

## Here is Audio Word Study #056 from Jane Lawson at DailyStep.com

Some of the scientific words from the article above about how rainbows are formed also have other meanings too. Let's take a look at some of these words now:

### **SPECTRUM (noun)**

**Meaning:** the set of colours into which a beam of light can be separated, or a range of waves, such as light waves or radio waves. We also talk about 'the political spectrum' when we mean 'the range of political viewpoints'

**Examples:** 1. Rainbows occur when raindrops split sunlight into the seven colours of the spectrum – **red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo** and **violet**.  
2. This policy has been popular across the political spectrum. (*note: this means 'across the range of political opinions'.*)

### **DENSITY (noun)**

**Meaning:** the number of particles, people or things in a space when compared with the size of the space

**Examples:** 1. Water has a higher density than air, which means there are more particles in water than in the same volume of air.  
2. South East England has a higher population density than South West England, which means there are more people per square kilometre living in South East England than in South West England.

### **REFLECT (verb)**

**Meaning 1:** If a surface reflects light, heat, sound, or an image, it sends the light, etc. back and does not absorb it.

**Example:** In my photo, you could see light of the camera flash reflected in the mirror.

**Meaning 2:** Show or reveal

**Example:** The results of the opinion poll reflect a change in people's attitudes. (*note: this means that we can see from the results of the opinion poll that people's attitudes have changed.*)

### **ANGLE (noun)**

**Meaning 1:** the space between two lines or surfaces at the point at which they touch each other. Angles are measures in degrees, for example "an angle of 42 degrees."

**Example:** The room is a strange shape – instead of having 4 walls and the usual right angle corners of 90 degrees, it only has 3 walls and is shaped like a triangle.

**Meaning 2:** a way of considering, judging or approaching something, especially a problem or controversial view

**Example:** I think you are approaching the problem from the wrong angle – try looking at it another way!

### **DEGREE (noun)**

**Meaning 1:** any of various units of measurement, especially of temperature or angles, usually shown by the symbol ° written after a number.

**Examples:** 1. Water boils at 100° centigrade (one hundred degrees centigrade)  
2. An angle of 90° is called a right angle.

**Meaning 2:** (an) amount or level of something

**Examples:** 1. This task requires a high degree of skill. (*note: here, we could also say 'a high level of skill.'*)

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2. I agree with you to a certain degree. (**note:** here, we could also say 'to a certain extent'.)

**Meaning 3:** a qualification from university

**Example:** He has a degree in mathematics.

**That's all for Audio Word Study #056 on DailyStep.com.**

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