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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Renée Hlozek: The death of the universe | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/renee_hlozek_the_death_of_the_universe

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

amaze

v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

synonym: astound, surprise, stagger

(1) **amaze** and entertain visitors, (2) **amaze** everyone

The magician's tricks **amazed** the audience.

cosmology

n. the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe

synonym: cosmogony

(1) physical **cosmology**, (2) modern **cosmology**

Cosmology evolved from people's philosophical questions about the natural world.

posit

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

synonym: assert, declare, assume

(1) **posit** the existence of life after death, (2) **posit** the premise

We should **posit** several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

determinant

n. 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.

baryon

n. a subatomic particle, such as a proton or neutron, that is composed of three quarks and is responsible for the formation of atomic nuclei

synonym : particle, hadron, nucleon

(1) **baryon** number, (2) **baryon** resonance

The **baryon** density in the early universe is believed to have significantly impacted the formation of galaxies.

gravitational

adj. relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)

synonym : weighty, heavy, earthbound

(1) **gravitational** energy, (2) **gravitational** waves

The **gravitational** force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.

elusive

adj. difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember

synonym : mysterious, ambiguous, inapproachable

(1) an **elusive** criminal, (2) track down an **elusive** fact

The physicist who found the **elusive** particle won the Nobel Prize.

dilute

v. to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it

synonym : weaken, thin, reduce

(1) **dilute** acid with water, (2) **dilute** a great idea

She **diluted** the concentrated juice with water.

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.

depress

v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active

synonym: sadden, discourage, deflate

(1) **depress** their spirits, (2) **depress** crop prices

The economic recession **depressed** the housing market.

devoid

adj. completely lacking or free from something

synonym: empty, lacking, void

(1) **devoid** of life, (2) air **devoid** of pollution

The room was **devoid** of any furniture or decorations.

fiery

adj. very intense; like or suggestive of fire

synonym: igneous, passionate, fervent

(1) a **fiery** speech, (2) a **fiery** sunset

He is a man of **fiery** temperament.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. physical co_____gy | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe |
| 2. modern co_____gy | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe |
| 3. di___e a great idea | <i>v.</i> to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it |
| 4. environmental det_____nt | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 5. gra_____nal energy | <i>adj.</i> relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another) |
| 6. ev_____te the water | <i>v.</i> to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually |
| 7. di___e acid with water | <i>v.</i> to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it |
| 8. an el_____e criminal | <i>adj.</i> difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember |
| 9. gra_____nal waves | <i>adj.</i> relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another) |
| 10. ev_____te almost overnight | <i>v.</i> to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually |

ANSWERS: 1. cosmology, 2. cosmology, 3. dilute, 4. determinant, 5. gravitational, 6. evaporate, 7. dilute, 8. elusive, 9. gravitational, 10. evaporate

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|---|------|---|
| 11. am__e everyone | v. | to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration |
| 12. po__t the existence of life after death | v. | to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration |
| 13. de____s their spirits | v. | to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active |
| 14. de____s crop prices | v. | to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active |
| 15. air de____d of pollution | adj. | completely lacking or free from something |
| 16. am__e and entertain visitors | v. | to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration |
| 17. a fi__y sunset | adj. | very intense; like or suggestive of fire |
| 18. de____d of life | adj. | completely lacking or free from something |
| 19. ba____n number | n. | a subatomic particle, such as a proton or neutron, that is composed of three quarks and is responsible for the formation of atomic nuclei |
| 20. track down an el____e fact | adj. | difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember |
| 21. a det____nt of crop yields | n. | a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |

ANSWERS: 11. amaze, 12. posit, 13. depress, 14. depress, 15. devoid, 16. amaze, 17. fiery, 18. devoid, 19. baryon, 20. elusive, 21. determinant

22. a fi__y speech

adj. very intense; like or suggestive of fire

23. po__t the premise

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

24. ba___n resonance

n. a subatomic particle, such as a proton or neutron, that is composed of three quarks and is responsible for the formation of atomic nuclei

ANSWERS: 22. fiery, 23. posit, 24. baryon

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He is a man of _____ temperament.
adj. very intense; like or suggestive of fire
2. She _____ the concentrated juice with water.
v. to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it
3. The sun will _____ the mist.
v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
4. The _____ force of the black hole was so strong that nothing, not even light, could escape.
adj. relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
5. _____ evolved from people's philosophical questions about the natural world.
n. the scientific study of the nature and origin of the universe
6. The physicist who found the _____ particle won the Nobel Prize.
adj. difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
7. The _____ density in the early universe is believed to have significantly impacted the formation of galaxies.
n. a subatomic particle, such as a proton or neutron, that is composed of three quarks and is responsible for the formation of atomic nuclei

ANSWERS: 1. fiery, 2. diluted, 3. evaporate, 4. gravitational, 5. Cosmology, 6. elusive, 7. baryon

8. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
9. The economic recession _____ the housing market.
- v.* to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active
10. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.
- v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
11. The magician's tricks _____ the audience.
- v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
12. The room was _____ of any furniture or decorations.
- adj.* completely lacking or free from something

ANSWERS: 8. determinant, 9. depressed, 10. posit, 11. amazed, 12. devoid