

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

speculate (v) /'spek.jə.leɪt/

to guess possible answers to a question when you do not have enough information to be certain (suy đoán)

Ex: Scientists have **speculated** about the possibility of parallel universes.

cataclysmic (adj) /,kæt.ə'klɪz.mɪk/

causing sudden and violent change (biến động)

Ex: These countries are on the brink of **cataclysmic** famine.

asteroid (n) /'æs.tə'ɒɪd/

an object like a very large rock that goes around the sun like a planet (tiểu hành tinh)

Ex: Scientists are hoping an **asteroid** will clue them in about early life on earth.

peninsula (n) /pə'nɪn.sjə.lə/

a long piece of land that sticks out from a larger area of land into the sea or into a lake (bán đảo)

Ex: Previous discoveries have hinted that an asteroid two kilometers in diameter struck the Yucatan **peninsula**.

debris (n) /'deɪ.bri:/

broken or torn pieces of something larger (mảnh vụn vỡ)

Ex: **Debris** from the aircraft was scattered over a large area.

cast (v) /kɑːst/

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to throw something (phân tán)

Ex: It is speculated to have **cast** a cloud of dust and debris into the atmosphere.

reign (n) /rein/

the fact of being more important, powerful or noticeable than somebody/something else (thống trị)

Ex: The **reign** of the dinosaurs had ended and the age of mammals had begun.

hypothesize (v) /haɪ'pɒθ.ə.saɪz/

to give a possible but not yet proved explanation for something (đưa ra giả thuyết)

Ex: This discovery led experts to **hypothesize** a different path of evolution for early man.

sediment (n) /'sed.ɪ.mənt/

the solid material that settles at the bottom of a liquid (chất lắng xuống)

Ex: It is hoped that the oil slick will sink to the seabed where it would be covered within a few years by **sediments** and eventually decompose.

validate (v) /'væl.ɪ.deɪt/

to prove that something is correct (công nhận)

Ex: Recently, however, a discovery may go a long way toward **validating** these scientists' theories.

Quiz

Fill in the blanks with the words from the box

speculating	validate	sediment	debris	cataclysmic
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1. The research findings do not _____ the claims made by the manufacturer.
2. Other species have managed to adapt to _____ events or they have perished.

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3. Journalists are _____ about whether interest rates will be cut.
4. This field of study includes freshwater, marine water and _____ environments.
5. Some 19,000 tons of contaminated soil and _____ were removed from the property.

ubiquitous (adj) /ju: 'bɪk.wɪ.təs/

seeming to be everywhere (phổ biến)

Ex: The mobile phone, that most **ubiquitous** of consumer-electronic appliances, is about to enter a new age.

stagnant (adj) /'stæɡ.nənt/

not growing or developing (trì trệ)

Ex: Jobs become scarce in a **stagnant** economy.

geek (n) /ɡɪk/

someone who is extremely interested in computers (người cuồng máy tính)

Ex: Thanks to brilliant computer **geeks**, I can copy, scan, fax, and send photos all from a single machine.

compact (adj) /kəm'pækt/

smaller than is usual for things of the same kind (chắc, kết)

Ex: The notebook computer is small and **compact** and weighs only 3.6lb.

assortment (n) /ə'sɔ:tmənt/

a collection of different things or of different types of the same thing (sự tổng hợp)

Ex: Transportation expects foresee a new **assortment** of electric vehicles entering everyday life.

hybrid (n) /'haɪ.bɪd/

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(of a vehicle) using two different types of power (loại xe sử dụng 2 dạng năng lượng)

Ex: A **hybrid** car could save you hundreds of pounds at the petrol pump.

peculiar (adj) /prɪ'kju:.li.əʃ/

belonging to, relating to, or found in only particular people or things (riêng biệt, đặc biệt)

Ex: Botany, the study of plants, occupies a **peculiar** position in the history of human knowledge.

probe (v) /prəʊb/

to search into or examine something (dò xét)

Ex: The US Justice Department has announced an investigation into leading online platforms, **probing** whether they are unfairly restricting competition.

synonymous (adj) /sɪ'nɒn.ɪ.məs/

so closely connected with something that the two things appear to be the same (phổ biến, nổi tiếng vì)

Ex: “Apple”, “tweet”, “clouds” – words that once conjured vivid visions of the countryside are now **synonymous** with our technological world.

hub (n) /hʌb

the central and most important part of a particular place or activity (trung tâm)

Ex: Edinburgh is one of the UK's fastest growing tech **hubs**, with access to an excellent talent pool of high skilled people.

Quiz

Fill in the blanks with the words from the box

geek	ubiquitous	hub	compact	hybrid
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1. He is as recognizable and as _____ as the celebrities he photographs.

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2. The software is part of Microsoft's goal of creating a digital _____ for the home.
3. The station will provide hydrogen for fuel cell and _____ vehicles in the area.
4. Tull describes himself as a film _____ who grew up loving comics and video games.
5. Electric vehicles will not be truly practical until a powerful, _____ battery or another dependable source of current is available.

prodigious (adj) /prə'dɪdʒ.əs/

extremely great in ability, amount, or strength (phi thường, to lớn)

Ex: He had a **prodigious** appetite for both computers and drink.

parchment paper (n) /'pɑ:tʃ.mənt 'peɪ.pə/

paper that does not allow oil through, used especially in cooking (giấy nến)

Ex: On a piece of 50-year-old **parchment paper** he saw a design which gave him an idea.

siphon off /'saɪ.fən/ (phrV)

to gradually steal money or goods, usually from a business or government (ăn cắp dần dần)

Ex: An ad company was scraping profiles, copying photos and **siphoning off** data supposed to be deleted after 24 hours.

diligent (adj) /'dɪl.ɪ.dʒənt/

one in a careful and detailed way (cẩn thận)

Ex: Business Insider said Instagram's owner, Facebook, should have been more **diligent** about preventing data grabbing.

cybersecurity (n) /,saɪ.bə.sɪ'kjʊə.rə.ti/

ways of protecting computer systems against threats such as viruses (an ninh mạng)

Ex: A team from **cybersecurity** firm Checkpoint has demonstrated how the tool can be used to alter the text within quoted messages.

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encrypt (v) /ɪnˈkript/

to put information into a special form so that most people cannot read it (mã hóa, cài mã)

Ex: Protected websites will tell you that the transfer is **encrypted**, and your browser will usually display a symbol confirming this.

authenticity (n) /ˌɔːθenˈtɪs.ə.ti/

the quality of being real or true (tính xác thực)

Ex: WhatsApp made it extremely difficult - perhaps impossible - for the company to monitor and verify the **authenticity** of messages being sent by users.

outlandish (adj) /ˌaʊtˈlænd.ɪʃ/

strange and unusual and difficult to accept or like (kì dị, lạ lùng)

Ex: Remember how **outlandish** the first Samsung Galaxy Note looked when it was unveiled in 2011?

scribble (v) /ˈskɪb.əl/

to write or draw something quickly or carelessly (viết nghệch ngoạc)

Ex: In the Note 10, you can use it to **scribble** a message and have your terrible handwriting converted to text.

tech – savvy (adj) /ˌtek ˈsævi/

knowing a lot about modern technology, especially computers (giỏi công nghệ)

Ex: The state needs more **tech-savvy** workers for its hi-tech industries.

Quiz

Fill in the blanks with the words from the box

tech-savvy	encrypt	authenticity	cybersecurity	diligent
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1. Life Hacker does offer a step-by-step guide on how to _____ all your web data.
2. In slow times, be _____ about where and how your marketing dollars are spent.
3. The bank needs to meet the demands of today's _____ consumers.
4. Negative reviews can increase perceived _____ of websites' review systems.
5. It also would require licensing and certification of _____ professionals.

Vocabulary highlights

- ✓ speculate (v): suy đoán
- ✓ cataclysmic (adj): biến động
- ✓ asteroid (n): tiểu hành tinh
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- ✓ parchment paper (n): giấy nến
- ✓ siphon off (phrV): ăn cắp dần
- ✓ diligent (adj): cẩn thận
- ✓ cybersecurity (n): an ninh mạng
- ✓ encrypt (v): mã hóa
- ✓ authenticity (n): sự xác thực
- ✓ outlandish (adj): kì dị
- ✓ scribble (v): viết nghếch ngoạc
- ✓ tech-savvy (adj): giỏi công nghệ

PRACTICE

1. Why _____ young adults can't quit bank branches?
A. ubiquitous B. synonymous C. detailed D. tech-savvy
2. This year, the company may hire 15 to 30 _____ workers, Greenberg says.
A. cybersecurity B. assortment C. hybrid D. sediment
3. Most online stores _____ songs to stop illegal file sharing and duplication.
A. scribble B. encrypt C. speculate D. cast
4. I have never seen a 3D movie before, I am not a movie snob or a technology _____.
A. geek B. debris C. sediment D. assortment
5. He said he didn't want to _____ about the identify of Robinson's supporters.
A. cast B. encrypt C. speculate D. scribble
6. The aim of the office manager is to _____ enough room on the building plans so that each employee can have space for a personal computer.
A. arrange B. allocate C. accord D. organize
7. I have tried and tried again and again and no matter what I do it still shows "error" – I just can't _____ what's wrong.
A. look out B. figure out C. check out D. bring out

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8. It's a really clever piece of software because it enables you to _____ on your screen all the information in columns.

- A. illustrate B. display C. depict D. delineate

9. When you see that particular symbol on the screen, you have to take that as a _____ that something is wrong.

- A. indicating B. checking C. warning D. briefing

10. My computer is not capable of saving material on separate _____ because it has no floppy drive.

- A. space B. disc C. compact D. place

11. The smartphones are supposed to be by Sappho, but they are actually of doubtful _____.

- A. hybrid B. authenticity C. hub D. geek

12. The name of Alfred Hitchcock is _____ with movie thrillers.

- A. compact B. stagnant C. synonymous D. tech-savvy

13. Wi-Fi-enabled tablets, phones, cameras and other devices have become _____.

- A. ubiquitous B. cataclysmic C. peculiar D. with-it

14. To _____ their results, the researchers conducted two additional assessments.

- A. encrypt B. speculate C. hypothesize D. validate

15. Other local threats include coastal development, _____ run-off and pollution.

- A. debris B. sediment C. authenticity D. hub

16. The government has designated the Moscow suburb of Skolkovo as a technology _____.

- A. hub B. technophile C. technophobe D. geek

17. He lost his job when it was discovered that he had been siphoning _____ money from the company for his own use.

- A. at B. with C. off D. towards

18. You have to have a really _____ mind in order to get your head round some of today's computing technology.

- A. sharp B. cut C. razor D. acute

19. The great advantage of having an external zip drive is that you can use it as an extra means of _____.

A. hoarding B. keeping C. storage D. holding

20. He says the problems prompted him as a journalist to _____ deeper, even after the issues disappeared from the media.

A. probe B. encrypt C. speculate D. scribble

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