



Talk like an expert

Curriculum Wow Words - Intermediate (KS3/4)

Learning Outcome: Students will be able to use the Curriculum Wow Words to take part in academic discussions.



Instructions

- Print the 'Talk like X' worksheet for the relevant subject or topic and hand out to students.
- Group/pair the students and choose a suitable starter task from the sheet, such as 'Describe the picture in one minute' or get students to brainstorm vocabulary related to the topic and add to the sheet.
- Pre-teach the Wow Words vocabulary found in the 'Wow Words' box. Students can complete the relevant Wow Words lesson in the FlashAcademy® app to begin.
- Get students to answer the discussion questions in their pairs/groups. Monitor and encourage students to use the terminology from the questions in their answers. Give support with using the language accurately – gather common mistakes to review anonymously as a class.
- Take discussion feedback as a class.
- Hold a debate using the prompt in the DEBATE! box. Allocate pairs of students a 'for' or 'against' stance, give them time to prepare then join them with an opposing pair. Or have a whole class debate with the class divided in half.

Differentiation

- Have students describe the picture projected on the board before learning the Wow Word vocabulary then get them to describe it once again after pre-teaching, trying to incorporate as many new terms as possible in their descriptions.
- Depending on how communicative your students are, you might want to combine the discussions questions and DEBATE! section together. Answers could be discussed or written down.
- For related vocabulary, students could create questions using the extra vocabulary to ask another pair/group of students.
- Ask students to use the Wow Words as many times as they can during the 'DEBATE!'. Students score a point each time they use a Wow Word correctly.

Next steps suggestions

- Get students to write a paragraph for homework answering the debate question using their own opinion and as many Wow Words as possible.
- Encourage students to use the new vocabulary in future lessons and reward students for incorporating the terms into other work.
- Get students to choose 1 word and research it in more depth. Students could complete a 'Wow Word Web', found in the Curriculum Wow Words: English Language pack. Encourage students to think about how the words can be used in other curriculum subjects.

Materials required

- 'Talk like an expert' sheet

TALK LIKE...a writer

Lesson: Literary verbs

Discuss:



1. What kind of feeling does the picture **evoke** for you?
2. Can you **recount** a time you were in a forest like the picture?
3. If you can't **infer** the meaning of something in a book, what do you do?
4. Can you describe a time you have waited for something to be **unveiled**?
5. What could the person in the picture be **wondering**?



WOW WORDS

to evoke

to infer

to recount

to unveil

to wonder

DEBATE!



'Books should never be made into films.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Literary verbs**'.
List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE...an artist

Lesson: Describing art & design

Discuss:



1. Why would we describe this picture as **surreal**?
2. What can you see in the picture that is **intricate**?
3. Do you know anybody who is **flamboyant**?
4. What is the most **garish** thing you have seen?
5. What can you describe as **iridescent**?



WOW WORDS

iridescent

intricate

garish

flamboyant

surreal

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Describing art & design**'. List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

DEBATE!



'Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

TALK LIKE...a musician

Lesson: Describing music

Discuss:



1. Do you think music sounds **catchier** with a guitar or a keyboard?
2. What is the most **grating** sound for you?
3. Can you describe a **cacophonous** sound?
4. What kind of animal sound is **shrill**?
5. Do you know any musicians who are '**lyrical** geniuses'?

DEBATE!



'People are born with the talent for playing a musical instrument.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

cacophonous

shrill

catchy

lyrical

grating

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Describing music**'.
List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE...a historian

Lesson: History verbs

Discuss:



1. What is the earliest memory you can **recollect**?
2. If you could **abolish** one modern law, what would you choose?
3. How would a fossil (like the one in the picture) be **unearthed**?
4. When is it important to **veto** something?
5. Can you think of a time in history that someone has been **liberated**?



WOW WORDS

to abolish

to veto

to unearth

to liberate

to recollect

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**History verbs**'.
List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

DEBATE!



'Exams in schools must be abolished.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

TALK LIKE...a historian

Lesson: History nouns

Discuss:



1. Have you ever researched your **ancestors**?
2. What can a **census** be used for?
3. What do you think the **alliance** in the picture is about?
4. Do you have a favorite **epoch**?
5. Give one reason for why an **exodus** would happen.

DEBATE!



'It is important for students to learn about the history of their country.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

alliance

exodus

ancestor

census

epoch

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**History nouns**'.
List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE...a geographer

Lesson: On an adventure

Discuss:



1. If you could go on a **voyage**, where would you go?
2. Do you think this place looks like an **oasis**? Why/why not?
3. Can you think of any famous **pioneers**?
4. What kind of **ordeal** do you think the girl in the picture might have had?
5. How is an **escapade** different to a trip?



WOW WORDS

oasis

voyage

pioneer

ordeal

escapade

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**On an adventure**'.
List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

DEBATE!



'People should not be allowed to travel solo under the age of 21.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

TALK LIKE...a geographer

Lesson: Climbing a mountain

Discuss:



1. Are you better at **orientation** in the mountains or in the city?
2. Do you think the hikers in the picture show **endurance**? Why / why not?
3. If you had **altitude** sickness, what would you do?
4. Have you ever reached the **pinnacle** of a mountain?
5. How would you feel about going close to a **precipice** like in the photo?



WOW WORDS

endurance

precipice

altitude

orientation

pinnacle

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Climbing a mountain**'. List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

DEBATE!



'There should be a maximum number of visitors to the mountains.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

TALK LIKE...a scientist

Lesson: Describing chemicals

Discuss:



1. What is the most **potent** thing you have smelled?
2. Why is it good for chemicals to be **diluted**?
3. What would you do if you spilled a **corrosive** chemical?
4. Would you handle a **noxious** chemical in the same way as the scientist in the picture? Why / why not?
5. What happens when something is **effervescent**?



WOW WORDS

effervescent

potent

noxious

corrosive

diluted

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Describing chemicals**'. List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

DEBATE!



'There are too many chemicals in fast food.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

TALK LIKE...a scientist

Lesson: Space

Discuss:



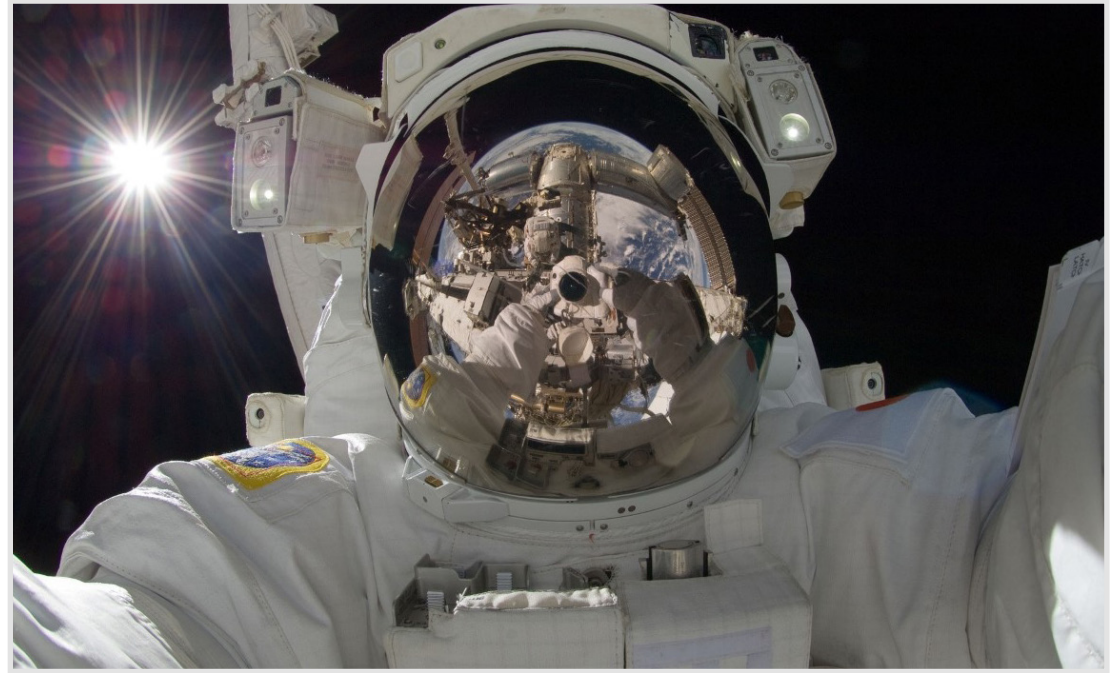
1. What happens when an astronaut **drifts** into space?
2. If you could choose one place in the world to **stargaze**, where would it be?
3. What has been **innovated** to make space travel possible?
4. Which country do you think **emits** the most light? Why?
5. Can you think of different ways to **illuminate** the sky?

DEBATE!



‘We should all be able to fly to space, not only astronauts and researchers.’

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

to illuminate

to stargaze

to emit

to innovate

to drift

Think of other vocabulary you know related to ‘**Space**’.

List the words below:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.



TALK LIKE... a mathematician

Lesson: Describing statistics

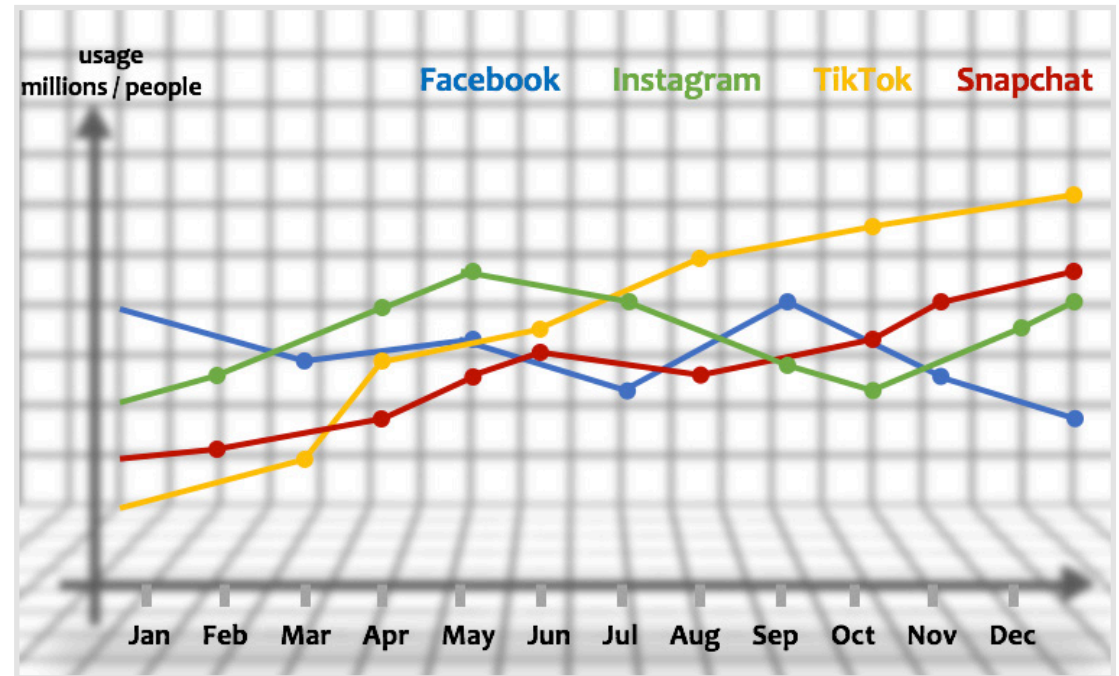
Discuss:

1. Do you think the popularity shown in the graph is **proportional** to the quality of social media?
2. Why do you think the data in the graph is **variable**?
3. Would you describe any of the results in the graph as **anomalous**?
4. When is it best to sort results in **ascending** order?
5. Do apps usually become **incrementally** popular over time or gain popularity overnight? Give examples.

DEBATE!

'Research shows that overuse of social media is harmful for teenagers.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

variable

proportional

anomalous

incremental

ascending

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Describing statistics**'. List the words below:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE... a mathematician

Lesson: Using data

Discuss:

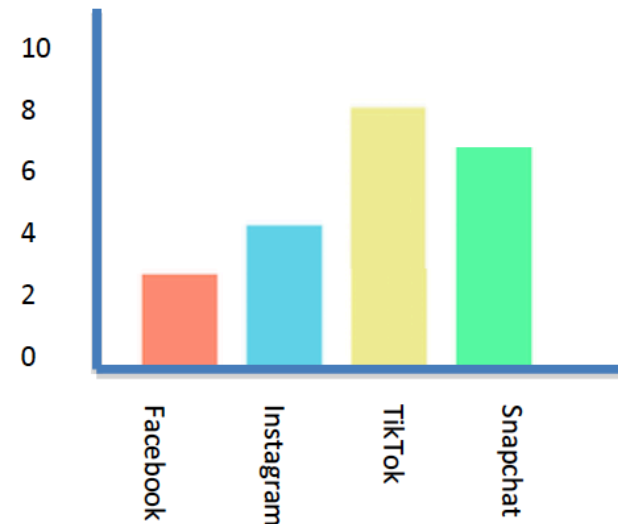
1. In the picture, how easy would it be to **convert** data from the bar chart into a line graph?
2. If we **extrapolated** the graph to include adults, how do you think it would change?
3. What problems do we face when **transforming** data?
4. If you had to **estimate**, how many hours do you spend on each type of social media?
5. If we made a **scatter** graph showing number of likes on an Instagram picture vs how happy a person was, do you think we would find a positive or negative correlation?

DEBATE!

'Data cannot be 100% accurate.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

Usage of social media by teenagers



WOW WORDS

to convert

to extrapolate

to estimate

to transform

to scatter

Think of other vocabulary you know related to 'Using data'.
List the words below:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE... a computer scientist

Lesson: Describing computers

Discuss:



1. Do you think any of the computers in the picture would be **compatible** with technology now?
2. Can you think of anything **analogue** that people use today?
3. What could be **cryptic** about this photo?
4. Describe an example of **malicious** software for computers.
5. Why is **binary** important for computers?

DEBATE!

'Computers will replace teachers in the future.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

analogue

binary

cryptic

compatible

malicious

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Describing computers**'. List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE... a software engineer

Lesson: Technology words

Discuss:



1. Do you often change the **interface** on your computer or phone, like the picture?
2. What are you most likely to **archive**?
3. Do you think **cloning** is useful in technology? Why?
4. What do you have in **bundles** related to technology?
5. Do you always try to have the latest software **iteration**?

DEBATE!



'It would be amazing to be able to clone humans.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

archive

interface

bundle

clone

iteration

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Technology words**'.
List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE... a product designer

Lesson: Describing inventions

Discuss:



1. What do you think is **ingenious** about the design in the photo?
2. Why would a product like the one in the photo become **obsolete**?
3. Describe a **robust** object you can see in the room.
4. What makes an object **bespoke**?
5. How could you make the product in the photo more **aesthetic**?

DEBATE!



'The best invention in the last 20 years is the smartphone.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

robust

bespoke

obsolete

ingenious

aesthetic

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Describing inventions**'. List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE...a designer

Lesson: Finishing touches

Discuss:



1. How long do you think it'd take the man in the photo to **enhance** a guitar?
2. Can you **gauge** the quality of guitar in this photo?
3. What kind of things can you **sprinkle**?
4. Why is it important to **garnish** food?
5. Have you ever **rendered** an object as obsolete?

DEBATE!



'Handmade objects are better quality than factory made.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

to garnish

to enhance

to render

to gauge

to sprinkle

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Finishing touches**'.
List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

TALK LIKE...a politician

Lesson: Behaving in society

Discuss:



1. Why do British people like to **conform** to queueing, as in the photo?
2. Have you seen a lot of **defaced** buildings in your town?
3. What happens when someone is **chastised**?
4. How can the pressures on young people from society be **abated**?
5. Do you think people generally **shirk** responsibility in society?



WOW WORDS

to chastise

to conform

to deface

to abate

to shirk

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Behaving in society**'. List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

DEBATE!



'There should be strong punishments for people who deface buildings with graffiti.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?

TALK LIKE... a police officer

Lesson: Breaking the rules

Discuss:



1. What kind of crime is the person in this photo **complicit** in?
2. What level of breaking the rules is **reckless**?
3. Why do some criminals seem **remorseful** and others do not?
4. How can politics be **corrupt**?
5. Why might the person in the photo have such a **flagrant** disregard for the rules?

DEBATE!



'Politicians are usually corrupt in some way.'

Do you agree or disagree with your classmates? Why / why not?



WOW WORDS

complicit

corrupt

reckless

remorseful

flagrant

Think of other vocabulary you know related to '**Breaking the rules**'. List the words below:



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.