

THE EXTRA POINT

BY JERRY ROBERTS



1309 Elon Musk's Launch Comment Was Otherworldly

It was the most ambitious rocket launch in history, and it didn't last long. Ahh, but that's not our focus today. What we'll look at is the out of this world description of the event given by the man behind the event. I'm Jerry Roberts, and we'll begin our countdown, T-minus 60 seconds, next on The Extra Point.

Elon Musk's Space-X Starship launched a few days ago. The most powerful rocket ever made cleared the tower, soaring upward with twice the thrust of the Saturn V rocket that took mankind to the moon over five decades ago.

Then, as the Starship was to separate from the booster, the entire rocket spun out of control and exploded into a massive fireball. Workers at Space-X cheered. But why?

The reason was that the rocket got the payload off the ground, which was not a small thing. Now, they'll figure out what went wrong and fix it for the next test. Space is a hard game, and expensive. Musk is in it for the long term. Rockets blowing up is part of that.

For our purposes today, it was Musk's words to characterize the event that caught our eye. This explosion that reduced it all to a million pieces, in his terms, was a "rapid unscheduled disassembly."

I liked that so much I went looking for more creative ways to describe specific events.

Being stranded in the wilderness unexpectedly is actually "involuntary camping".

Frantically cleaning up before guests arrive on short notice, is "reactive de-cluttering".

Being stuck talking to someone you don't want to talk to, is really "non-consensual conversation".

The expected lifespan of a human being, in Muskology, is "biological warranty."

A parent who clears obstacles or problems out of their child's path, is a "lawnmower parent".

The period of time during which a person refrains from using electronic devices, often to reduce stress or promote mental well-being, is "digital detox".

What's the practice of making small, targeted changes within a large organization to address problems or inefficiencies? "corporate acupuncture".

How about the act of avoiding work or other responsibilities by tidying up or organizing? It's "procrasti-cleaning".

All of these are great for daily conversations, in addition to overuse and even abuse of the following oxymorons. How many do you use?

"Efficient bureaucracy", "Authentic replica", "Creative routine", "Definite possibility", "Friendly competition", "Genuine imitation", "Informed guess", "Jumbo shrimp", "New tradition", "Open secret", "Original copy", "Small crowd", "Social distancing", "Standard deviation", "Tight slacks", "Transparent privacy", "Unbiased opinion", "Uncontrolled discipline", "Unlimited restrictions", "Awfully good", "Clearly confused", "Expected surprise", "Industrial park", "Intense relaxation", "Mandatory option", "Modern history", "Natural artificial flavor", "New and improved", "Old news", "Positive criticism", "Quiet noise", "Rational insanity", and "Serious fun". Are you guilty? How many of these have escaped your lips?

That's the Extra Point. Be responsible and make something good happen today. For 93.3 and the Ray Gibson Show, I'm Jerry Roberts.

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