Word Quest 5

List 7 · Science and technology

Vocabulary and example	Write it

biological adj. /ˌbaɪəˈlɒdʒɪkl/

about living things

Family: biology (n.)

Climate change affects **biological** diversity.

botany n. /ˈbɒtəni/

the scientific study of plants

Family: botanist (n.) · botanical (adj.)

My aunt teaches **botany** at a university.

breakdown n. /ˈbreɪkdaʊn/

when a machine stops working; also, a sudden failure

Family: breakdowns · break down (v.)

The bus had a **breakdown** on the motorway.

classification n. /ˌklæsɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/

putting things into groups

Family: classifications · classify (v.)

The **classification** of animals helps scientists.

component n. /kəmˈpəʊnənt/

one of the parts of a machine or system

Family: components

The factory makes phone **components**.

emit v. /ɪˈmɪt/

to send out light, heat, gas or sound

Family: emits · emitted · emission (n.)

Cars **emit** harmful gases.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

genome n. /ˈdʒiːnəʊm/

all the genes of a living thing

Family: genomes

Scientists mapped the human **genome**.

hypothesis n. /haɪˈpɒθəsɪs/

an idea that you test to see if it is true

Family: hypotheses (pl.)

Our **hypothesis** is that plants grow faster with music.

innovation n. /ˌɪnəˈveɪʃn/

a new idea or invention

Family: innovations · innovative (adj.)

The smartphone was a huge **innovation**.

mechanism n. /ˈmekənɪzəm/

the parts of a machine that do a job; also, a way of doing something

Family: mechanisms

The clock's **mechanism** is very old.

mold n. /məʊld/

a soft green or grey growth on old food

Family: moldy (adj.) **Tip:** American spelling; British English writes "mould".

There's **mold** on the bread.

organism n. /ˈɔːgənɪzəm/

a living thing

Family: organisms

Bacteria are tiny **organisms**.

Vocabulary and example	Write it

particle n. /ˈpɑːtɪkl/

a very small piece of something

Family: particles

Particles of dust floated in the sunlight.

patent n./v. /ˈpeɪtənt/

the legal right to be the only one to make an invention

Family: patents · patented

She got a **patent** for her new machine.

phenomenon n. /fɪˈnɒmɪnən/

something that happens, especially something unusual

Family: phenomena (pl.)

The northern lights are a natural **phenomenon**.

psychology n. /saɪˈkɒlədʒi/

the study of the mind and behaviour

Family: psychologist (n.) · psychological (adj.) **Tip:** The “p” is silent.

She studies **psychology** at university.

simulate v. /ˈsɪmjʊleɪt/

to copy how something works, often with a computer

Family: simulates · simulated · simulation (n.)

The program **simulates** a flight.

spectrum n. /ˈspektrəm/

the band of colours in light; also, a range

Family: spectra

A rainbow shows the colour **spectrum**.

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Vocabulary and example	Write it

stimulate v. /ˈstɪmjʊleɪt/

to make something more active

Family: stimulates · stimulated · stimulation (n.)

Exercise **stimulates** the brain.

substance n. /ˈsʌbstəns/

a material or kind of matter

Family: substances

Water is a clear **substance**.

valve n. /vælv/

a part that controls the flow of liquid or gas

Family: valves

The heart has four **valves**.