

# IELTS Vocabulary

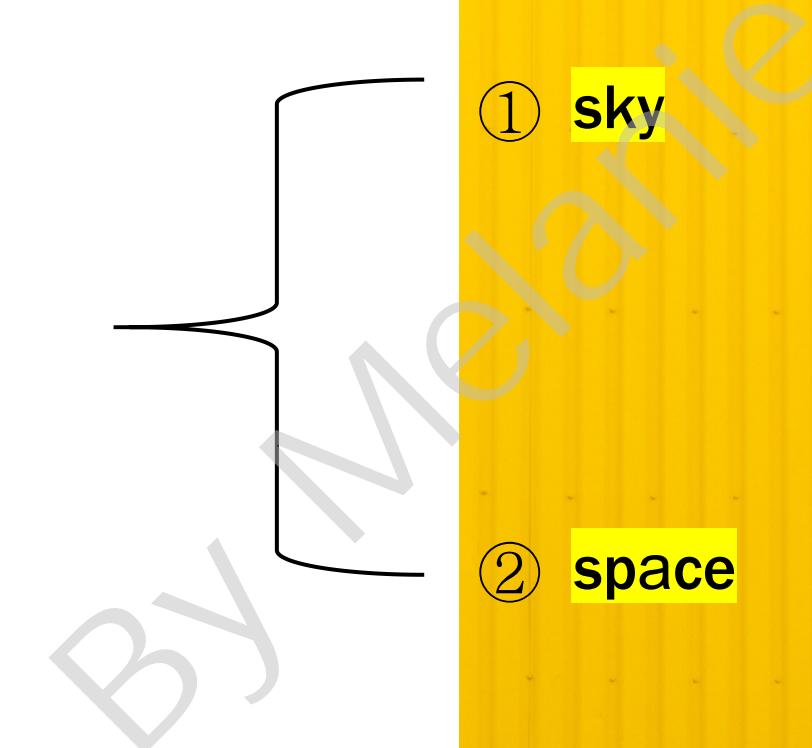
By Melanie  
尤梦怡 Melanie



# CONTENTS



Reaching for the sky

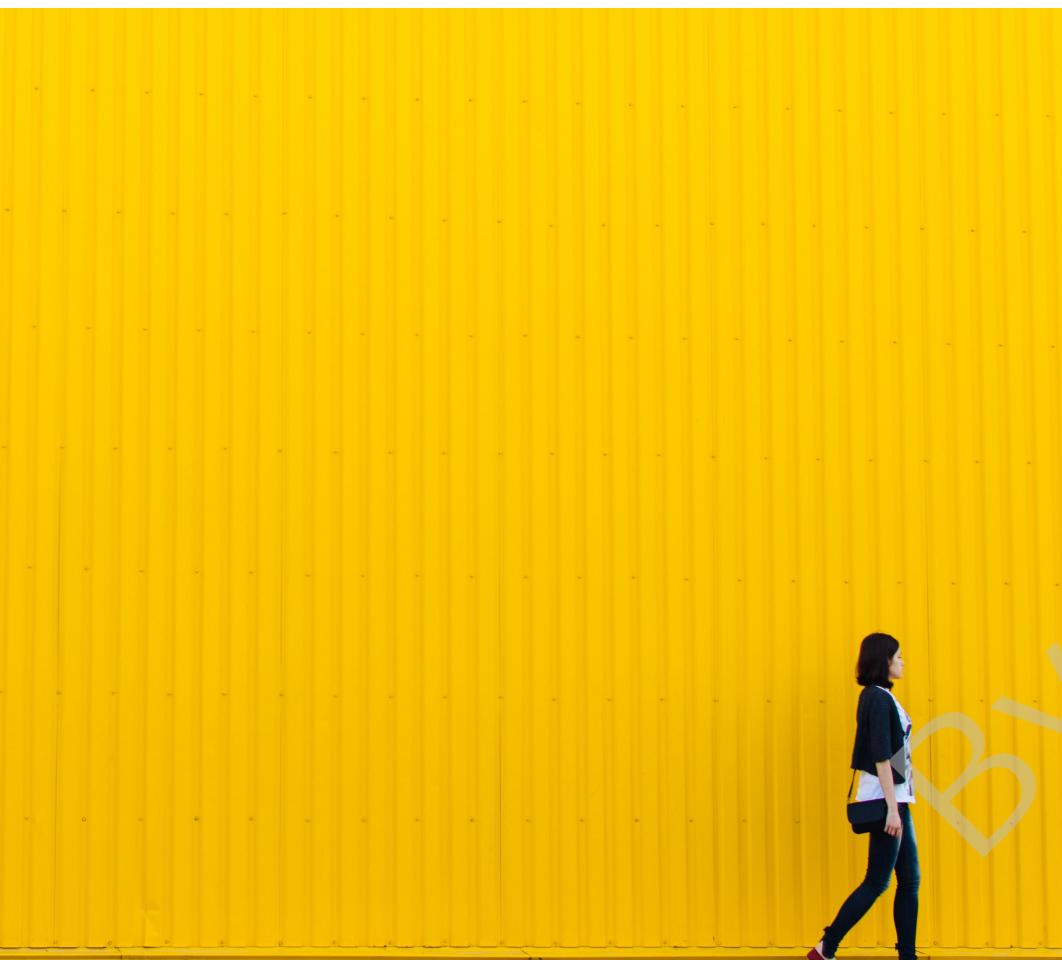


① sky

② space



# Lesson Objectives



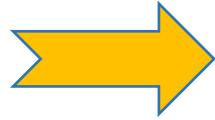
1. Accurately understand and use advanced descriptive vocabulary related to
  - watching the sky
  - emotional reactions to nature
  - space exploration
2. Apply topic vocabulary naturally in:
  - IELTS Speaking Part 2
  - IELTS Writing Task 2

**When you look at the sky, what words come to your mind?**

BY *Melanie*

# Vocabulary: Describing the Sky

The sunset/sunrise was very beautiful.



The sky was ablaze with colour,  
painted in hues of orange and gold.



ablaze = 像被点燃  
hues = 色相 (和colours 类似)

be ablaze with colour  
in hues of +具体颜色



The sky was ablaze with colour, painted in hues of purple and pink.

# Vocabulary: Describing the Sky



a **heavy cloud cover**

厚厚的云层

A **heavy cloud cover** blocked our view of the sun.



**wispy / fluffy** clouds

稀薄的/蓬松的云朵

Fluffy clouds drifted slowly across the blue sky.



a **clear sky**

**crystal clear**

清澈透明的

**clear up**

天空放晴

The sky became overcast, and dark clouds gathered overhead.

After days of rain, everyone's mood improved as soon as the weather cleared up.

# Vocabulary: Describing the Sky

The sun went down.



the sun **dips** below the horizon  
太阳沉入地平线

when it was dark, ...



Twilight **descends**  
暮色降临

We sat in silence as we watched the sun dip below the horizon.

The period when twilight descends is my favorite time for an evening walk.

# Practice :

1. After the rain, the night sky became \_\_\_\_\_.

- A. very clean
- B. crystal clear
- C. quite nice

B

# Practice :

## Exercise 2: Matching

Match the phrases with meanings:

1. twilight descends

b

a. thick clouds blocking the sky

2. heavy cloud cover

a

b. evening light slowly appears

3. sun dips below the horizon

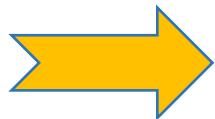
c

c. sunset moment

# Vocabulary : emotional response

Sky → awe → perspective

I felt relaxed.



All my stresses **melted** away.  
所有压力都消散了

I felt quiet.



I had a **profound** sense of peace /  
**tranquillity**.  
宁静感

It was like a dream.



it felt **surreal**  
感觉超现实

Seeing the northern lights dance above me felt utterly surreal, like a dream.

It made me think a lot.



it **sparked** my curiosity  
I **was in awe of**...(natural beauty)  
对..感到敬畏

# Practice :

As soon as I arrived at the beach, all my stresses \_\_\_\_\_ away.

- A. went
- B. disappeared
- C. melted

# Practice :

Seeing the Earth from space, I was in \_\_\_\_\_ of its beauty.

- A. surprise
- B. awe
- C. shock

B

# Practice :

Winning the award felt completely \_\_\_\_\_, like a dream.

- A. strange
- B. unreal
- C. surreal

B/C

# Practice :

Watching a documentary about black holes sparked my \_\_\_\_\_ about the universe.

- A. interest
- B. curiosity
- C. idea

A/B

# IELTS Speaking Part 2 practice:

Describe a time when you enjoyed looking at the sky.

You should say:  
where you were  
what the sky looked like  
how you felt  
and explain why the experience was memorable

Where you were (背景)

- 地点是否具体
- 是否远离城市 / 有特殊环境

What the sky looked like (画面)

- 天空类型 (clear / starry / overcast)
- 颜色、云、光线、变化

How you felt (感受)

- 情绪: 放松、震撼、宁静
- 心理变化: 压力消失、被吸引

Why it was memorable (意义)

- 对生活/自己的影响
- 为什么和其他经历不一样

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Where you were (背景)

- 地点是否具体
- 是否远离城市 / 有特殊环境

I'd like to talk about a time when I really enjoyed looking at the sky during a short trip to the countryside last year.

I stayed in a small village that was far from city lights, so the environment was very quiet and dark at night.

# IELTS Speaking Part 2 practice:

Describe a time when you enjoyed looking at the sky.

You should say:  
where you were  
what the sky looked like  
how you felt  
and explain why the experience was  
memorable

What the sky looked like (画面)

- 天空类型 (clear / starry / overcast)
- 颜色、云、光线、变化

As **twilight descended**, I lay on my back on the grass, **gazing up** at the night sky.

The sky was **crystal clear** and **starry**, and as my eyes adjusted to the darkness, more and more stars emerged gradually.

A few **wispy clouds** drifted slowly across the **sky**, creating a **breathtaking vista** that was hard to describe.

# IELTS Speaking Part 2 practice:

Describe a time when you enjoyed looking at the sky.

You should say:  
where you were  
what the sky looked like  
how you felt  
and explain why the experience was  
memorable

How you felt (感受)

- 情绪: 放松、震撼、宁静
- 心理变化: 压力消失、被吸引

At that moment, I felt a profound sense of peace, and all my stresses melted away.

I was truly in awe of the sheer scale of the universe, and the whole experience felt slightly surreal, almost like I was dreaming.

It also sparked my curiosity about space and the possibility of life beyond our planet.

# IELTS Speaking Part 2 practice:

Describe a time when you enjoyed looking at the sky.

You should say:  
where you were  
what the sky looked like  
how you felt  
and explain why the experience was memorable

Why it was memorable (意义)

- 对生活/自己的影响
- 为什么和其他经历不一样

What made this experience especially memorable was that it really put things into perspective for me.

Compared with the vast universe above me, my daily worries suddenly seemed much less important, and that feeling has stayed with me ever since.

也可以去讲城市里的light pollution

I'd like to describe a time when I really enjoyed looking at the sky during a short trip to the countryside last year. I was staying in a small village far from city lights, so there was very little light pollution.

One evening, I lay on my back on the grass, gazing up at the night sky. The sky was crystal clear and starry, and as my eyes adjusted to the darkness, more and more stars emerged gradually. A few wispy clouds drifted slowly across the sky, creating a breathtaking vista that was hard to describe.

At that moment, I felt a profound sense of peace, and all my stresses melted away. I was truly in awe of the sheer scale of the universe, and the whole experience felt slightly surreal, almost like I was dreaming. It also sparked my curiosity about space and the possibility of life beyond our planet.

What made this experience especially memorable was that it really put things into perspective for me. Compared with the vast universe above me, my daily worries suddenly seemed much less important, and that feeling has stayed with me ever since.

# Vocabulary : Space Exploration



astronauts      atmosphere      commercial      explorers  
launch      outer      simulator      weightlessness

If you have ever dreamed of travelling in space then our (1)..... space travel programme will make that dream a reality. Of course, passengers will need to prepare for this experience. However, unlike the months of training that (2)..... undergo, our passengers will be ready for (3)..... within two days. To prepare for a truly out-of-this-world experience, passengers will spend two days in our special training facility. There the passengers will be able to experience zero gravity in a special (4).....; this will allow the passengers to acclimatise. During the flight itself a rocket will propel the spacecraft into suborbital space in excess of 100,000 m above the Earth's (5)..... . This will allow the passengers to experience (6)..... . Our space (7)..... will be able to float around the cabin and view the Earth and (8)..... space for approximately ten minutes prior to re-entry and landing.

# Practice :

astronauts      atmosphere      commercial      explorers  
launch      outer      simulator      weightlessness

If you have ever dreamed of travelling in space then our (1)..... **commercial** space travel programme will make that dream a reality. Of course, passengers will need to prepare for this experience. However, unlike the months of training that (2) **astronaut** ..... undergo, our passengers will be ready for (3) **launch** ..... within two days. To prepare for a truly out-of-this-world experience, passengers will spend two days in our special training facility. There the passengers will be able to experience zero gravity in a special (4) **simulator** .....; this will allow the passengers to acclimatise. During the flight itself a rocket will propel the spacecraft into suborbital space in excess of 100,000 m above the Earth's (5) **atmosphere** ..... This will allow the passengers to experience (6) **weightlessness** ..... Our space (7) **explorer** ..... will be able to float around the cabin and view the Earth and (8) **outer** ..... space for approximately ten minutes prior to re-entry and landing.

# Vocabulary: Space Exploration

What preparations do we need before we have space travel?



simulator  
模拟器



weightlessness  
失重 =float in the cabin  
undergo 经受 loss of gravity

# Vocabulary: Space Exploration

Why do humans explore space if it's so dangerous and expensive?

to learn more / to understand the universe



expand human knowledge  
拓展人类的知识



technological advancement  
科技进步



Do space missions influence young people's career choices?

inspire younger generations to study STEM  
激发年轻一代对 STEM (科学、技术、工程和数学) 的学习兴趣

# Vocabulary: Space Exploration



How would you feel if all the hospital funds were used to launch rockets for NASA?



**prohibitively** expensive  
非常贵



**divert** resources **from** Earth's problems  
把本应用于地球问题的资金/资源转向其他领域



space **debris** / junk  
太空**垃圾**

# Practice :

1. 太空探索可以拓展人类知识，帮助我们理解宇宙和地球的起源。

Space exploration can expand human knowledge, helping us to understand the universe and the origins of our planet.

2. 卫星技术让我们能够实时监控天气和进行导航。

Satellite technology allows us to monitor the weather and navigate in real time.

3. 成功的太空任务可以激励年轻一代学习科学、技术、工程和数学（STEM）。

Successful space missions can inspire younger generations to study science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

# Practice :

4. 一些人认为太空探索极其昂贵，会把资源从解决地球问题上转移走。

Some people believe that space exploration is prohibitively expensive and may divert resources from Earth's problems.

5. 环绕地球的太空碎片越来越多，对未来的任务构成威胁。

Space debris orbiting the Earth is increasing and poses a threat to future missions.

6. 宇航员在太空中可以体验失重的感觉，这是地球上无法感受到的。

Astronauts can experience weightlessness in space, which is impossible to feel on Earth.

7. 有些科学家希望寻找外星生命，了解宇宙的奥秘。

Some scientists aim to search for alien life to learn more about the mysteries of the universe.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 practice:



Some people believe that governments should invest heavily in space exploration, while others think this money should be spent on solving problems on Earth. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

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Some people believe that governments should invest heavily in space exploration, while others think this money should be spent on solving problems on Earth. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

## Introduction

改写题目：政府是否应把大量资金投入太空探索

存在争议

表明立场：承认双方观点，但更偏向有条件支持  
太空探索

## Body 1 — Benefits

Why governments should invest in space  
exploration

## Body 2 — Drawbacks

Why money should be spent on Earth's  
problems

## Conclusion

重申：两种观点都有道理

个人观点：支持太空探索，但应平衡投入 + 可  
持续探索

# IELTS Writing Task 2 practice:

Some people believe that governments should invest heavily in space exploration, while others think this money should be spent on solving problems on Earth.

Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

introduction:

There is ongoing debate about whether...

While some people argue that..., others believe that...

In my view, although..., governments should...

There is ongoing debate about whether governments should invest large amounts of money in space exploration or focus instead on addressing problems on Earth. While both views have their merits, I believe that space exploration is worth supporting, provided it does not come at the expense of essential social needs.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 practice:

Some people believe that governments should invest heavily in space exploration, while others think this money should be spent on solving problems on Earth. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

**BODY 1:** 太空探索好处

主题句：On the one hand, investing in space exploration offers significant long-term benefits.

论点1：One important advantage is that it helps expand human knowledge about the universe and the

origins of our planet. 论点2：In addition, many technological breakthroughs have resulted from space

programmes, leading to major technological advancement. 举例：For example, satellite technology

plays a crucial role in modern communication, navigation and weather forecasting. 论点3：

Furthermore, successful space missions can inspire younger generations to take an interest in science and engineering, 结果 which is vital for future innovation.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 practice:

Some people believe that governments should invest heavily in space exploration, while others think this money should be spent on solving problems on Earth. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

## BODY 2: 太空探索的缺点

观点1: On the other hand, opponents argue that space exploration is prohibitively expensive and involves astronomical costs.

解释1: They believe that governments should prioritise urgent issues on Earth, such as poverty, healthcare and education, rather than divert resources to projects with uncertain outcomes.

观点2: Another concern is the **growing problem** of space debris, 解释2: which poses risks to both current and future missions and raises questions about the sustainability of continued exploration.

# IELTS Writing Task 2 practice:

Some people believe that governments should invest heavily in space exploration, while others think this money should be spent on solving problems on Earth. Discuss both views and give your own opinion.

## Conclusion

重申：两种观点都有道理

个人观点：支持太空探索，但应平衡投入 + 可持续探索

In conclusion, although spending public money on space exploration has clear drawbacks, I believe it should not be abandoned altogether. Governments should adopt a balanced approach, investing in sustainable exploration while ensuring that pressing problems on Earth are adequately addressed.

THANKS  
By Melasie

