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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Joel Levine: Why we need to go back to Mars | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

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.

mariner

n. a sailor or seaman; someone who works or travels on a boat or ship

synonym: sailor, seafarer, navigator

(1) **mariner's** compass, (2) seasoned **mariner**

The experienced **mariner** guided the ship through treacherous waters.

headquarter

n. the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed

synonym: base, center, command

(1) administrative **headquarter**, (2) an emergency **headquarter**

The company decided to move its **headquarters** to New York City.

topography

n. the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features

synonym: terrain, landscape, geography

(1) **topography** map, (2) detailed **topography**

The **topography** of the region is rugged, with many hills and valleys.

volcano

n. a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

synonym: mount, peak, crater

(1) **volcano** alert level, (2) active **volcano**

The island was formed by a **volcano** millions of years ago.

canyon

n. a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river

synonym: gorge, valley, ravine

(1) twisty **canyon** road, (2) **canyon** of skyscrapers

The Grand **Canyon** has an awe-inspiring sight.

crater

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

synonym: cavity, hole, pit

(1) **crater** lake, (2) lunar **crater**

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

superimpose

v. to place, layer, or overlay one thing on top of another, typically in such a way that both are still visible; to add or combine something additional into an existing structure, design, or system

synonym: overlay, impose, place over

(1) **superimpose** image, (2) **superimpose** text

The graphic designer will **superimpose** the logo over the image in the brochure.

magnetism

n. the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something

synonym: attraction, charisma, allure

(1) the **magnetism** of the moon, (2) animal **magnetism**

The child was drawn to the **magnetism** of the colorful toy display in the store.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

glacier

n. 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.

hemisphere

n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

(1) northern **hemisphere**, (2) cerebral **hemisphere**

This weather pattern is unique to the southern **hemisphere**.

odyssey

n. a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy

(1) go on a serious **odyssey**, (2) cross-country **odyssey**

He continued the extraordinary **odyssey** with his brother.

bluish

adj. having a color that is a shade of blue

synonym: blue, azure, navy

(1) **bluish** cloth, (2) **bluish** color

The flowers had a **bluish** tint, indicating they needed to be riper.

puzzling

adj. confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious

synonym: baffling, confusing, enigmatic

(1) **puzzling** behavior, (2) **puzzling** questions

The detective found the clues **puzzling** and couldn't solve the case immediately.

methane

n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

(1) atmospheric **methane**, (2) reduce **methane** emissions

The ignition of **methane** gas in the plant killed five employees.

microscopic

adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

synonym: infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis

Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

plume

n. a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat

synonym: feather, honor, token

(1) **plume** of smoke, (2) **plume** of feathers

The bird had a beautiful **plume** on its head.

tectonics

n. the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity

synonym: geology, plate tectonics, earth movements

(1) plate **tectonics**, (2) collision **tectonics**

Global **tectonics** plays a critical role in the formation of mountain ranges and the movement of Earth's crustal plates.

recycle

v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

synonym: reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

pathfinder

n. a person or thing that leads the way or explores new territory; someone who finds or discovers a new route or method; a person or vehicle used to navigate or explore unfamiliar or dangerous areas

synonym: trailblazer, pioneer, explorer

(1) adventurous **pathfinder**, (2) a **pathfinder** in the tech industry

The company's new **pathfinder** project explores new ways to use renewable energy.

rover

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

synonym: 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.

asteroid

n. (also "planetoid") 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.

meteorite

n. a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space

synonym: meteor, shooting star, asteroid

(1) **meteorite** impact, (2) **meteorite** shower

The **meteorite** fragments were collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis.

unravel

v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it

synonym : separate, unknot, ravel

(1) **unravel** a knit, (2) **unravel** a plot

Detectives are still attempting to **unravel** the mystery of his death.

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.

surveyor

n. an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land

synonym : assessor, cartographer

(1) land **surveyor**, (2) geographical **surveyor**

The **surveyors** asked various related questions about the land.

aeronautics

n. the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft

synonym : aviation, aerospace, flying

(1) **aeronautics** industry, (2) **aeronautics** research

He studied **aeronautics** in college and worked as an aerospace engineer.

subsurface

adj. situated or located beneath the surface of something; existing or occurring within the deeper layers of a material or object, often referring to areas below the Earth's surface

synonym : beneath the surface, underground, subterranean

(1) **subsurface** mining, (2) **subsurface** oil reserves

The **subsurface** layers of the ocean are still largely unexplored.

vitality

n. the state of being strong and active; energy

synonym: energy, life, vigor

(1) **vitality** of youth, (2) the **vitality** of the company

The new gym membership has improved his **vitality** and overall health.

reprogram

v. to modify or recreate a program

synonym: recreate, modify, revamp

(1) **reprogram** a device, (2) **reprogram** a database

He **reprogrammed** the computer's operating system to remove the safeguard.

pinpoint

v. to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

synonym: name, direct, identify

(1) **pinpoint** the problem, (2) **pinpoint** signs of manipulation

This radar quickly **pinpoints** the position of the enemy.

emanate

v. to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling

synonym: radiate, exude, give off

(1) **emanate** light, (2) **emanate** happiness

The fragrance of flowers **emanated** from the garden.

wingspan

n. the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures

synonym: reach, spread, extent

(1) bird **wingspan**, (2) airplane **wingspan**

The bald eagle has an impressive **wingspan** of over 7 feet.

liftoff

n. the moment when a spacecraft or other vehicle takes off and lifts off the ground; the act or process of launching

or beginning an endeavor

synonym: takeoff, launching, ascent

(1) **liftoff** time, (2) **liftoff** procedure

The spacecraft had a successful **liftoff**, launching into the atmosphere.

parachute

n. a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air

(1) **parachute** troops, (2) golden **parachute**

This training includes emergency escape drills with **parachutes**.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

helium

n. a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table

synonym: He, light gas, noble gas

(1) **helium** atom, (2) **helium** gas

The **helium-filled** balloons floated into the sky.

honorarium

n. a payment or fee given to someone, typically for professional services, that is not officially required or a standard salary, often given as a token of appreciation or to show respect

synonym: payment, fee, compensation

(1) **honorarium** fee, (2) academic **honorarium**

The guest speaker was given an **honorarium** for delivering an insightful lecture.

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.

verge

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

synonym: brink, edge, margin

(1) **verge** of bankruptcy, (2) on the **verge** of tears

He stood on the **verge** of a major discovery.

Session 2: Spelling

1. cr___r 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
2. sup_____se image
v. to place, layer, or overlay one thing on top of another, typically in such a way that both are still visible; to add or combine something additional into an existing structure, design, or system
3. academic hon_____um
n. a payment or fee given to someone, typically for professional services, that is not officially required or a standard salary, often given as a token of appreciation or to show respect
4. animal ma_____sm
n. the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something
5. 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
6. pa_____te troops
n. a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air

ANSWERS: 1. crater, 2. superimpose, 3. honorarium, 4. magnetism, 5. robotic, 6. parachute

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|--|-------------|--|
| 7. em_____e happiness | <i>v.</i> | to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling |
| 8. go on a serious od_____y | <i>n.</i> | a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy |
| 9. nuclear pro_____on | <i>n.</i> | the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means |
| 10. ma_____r's compass | <i>n.</i> | a sailor or seaman; someone who works or travels on a boat or ship |
| 11. bl____h color | <i>adj.</i> | having a color that is a shade of blue |
| 12. land su_____or | <i>n.</i> | an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land |
| 13. as_____id mining | <i>n.</i> | (also "planetoid") a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter |
| 14. aer_____cs research | <i>n.</i> | the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft |
| 15. re_____e milk packaging into new paper | <i>v.</i> | to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again |
| 16. re_____am a device | <i>v.</i> | to modify or recreate a program |
| 17. li_____f procedure | <i>n.</i> | the moment when a spacecraft or other vehicle takes off and lifts off the ground; the act or process of launching or beginning an endeavor |

ANSWERS: 7. emanate, 8. odyssey, 9. propulsion, 10. mariner, 11. bluish, 12. surveyor, 13. asteroid, 14. aeronautics, 15. recycle, 16. reprogram, 17. liftoff

18. re_____am a database *v.* to modify or recreate a program
19. ve__e 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
20. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
21. me_____te shower *n.* a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space
22. mic_____ic analysis *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
23. pi_____nt the problem *v.* to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
24. atmospheric me_____e *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
25. un___d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
26. me_____te impact *n.* a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space

ANSWERS: 18. reprogram, 19. verge, 20. opportune, 21. meteorite, 22. microscopic, 23. pinpoint, 24. methane, 25. unfold, 26. meteorite

27. top_____hy map *n.* the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features
28. pu_____ng questions *adj.* confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious
29. twisty ca____n road *n.* a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river
30. cross-country od_____y *n.* a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy
31. he____m atom *n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
32. aer_____cs industry *n.* the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft
33. an emergency hea_____er *n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
34. plate te_____cs *n.* the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity
35. mic_____ic inquiry *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

ANSWERS: 27. topography, 28. puzzling, 29. canyon, 30. odyssey, 31. helium, 32. aeronautics, 33. headquarter, 34. tectonics, 35. microscopic

36. un___d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
37. seasoned ma_____r *n.* a sailor or seaman; someone who works or travels on a boat or ship
38. airplane wi_____an *n.* the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures
39. pl__e of smoke *n.* a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat
40. sub_____ce mining *adj.* situated or located beneath the surface of something; existing or occurring within the deeper layers of a material or object, often referring to areas below the Earth's surface
41. northern hem_____re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
42. golden pa_____te *n.* a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air
43. sub_____ce oil reserves *adj.* situated or located beneath the surface of something; existing or occurring within the deeper layers of a material or object, often referring to areas below the Earth's surface

ANSWERS: 36. unfold, 37. mariner, 38. wingspan, 39. plume, 40. subsurface, 41. hemisphere, 42. parachute, 43. subsurface

44. geographical su____or *n.* an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land
45. reduce me____e emissions *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
46. detailed top____hy *n.* the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features
47. bird wi____an *n.* the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures
48. re____e the cardboard boxes *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
49. 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
50. a five-plane fl__y *n.* a close approach to a celestial body, especially a planet, by a spacecraft without landing or entering orbit
51. un____l a plot *v.* undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
52. pl__e of feathers *n.* a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat

ANSWERS: 44. surveyor, 45. methane, 46. topography, 47. wingspan, 48. recycle, 49. robotic, 50. flyby, 51. unravel, 52. plume

53. adventurous pat_____er *n.* a person or thing that leads the way or explores new territory; someone who finds or discovers a new route or method; a person or vehicle used to navigate or explore unfamiliar or dangerous areas
54. administrative hea_____er *n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
55. gl_____r retreat *n.* a slowly moving mass of ice formed from snow on mountains or near the North Pole or the South Pole
56. lunar ro__r *n.* a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon
57. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
58. ca___n of skyscrapers *n.* a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river
59. he___m gas *n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
60. the vi_____ty of the company *n.* the state of being strong and active; energy
61. un_____l a knit *v.* undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
62. pi_____nt signs of manipulation *v.* to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

ANSWERS: 53. pathfinder, 54. headquarter, 55. glacier, 56. rover, 57. opportune, 58. canyon, 59. helium, 60. vitality, 61. unravel, 62. pinpoint

63. ro__r mission *n.* a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon
64. vi_____ty of youth *n.* the state of being strong and active; energy
65. li_____f time *n.* the moment when a spacecraft or other vehicle takes off and lifts off the ground; the act or process of launching or beginning an endeavor
66. active vo_____o *n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.
67. a pat_____er in the tech industry *n.* a person or thing that leads the way or explores new territory; someone who finds or discovers a new route or method; a person or vehicle used to navigate or explore unfamiliar or dangerous areas
68. hon_____um fee *n.* a payment or fee given to someone, typically for professional services, that is not officially required or a standard salary, often given as a token of appreciation or to show respect
69. pu_____ng behavior *adj.* confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious
70. pro_____on technology *n.* the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

ANSWERS: 63. rover, 64. vitality, 65. liftoff, 66. volcano, 67. pathfinder, 68. honorarium, 69. puzzling, 70. propulsion

71. gl____rs move tardily *n.* a slowly moving mass of ice formed from snow on mountains or near the North Pole or the South Pole
72. cerebral hem_____re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
73. collision te_____cs *n.* the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity
74. bl___h cloth *adj.* having a color that is a shade of blue
75. fl__y mission *n.* a close approach to a celestial body, especially a planet, by a spacecraft without landing or entering orbit
76. em_____e light *v.* to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling
77. lunar cr____r *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
78. the ma_____sm of the moon *n.* the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something
79. on the ve__e of tears *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

ANSWERS: 71. glacier, 72. hemisphere, 73. tectonics, 74. bluish, 75. flyby, 76. emanate, 77. crater, 78. magnetism, 79. verge

80. sup_____se text *v.* to place, layer, or overlay one thing on top of another, typically in such a way that both are still visible; to add or combine something additional into an existing structure, design, or system
81. as_____id explorer *n.* (also "planetoid") a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
82. vo_____o alert level *n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

ANSWERS: 80. superimpose, 81. asteroid, 82. volcano

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He _____ the computer's operating system to remove the safeguard.
v. to modify or recreate a program
2. This weather pattern is unique to the southern _____.
n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
3. The _____ fragments were collected and sent to a laboratory for analysis.
n. a solid object originating in outer space that reaches the Earth's surface without completely vaporizing in the atmosphere; a rock that has fallen from space
4. Global _____ plays a critical role in the formation of mountain ranges and the movement of Earth's crustal plates.
n. the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity
5. The bird had a beautiful _____ on its head.
n. a large feather or group of feathers worn as an ornament or a symbol of achievement or distinction, especially on a hat
6. 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
7. The Grand _____ has an awe-inspiring sight.
n. a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river
8. The child was drawn to the _____ of the colorful toy display in the store.
n. the force that causes attraction or repulsion between magnetic substances; a charismatic or attractive quality that attracts people or causes them to be drawn to someone or something

ANSWERS: 1. reprogrammed, 2. hemisphere, 3. meteorite, 4. tectonics, 5. plume, 6. verge, 7. Canyon, 8. magnetism

9. The spacecraft had a successful _____ launching into the atmosphere.
n. the moment when a spacecraft or other vehicle takes off and lifts off the ground; the act or process of launching or beginning an endeavor
10. We largely _____ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.
v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
11. The fragrance of flowers _____ from the garden.
v. to emit, send out something; to express a quality or feeling
12. The experienced _____ guided the ship through treacherous waters.
n. a sailor or seaman; someone who works or travels on a boat or ship
13. Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the _____ belt to understand the early solar system better.
n. (also "planetoid") a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
14. An enormous _____ marks the area where the vast volcanic explosion occurred.
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
15. The island was formed by a _____ millions of years ago.
n. a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

ANSWERS: 9. liftoff, 10. recycle, 11. emanated, 12. mariner, 13. asteroid, 14. crater, 15. volcano

16. 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
17. The detective found the clues _____ and couldn't solve the case immediately.
adj. confusing or difficult to understand; mysterious
18. The ignition of _____ gas in the plant killed five employees.
n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
19. The _____ of the ice age have shaped Fjord.
n. a slowly moving mass of ice formed from snow on mountains or near the North Pole or the South Pole
20. This radar quickly _____ the position of the enemy.
v. to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
21. The flowers had a _____ tint, indicating they needed to be riper.
adj. having a color that is a shade of blue
22. The new gym membership has improved his _____ and overall health.
n. the state of being strong and active; energy
23. 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: 16. propulsion, 17. puzzling, 18. methane, 19. glaciers, 20. pinpoints, 21. bluish, 22. vitality, 23. robotic

24. The graphic designer will _____ the logo over the image in the brochure.
- v.* to place, layer, or overlay one thing on top of another, typically in such a way that both are still visible; to add or combine something additional into an existing structure, design, or system
25. The guest speaker was given an _____ for delivering an insightful lecture.
- n.* a payment or fee given to someone, typically for professional services, that is not officially required or a standard salary, often given as a token of appreciation or to show respect
26. The bald eagle has an impressive _____ of over 7 feet.
- n.* the distance between the tips of a bird's wings when fully extended and in flight; often used to describe the size or scope of something, particularly about physical objects or structures
27. The _____ balloons floated into the sky.
- n.* a colorless, odorless, tasteless, non-toxic, inert, monatomic gas, the first in the noble gas series in the periodic table
28. The company's new _____ project explores new ways to use renewable energy.
- n.* a person or thing that leads the way or explores new territory; someone who finds or discovers a new route or method; a person or vehicle used to navigate or explore unfamiliar or dangerous areas
29. The company decided to move its _____ to New York City.
- n.* the central office or location from which a business or organization is managed
30. 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

ANSWERS: 24. superimpose, 25. honorarium, 26. wingspan, 27. helium-filled, 28. pathfinder, 29. headquarters, 30. flyby

31. The _____ asked various related questions about the land.
n. an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land
32. He continued the extraordinary _____ with his brother.
n. a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy
33. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
34. 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
35. This training includes emergency escape drills with _____.
n. a device used to slow the motion of people or objects through an atmosphere consisting of a large piece of thin cloth that is attached to them and opens out in the air
36. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
37. He studied _____ in college and worked as an aerospace engineer.
n. the science or art of designing, building, and flying aircraft
38. The _____ layers of the ocean are still largely unexplored.
adj. situated or located beneath the surface of something; existing or occurring within the deeper layers of a material or object, often referring to areas below the Earth's surface

ANSWERS: 31. surveyors, 32. odyssey, 33. unfolded, 34. rover, 35. parachutes, 36. opportune, 37. aeronautics, 38. subsurface

39. Inspectors noticed _____ cracks in the submarine's hull.

adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

40. Detectives are still attempting to _____ the mystery of his death.

v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it

41. The _____ of the region is rugged, with many hills and valleys.

n. the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features

ANSWERS: 39. microscopic, 40. unravel, 41. topography