

# loomed



appeared dimly or vaguely as a large, threatening shape

Suddenly, a figure of a man **loomed** out of the shadows.

# rille



a long narrow valley on the surface of the moon

The deep **rille** stretched at least 50 feet across the surface of the moon.

# runt



animal, person, or plant that is smaller than the usual size

I wanted to buy the **runt** of the litter of puppies.

# staggered



became unsteady; wavered

The baby alpaca **staggered** when it took its first steps.



# summoning



stirring to action; rousing

Julia was **summoning** her courage to jump into the pool.

# taunted



jeered at; mocked; reproached

They showed poor sportsmanship when they **taunted** the other team for losing the game.

# trench



any ditch; deep furrow

The soldiers dug a deep **trench** in which they hid.

# trudged



walked wearily or with effort

At the end of the day, we **trudged** up the hill to back to base camp.