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| Word | Definition | Source |
| SST | Sea Surface Temperature | Article |
| Bjerknes positive feedback | Process by which easterly wind from the Walker Circulation creates a positive feedback loop by strengthening East-West temperature gradient | http://www.climate.be/textbook/chapter5\_node4.xml |
| Thermocline | Area in ocean with a very steep temperature gradient | https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/thermocline.html |
| Walker Circulation | Cell of circulating air over the equator, driven by temperature difference across Pacific Ocean | Wikipedia |
| Atlantic multidecadal variability | Pattern of temperature change in Atlantic Ocean, across many decades. | <http://ocp.ldeo.columbia.edu/res/div/ocp/>  glodech/6AtlanticMultidecadal.html |
| Orthogonal Function (EOF) analysis | Method of analyzing a data set involving many variables, usually on a map | Wikipedia |
| Detrended | Removing trends from a dataset to detect correlation, without trend interfering | Wikipedia |
| Principal Component | Way of representing a dataset by identifying lines with greatest and least variability. PC1 has greatest, while PC2 has least variance. | Wikipedia |
| Time Series | Dataset that tracks change over time | https://www.statisticssolutions.com/time-series-analysis/ |
| JJA0 | June, July and August of first year | Article |
| D0FJ1 | December, January and February | Article |
| Atl-EOF index | Variable that describes stage of Atlantic Nino, uses PC analysis on time series | Article |
| Coupled Model Intercomparison Project phase 5 (CMIP5) | Set of computer atmospheric models used in research article | Article |
| Normalized | Adjusting a dataset so that it follows a normal distribution | Wikipedia |
| Temporal variability | Change over time | Merriam-Webster dictionary |
| Bootstrap Method | Process of analyzing a dataset by resampling it many times, allowing replacement. | Wikipedia |
| Boreal | Northern hemisphere | Merriam-Webster dictionary |