VOCABULARY · EPISODE 239

Why Does the Moon Look Bigger Near the Horizon? | Curious English

English learning resource · EN

Key words & expressions · English

8 learning entries

Study task: Listen again and notice the expressions you studied.

1

horizon

DEF

The apparent line where the sky meets the land or sea.

Use on the horizon for something visible at that line; near the horizon refers to the area around it.

The sun disappeared below the horizon.

A ship appeared on the horizon.

2

appear

DEF

To seem or look a particular way; also, to come into view.

Appear bigger means seem bigger, whereas a star appeared means it became visible.

The moon appears bigger near the horizon.

A star appeared above the trees.

3

illusion

DEF

A perception that differs from the physical reality.

An illusion need not be imaginary; the perception is real even when it misrepresents what is being observed.

The large-looking moon is an illusion.

The picture creates an illusion of depth.

4

compare ... with ...

DEF

To examine two things in order to notice similarities or differences.

Compare one thing with another is a useful pattern; compare to is also used in some contexts.

Compare the moon with your fingernail.

Compare this photo with the earlier one.

5

perception

DEF

The way a person notices or interprets information through the senses.

A perception can differ from a measurement; it is not necessarily a deliberate choice.

Our perception of size can change.

Lighting affects her perception of colour.

6

judge distance

DEF

To estimate how far away something is.

Judge here means estimate rather than criticise or make a legal decision.

It is hard to judge distance in fog.

The brain uses clues to judge distance.

7

fool someone

DEF

To make someone believe something that is not true.

Eyes or appearances can fool us without any person intending to deceive.

Our eyes can fool us.

The photograph fooled me at first.

8

come into view

DEF

To become visible.

This expression focuses on the moment something can first be seen.

The moon came into view above the hills.

A small island came into view.