



American Expression E0661 Out of this world

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The phrase "out of this world" is an idiomatic expression used to describe something that is extraordinary, exceptional, or beyond ordinary human experience. It conveys a sense of wonder and amazement, often implying that the subject is so remarkable that it seems to belong to a realm beyond the confines of our usual reality.

The origin of this expression can be traced back to the late 19th century when it was first recorded in literature and popular usage. It is believed to have originated from the idea of celestial or otherworldly experiences, as if something extraordinary has come from a place beyond our planet.

The phrase is most commonly used to describe positive experiences or things that evoke awe and admiration. For instance, a breathtaking view, a mesmerizing piece of art, a remarkable achievement, or an otherworldly performance may all be described as "out of this world." It is a form of praise that elevates the subject to a level of greatness or excellence that surpasses the ordinary.

Moreover, the term is often used to express the intensity of emotions or sensations that are beyond the usual range of human experiences. For example, a delectable meal might be described as "out of this world" to convey the sheer delight and satisfaction it brings. Similarly, a mind-blowing experience or a piece of news that leaves one speechless might also be described as "out of this world."

The phrase is not restricted to concrete experiences but is also used to describe abstract concepts. For instance, an individual with exceptional talent or intelligence may be described as having "out of this world" abilities, suggesting that their qualities transcend ordinary human capabilities.

In science fiction and speculative fiction, the phrase "out of this world" has been widely employed to describe alien landscapes, technologies, or phenomena that defy the laws of physics and challenge our understanding of the universe.

The popularity of the phrase has led to its adaptation in various cultural and linguistic contexts. In different languages, there are similar idiomatic expressions that convey the notion of something extraordinary or transcendent.

Overall, "out of this world" is a vivid and evocative idiom that captures the awe and admiration we feel when encountering something extraordinary. It serves as a reminder of the vastness and diversity of human experiences and achievements, inspiring us to appreciate and celebrate the wonders of life that transcend the ordinary.

In conclusion, "out of this world" is an idiomatic expression that signifies something exceptional, extraordinary, and beyond the realm of our usual experiences. Whether describing breathtaking sights, remarkable achievements, intense emotions, or abstract concepts, this phrase encapsulates the sense of wonder and amazement that comes with encountering greatness or excellence. As a testament to human creativity, talent, and ingenuity, "out of this world" celebrates the boundless possibilities and mysteries of the universe we inhabit.

Questions for Discussion

1. Can you think of a personal experience or encounter that left you feeling like something was "out of this world"? What made it so extraordinary, and how did it impact your perspective or emotions?
 2. In your opinion, what are some examples of achievements or accomplishments in human history that can be described as "out of this world"? How did these extraordinary feats shape society or push the boundaries of human capabilities?
 3. "Out of this world" experiences often evoke a sense of awe and wonder. How do you think such encounters contribute to our overall well-being and happiness? What role does experiencing the extraordinary play in our lives?
 4. How does cultural background and individual preferences influence what people perceive as "out of this world"? Are there universal qualities that can be appreciated by people from different cultures, or is the notion of extraordinariness subjective?
 5. In an increasingly interconnected and digitized world, do you think the frequency of encountering "out of this world" experiences has changed? How can we stay open to moments of wonder and amazement amidst the routine of daily life and the abundance of information and entertainment?
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