



---

# Stunning Images Showcase Milky Way Photography Finalists

## Description

Every year, the Capture the Atlas Milky Way Photographer of the Year contest showcases striking night sky photographs from global photographers. Curated by Dan Zafra, this project draws attention to approximately 25 carefully selected images captured in some of the darkest, most isolated areas on Earth, where the Milky Way can be seen in remarkable detail, free from light pollution.

The contest highlights not only the final images but also the extensive efforts behind them. Each photograph typically involves significant planning, travel, and patience, as photographers wait for optimal conditions such as clear skies and precise timing. These images represent more than mere snapshots; they encapsulate moments of dedication and passion for astrophotography, demonstrating how diverse locations on Earth connect through a shared view of the universe.

Several noteworthy locations featured in this year's contest include Queenstown, New Zealand, where a rare alignment of the Milky Way above the rugged Remarkables Range contrasts sharply with the glowing lights below, illustrating the pervasive impact of light pollution. Other images depict the Milky Way over blooming lupine fields in Twizel, New Zealand, and a demanding hike to capture celestial events above Mount Taranaki, showcasing the physical challenges faced by photographers.

The competition reflects on the significance of preserving remote and dark locations in the face of increasing light pollution. As global awareness of the issue grows, the images inspire both an appreciation for these natural wonders and a sense of responsibility towards their conservation.

Looking ahead, this year's contest not only captures breathtaking scenes but also reinforces the importance of protecting our night skies for future generations to experience.

---

## Vocabulary List:

1. **curated** /'kjʊreɪtɪd/ (verb): chosen and organized by one person or group
2. **isolated** /'aɪsə,leɪtɪd/ (adjective): far away from people or other places
3. **optimal** /'ɒptəməl/ (adjective): best or most suitable for a situation
4. **encapsulate** /ɪn'kæpsjə,leɪt/ (verb): express the main idea in a short way
5. **pollution** /pə'luːʃən/ (noun): dirty or harmful substances in the environment
6. **conservation** /,kɒnsə'veɪʃən/ (noun): protecting and saving natural places and things

## Comprehension Questions



---

## Multiple Choice

1. What is the name of the contest that showcases night sky photographs?  
Option: Night Sky Photographer Contest  
Option: Capture the Atlas Milky Way Photographer of the Year  
Option: Astrophotography Contest  
Option: Global Night Sky Awards
2. Who curates the Capture the Atlas Milky Way Photographer of the Year contest?  
Option: Ansel Adams  
Option: Dan Zafra  
Option: National Geographic  
Option: Astronomy Magazine
3. What is a significant challenge faced by photographers in this contest?  
Option: Finding dark locations  
Option: Getting funding for their trips  
Option: Attending workshops  
Option: Using high-end cameras
4. Which location features the Milky Way above blooming lupine fields?  
Option: Queenstown  
Option: Mount Taranaki  
Option: Twizel  
Option: Remarkables Range
5. What do the photographs in the contest entail beyond the final images?  
Option: Brief snapshots  
Option: Efforts of the photographers  
Option: Technical specifications  
Option: Running costs
6. What is highlighted by the contest in terms of environmental concerns?  
Option: Urban development  
Option: Increasing light pollution  
Option: Rising temperatures  
Option: Wildlife conservation



---

### True-False

7. The Capture the Atlas contest only features photographs taken in urban areas.
8. This year's contest aims to inspire conservation of natural dark locations.
9. Photographers do not require much planning or patience for capturing night sky images.
10. Queenstown, New Zealand, is featured for its alignment of the Milky Way and urban lights.
11. The contest is solely about the end photographs without considering the efforts behind them.
12. Every year, the contest receives submissions from local photographers only.

### Gap-Fill

13. The Capture the Atlas contest showcases striking night sky photographs from global \_\_\_\_\_.
14. The contest is curated by \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Photographers need to wait for optimal conditions such as \_\_\_\_\_ skies.
16. This year's contest emphasizes the impact of light pollution on \_\_\_\_\_.
17. The Milky Way can be seen in remarkable detail in \_\_\_\_\_ areas.
18. The images represent passion for \_\_\_\_\_ and scientific understanding.

### Answer

- Multiple Choice:** 1. Capture the Atlas Milky Way Photographer of the Year 2. Dan Zafra 3. Finding dark locations 4. Twizel 5. Efforts of the photographers 6. Increasing light pollution
- True-False:** 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. False
- Gap-Fill:** 13. photographers 14. Dan Zafra 15. clear 16. photography 17. isolated 18. astrophotography



## Vocabulary quizzes

### Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )

1. What does it mean when a collection is curated?  
Option: Randomly selected  
Option: Carefully selected  
Option: Quickly assembled  
Option: Commonly found
2. Which of the following is primarily caused by human activities?  
Option: Pollution  
Option: Conservation  
Option: Collaboration  
Option: Expansion
3. What is the act of working together towards a common goal called?  
Option: Isolation  
Option: Collaboration  
Option: Expansion  
Option: Rectifying
4. What term describes the most efficient or effective condition?  
Option: Worst  
Option: Average  
Option: Optimal  
Option: Suboptimal
5. What is the process of creating new ideas or methods known as?  
Option: Innovation  
Option: Retrogression  
Option: Standardization  
Option: Conformity
6. Which term refers to the principles of beauty and artistic taste?  
Option: Aesthetics  
Option: Monotony  
Option: Dullness  
Option: Simplicity
7. What term describes the state of being open to damage or attack?



- Option: Vulnerability
- Option: Strength
- Option: Immunity
- Option: Security

8. What is the process of increasing in size or volume called?

- Option: Reduction
- Option: Diminution
- Option: Expansion
- Option: Contraction

9. In computing, what does the term 'payload' often refer to?

- Option: Data packets
- Option: Malicious software
- Option: Security measures
- Option: User interface

10. What is the quality of being honest and having strong moral principles?

- Option: Integrity
- Option: Deceit
- Option: Dishonesty
- Option: Corruption

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The teacher tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the complex concept in a simple manner.

12. He felt completely \_\_\_\_\_ in the book he was reading.

13. After receiving all the emails, she was \_\_\_\_\_ with work.

14. They plan to \_\_\_\_\_ the resources of the region for better productivity.

15. The committee made a \_\_\_\_\_ decision after much discussion.

16. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the music picked up as the concert progressed.

17. The reporter faced a \_\_\_\_\_ of questions from the media.

18. The engineer was focused on \_\_\_\_\_ the errors found in the system.



19. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the school to my house makes it very convenient.
20. Honesty is a valued \_\_\_\_\_ in a leader.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. She valued the authenticity of the artifacts displayed in the museum.
22. The hotel was known for its opulent interiors that featured gold accents.
23. Cryptographic techniques are essential for securing digital communications.
24. The magic show was designed to captivate the audience's imagination.
25. Living in complete isolation can lead to feelings of loneliness.
26. The market was segmented based on consumer preferences and demographics.
27. The conflict began to escalate as both sides refused to compromise.
28. The deployment of the new software was completed ahead of schedule.
29. The fragility of the ecosystem requires careful management and protection.
30. Conservation efforts are crucial for preserving endangered species.

**Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Carefully selected 2. Pollution 3. Collaboration 4. Optimal 5. Innovation 6. Aesthetics 7. Vulnerability 8. Expansion 9. Data packets 10. Integrity

**Gap-Fill:** 11. encapsulate 12. immersed 13. overwhelmed 14. exploit 15. deliberate 16. tempo 17. barrage 18. rectifying 19. proximity 20. trait

**Matching sentence:** 1. authenticity 2. opulent 3. cryptographic 4. captivate 5. isolation 6. segmented 7. escalate 8. deployment 9. fragility 10. conservation

**CATEGORY**

- 1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL6

**POST TAG**

- 1. ESL learning



2. esl news
3. Level 6
4. Milky Way
5. photography
6. universe

**Tags**

1. ESL learning
2. esl news
3. Level 6
4. Milky Way
5. photography
6. universe

**Date Created**

2026/05/13

**Author**

aimeeyoung99

ESL-NEWS.COM