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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jon Nguyen: Tour the solar system from home | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym: captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

nova

n. a star that suddenly becomes brighter, typically because of an explosion in its interior; a sudden increase or burst of activity or growth

synonym: supernova, exploding star, nova remnant

(1) **nova** explosion, (2) **nova** star

The astronomer spent months studying the **nova's** light spectrum to learn more about its properties.

propulsion

n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

synonym: propelling, driving, actuation

(1) **propulsion** technology, (2) nuclear **propulsion**

The spacecraft's **propulsion** system helped it travel through space.

visualize

v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

synonym: imagine, picture, envision

(1) **visualize** data, (2) **visualize** flying through space

She tried to **visualize** the layout of the new house in her mind.

reconnaissance

n. a preliminary survey or exploration of an area, usually done to gather information or intelligence; a military mission to observe an enemy's activities and gather information

synonym: exploration, survey, examination

(1) aerial **reconnaissance**, (2) do **reconnaissance** work

The **reconnaissance** mission revealed the enemy's position.

jog

v. to run or move at a slow or leisurely pace, typically for exercise; to continue talking or writing without a definite plan or purpose

synonym: run, sprint, trot

(1) **jog** in place, (2) **jog** my memory

She decided to **jog** around the park to clear her head.

Jovian

adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

synonym: Jupiter, giant planet

(1) **Jovian** satellites, (2) **Jovian** planet

The **Jovian** moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.

robotic

adj. of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

synonym: automated, mechanical, laborsaving

(1) **robotic** arm, (2) **robotic** guide operation

The surgeon removed the tumor using **robotic** video assistance.

- rot** v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
synonym : perish, decay, corrode
(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age
Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.
- titanic** *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
synonym : colossal, massive, immense
(1) **titanic** battle, (2) **titanic** compound
The **titanic** ship sank on its maiden voyage.
- flyby** *n.* a close approach to a celestial body, especially a planet, by a spacecraft without landing or entering orbit
synonym : passby, flyover, whizz by
(1) **flyby** mission, (2) a five-plane **flyby**
The spacecraft will conduct a **flyby** of the moon to gather data.
- hazy** *adj.* not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something
synonym : blurred, clouded, foggy
(1) **hazy** dream, (2) **hazy** atmosphere
My memories of the holiday were **hazy**.
- 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.
- fling** v. to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
synonym : throw, dump, hurl
(1) **fling** a stream of abuse, (2) **fling** a door open forcefully

He was provoked to **fling** the draft on the floor.

Session 2: Spelling

1. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
2. pro_____on technology *n.* the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means
3. j_g in place *v.* to run or move at a slow or leisurely pace, typically for exercise; to continue talking or writing without a definite plan or purpose
4. fl__y mission *n.* a close approach to a celestial body, especially a planet, by a spacecraft without landing or entering orbit
5. fa_____te the young *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
6. ro_____c guide operation *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
7. vi_____ze flying through space *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
8. gra_____nal waves *adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
9. h__y dream *adj.* not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something

ANSWERS: 1. rot, 2. propulsion, 3. jog, 4. flyby, 5. fascinate, 6. robotic, 7. visualize, 8. gravitational, 9. hazy

10. n__a star *n.* a star that suddenly becomes brighter, typically because of an explosion in its interior; a sudden increase or burst of activity or growth
11. ro____c arm *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
12. ti____c compound *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
13. do rec_____nce work *n.* a preliminary survey or exploration of an area, usually done to gather information or intelligence; a military mission to observe an enemy's activities and gather information
14. ti____c battle *adj.* of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
15. a five-plane fl__y *n.* a close approach to a celestial body, especially a planet, by a spacecraft without landing or entering orbit
16. fl__g a door open forcefully *v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
17. Jo___n satellites *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
18. aerial rec_____nce *n.* a preliminary survey or exploration of an area, usually done to gather information or intelligence; a military mission to observe an enemy's activities and gather information

ANSWERS: 10. nova, 11. robotic, 12. titanic, 13. reconnaissance, 14. titanic, 15. flyby, 16. fling, 17. Jovian, 18. reconnaissance

19. Jo___n planet *adj.* relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
20. fl__g a stream of abuse *v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
21. nuclear pro_____on *n.* the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means
22. begin to r_t *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
23. gra_____nal energy *adj.* relating to or caused by gravity (= the force that attracts objects towards one another)
24. vi_____ze data *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
25. j_g my memory *v.* to run or move at a slow or leisurely pace, typically for exercise; to continue talking or writing without a definite plan or purpose
26. h__y atmosphere *adj.* not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something
27. fa_____te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
28. n__a explosion *n.* a star that suddenly becomes brighter, typically because of an explosion in its interior; a sudden increase or burst of activity or growth

ANSWERS: 19. Jovian, 20. fling, 21. propulsion, 22. rot, 23. gravitational, 24. visualize, 25. jog, 26. hazy, 27. fascinate, 28. nova

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ ship sank on its maiden voyage.
adj. of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)
2. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.
v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
3. The magic tricks _____ the children.
v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
4. The _____ moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.
adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
5. 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)
6. My memories of the holiday were _____.
adj. not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something
7. She tried to _____ the layout of the new house in her mind.
v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
8. The surgeon removed the tumor using _____ video assistance.
adj. of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

ANSWERS: 1. titanic, 2. rot, 3. fascinated, 4. Jovian, 5. gravitational, 6. hazy, 7. visualize, 8. robotic

9. The astronomer spent months studying the _____ light spectrum to learn more about its properties.
- n.* a star that suddenly becomes brighter, typically because of an explosion in its interior; a sudden increase or burst of activity or growth
10. The _____ mission revealed the enemy's position.
- n.* a preliminary survey or exploration of an area, usually done to gather information or intelligence; a military mission to observe an enemy's activities and gather information
11. He was provoked to _____ the draft on the floor.
- v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
12. The spacecraft's _____ system helped it travel through space.
- n.* the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means
13. The spacecraft will conduct a _____ of the moon to gather data.
- n.* a close approach to a celestial body, especially a planet, by a spacecraft without landing or entering orbit
14. She decided to _____ around the park to clear her head.
- v.* to run or move at a slow or leisurely pace, typically for exercise; to continue talking or writing without a definite plan or purpose

ANSWERS: 9. nova's, 10. reconnaissance, 11. fling, 12. propulsion, 13. flyby, 14. jog