



1st semester

Topic 42:

Chance and nature



Topic vocabulary: Chance

approximate (v, adj)

ascribe (v)

assign (v)

attribute (v)

blow (n)

cause (v, n)

coincidence (n)

curse (v, n)

deliberate (adj)

determine (v)

fate (n)

fluctuate (v)

foresee (v)

freak (n, adj)

gamble (v)

haphazard (adj)

hazard (n)

inadvertent (adj)

instrumental (adj)

jinxed (adj)



approximate

1. (v) to calculate something in a way that is not exact
2. (adj) not exact, but close to an exact amount, number, time, etc.

The train's approximate time of arrival is 10.30.



ascribe

(v) to believe something is the cause of something else

Their defeat was **ascribed** to a poor defence.



coincidence

(n) a situation in which separate things happen by chance at the same time or in the same way

There was a series of strange coincidences.



haphazard

(adj) done in a way that does not seem to be
carefully planned or organised
haphazard bunch of bikes



mishap

(n) a minor mistake or accident

A series of mishaps led to the nuclear power plant blowing up.



Topic vocabulary: Nature

agriculture (n)

appreciate (v)

catastrophe (n)

crop (n)

drought (n)

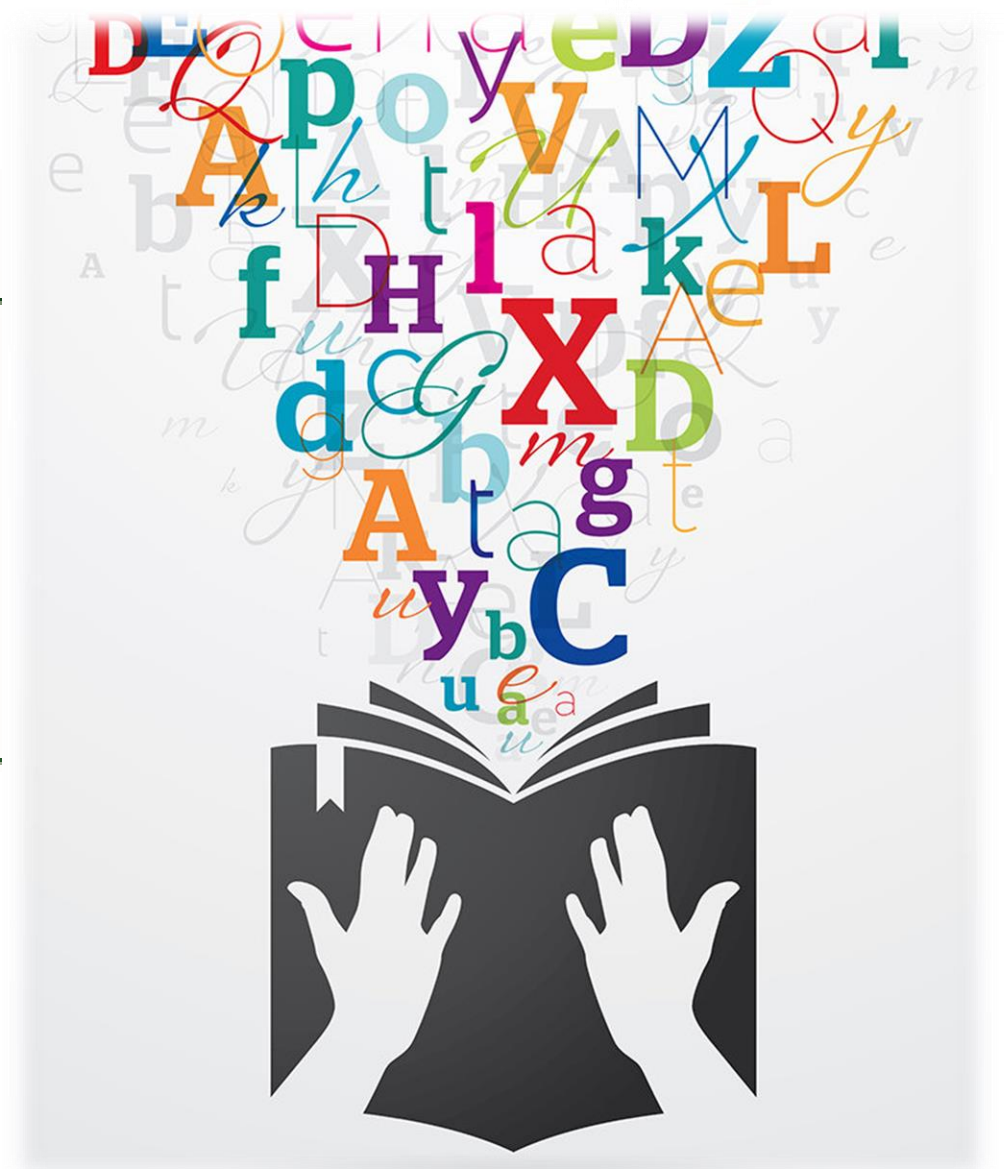
evacuate (v)

exploit (v)

famine (n)

flood (v, n)

fossil fuels (n phr)





agriculture

(n) the work, business or study of farming

appreciate

(v) 1. to understand the true nature of a situation, and realise why it is important or serious 2. to be grateful for something

catastrophe

(n) an event that causes a lot of damage or makes a lot of people suffer

crop

(n) a plant grown for food, usually on a farm



drought

(n) a long period of time when there is little or no rain and crops die

evacuate

(v) to leave a building or other place because it is not safe

exploit

(v) 1. to use natural resources such as trees, water or oil so that you gain as much as possible
2. to treat someone unfairly in order to get some benefit for yourself



famine

(n) a serious lack of food that continues for a long time and causes many people in a country to become ill or die

flood

1. (v) if water floods a place, it covers it 2. (n) a large amount of water that covers an area that was dry before

fossil fuels

(n phr) fuels such as coal or oil, made from decayed material from animals or plants that lived many thousands of years ago