

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Joy Lin: If superpowers were real: Super speed | TED Talk

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

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

superhero

n. a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

(1) **superhero** movies, (2) **superhero** comics

Superman is a classic **superhero** known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.

scrape

v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

synonym: scratch, graze, rub

(1) **scrape** meat off a bone, (2) **scrape** a hole in the ground
He **scraped** the mud off his boots before entering the house.

indestructible

adj. impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair

synonym: unbreakable, sturdy, durable

(1) **indestructible** warrior, (2) **indestructible** object

The vault was advertised as **indestructible** but was eventually broken into.

swoop

v. to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon

synonym: dart, pounce

(1) **swoop** down the water slide, (2) **swoop** up the escalator

The eagle **swooped** down from the sky to catch its prey.

Newtonian

adj. relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation

synonym : classical, physics, mechanics

(1) **Newtonian** physics, (2) **Newtonian** mechanics

The motion of planets can be described using **Newtonian** mechanics.

inertia

n. the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act

synonym : sluggishness, lethargy, idleness

(1) **inertia** resistance, (2) Newton's law of **inertia**

The object's **inertia** kept it moving in a straight line until acted upon by an outside force.

mushy

adj. soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet

synonym : sappy, sentimental

(1) **mushy** romance, (2) **mushy** peas

The cake was **mushy** because I accidentally added too much milk to the batter.

astronaut

n. 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.

slam

v. to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily

synonym : bang, crash, shut

(1) **slam** the door, (2) **slam** the book against a wall

She **slammed** the door shut, angry at the person on the other

side.

superpower

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym: great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

immortality

n. the state or quality of being able to live or last forever

synonym: endless life, timelessness, agelessness

(1) the **immortality** of the soul, (2) achieve **immortality**

Many people believe in the concept of **immortality** and an afterlife.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. as_____ut mission | <i>n.</i> a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere |
| 2. Newton's law of in_____a | <i>n.</i> the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act |
| 3. s__m the door | <i>v.</i> to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily |
| 4. as_____ut in training | <i>n.</i> a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere |
| 5. the imm_____ty of the soul | <i>n.</i> the state or quality of being able to live or last forever |
| 6. mu__y peas | <i>adj.</i> soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet |
| 7. sw__p down the water slide | <i>v.</i> to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon |
| 8. Ne_____an physics | <i>adj.</i> relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation |
| 9. sup_____er leader | <i>n.</i> a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities |

ANSWERS: 1. astronaut, 2. inertia, 3. slam, 4. astronaut, 5. immortality, 6. mushy, 7. swoop, 8. Newtonian, 9. superpower

10. s__m the book against a wall *v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
11. Ne_____an mechanics *adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
12. ind_____ble object *adj.* impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair
13. su_____ro comics *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
14. mu__y romance *adj.* soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet
15. sc___e a hole in the ground *v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
16. achieve imm_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
17. sc___e meat off a bone *v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
18. in_____a resistance *n.* the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act
19. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

ANSWERS: 10. slam, 11. Newtonian, 12. indestructible, 13. superhero, 14. mushy, 15. scrape, 16. immortality, 17. scrape, 18. inertia, 19. superpower

20. sw__p up the escalator

v. to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon

21. ind_____ble warrior

adj. impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair

22. su_____ro movies

n. a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

ANSWERS: 20. swoop, 21. indestructible, 22. superhero

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He _____ the mud off his boots before entering the house.
v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

2. The eagle _____ down from the sky to catch its prey.
v. to rapidly or forcefully descend upon something or someone from a great height or distance; to rush or pounce upon

3. The vault was advertised as _____ but was eventually broken into.
adj. impossible to destroy or damage beyond repair

4. Many people believe in the concept of _____ and an afterlife.
n. the state or quality of being able to live or last forever

5. The cake was _____ because I accidentally added too much milk to the batter.
adj. soft and pulpy in texture or consistency, often describing food; emotionally sentimental or overly romantic in a way that can be seen as insincere or sickly sweet

6. The shuttle _____ trained for months before embarking on the space mission.
n. a person trained by a space agency to travel outside the Earth's atmosphere

7. She _____ the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.
v. to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily

8. The object's _____ kept it moving in a straight line until acted upon by an outside force.
n. the quality or state of being inactive, sluggish, or slow to move or act

ANSWERS: 1. scraped, 2. swooped, 3. indestructible, 4. immortality, 5. mushy, 6. astronaut, 7. slammed, 8. inertia

9. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
- n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
10. The motion of planets can be described using _____ mechanics.
- adj.* relating to Sir Isaac Newton or his laws of motion and universal gravitation
11. Superman is a classic _____ known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.
- n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

ANSWERS: 9. superpower, 10. Newtonian, 11. superhero