
adj	relating to the cultivation of plants in nutrient-rich water instead of soil, often using specialized equipment or systems to optimize growth and production
27.	There is very little water in the atmosphere.
adj	of or relating to Mars or its imaginary inhabitants
	The volcano's eruption caused a river to flow down the mountainside.
n.	molten rock that has been extruded from a volcano and solidified; a highly fluid, highly heated substance or material
29.	The sun will the mist.
v.	to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
	SWERS: 22. inflated, 23. asteroid, 24. verge, 25. humid, 26. hydroponic, 27. rtian, 28. lava, 29. evaporate

38. v.	He forcibly the flyer into my bag. to push someone or something in a rough way
39.	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
AN	SWERS: 38. shoved, 39. rover