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Vocabulary Builder from...

Isabelle Boemeke: Nuclear power is our best hope to ditch fossil fuels | TED Talk

Advanced Words Only

Session 1: Word List

tweet

n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym : peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**

We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

ravage

v. to cause damage to something badly

synonym : devastate, ruin, destroy

(1) **ravage** a country, (2) **ravage** the brain

A large fire **ravaged** the forest.

sassy

adj. rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit

synonym : impudent, audacious, rude

(1) a **sassy** child, (2) talk **sassy** to the teacher

My son has been getting **sassy** recently.

pore

n. a tiny hole in the skin of people or other animals that sweat can pass through; (verb) to read carefully or study attentively

synonym : stoma, foramen

(1) woody **pore** fungi, (2) **pore** over reference books

I was sweating at every **pore**.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

cleanser

n. a product that cleans or removes dirt or other substances, especially a liquid or cream for cleaning your face

synonym: cleaner, purifier, deodorant

(1) pore refining **cleanser**, (2) powder **cleanser**

I have sensitive skin and use a weakly acidic **cleanser**.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym: Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

meme

n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

synonym: buzzword, trend

(1) pronounce **meme**, (2) religious **meme**

This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet **meme**.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym: frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

catchy

adj. pleasing and easy to remember; likely to attract attention

synonym: captivating, haunting, memorable

(1) **catchy** nickname, (2) a **catchy** title for a movie
This track starts with a **catchy** guitar riff.

aspiring

adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement;
wanting to be successful in life

synonym : hopeful, ambitious, eager

(1) **aspiring** prime minister, (2) have **aspiring** eyes
He was extremely generous to the **aspiring** young artist.

sneak

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something
somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do
something secretly or stealthily

synonym : creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger
The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

cask

n. a strong, cylindrical, and often wooden container used
for storing liquids, especially alcoholic drinks

synonym : barrel, firkin, keg

(1) **cask** wood, (2) shipping **cask**
A truck rollover accident scattered wine **casks** all over the
road.

clap

v. to hit your hands together and make a short and loud
noise, mainly to show your approval or praise

synonym : applaud, spat, acclaim

(1) **clap** my hands, (2) **clap** a book shut
We **clapped** along with the singer's song.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody
hard to understand

synonym : confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality
Her remarks **confused** the debate.

dictator

n. a political leader who has complete power over a
country, especially one who has obtained control by

force

synonym : autocrat, tyrant, despot

(1) military **dictator**, (2) a **dictator** with enormous powers

A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the **dictator**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. c__k wood *n.* a strong, cylindrical, and often wooden container used for storing liquids, especially alcoholic drinks
2. c__p a book shut *v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
3. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
4. have as_____ng eyes *adj.* desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
5. religious m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
6. a ca___y title for a movie *adj.* pleasing and easy to remember; likely to attract attention
7. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
8. woody p__e fungi *n.* a tiny hole in the skin of people or other animals that sweat can pass through; (verb) to read carefully or study attentively

ANSWERS: 1. cask, 2. clap, 3. terrifying, 4. aspiring, 5. meme, 6. catchy, 7. electrify, 8. pore

9. pronounce m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
10. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
11. teaching of Ch___t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
12. powder cl_____er *n.* a product that cleans or removes dirt or other substances, especially a liquid or cream for cleaning your face
13. pore refining cl_____er *n.* a product that cleans or removes dirt or other substances, especially a liquid or cream for cleaning your face
14. military di_____or *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
15. ca___y nickname *adj.* pleasing and easy to remember; likely to attract attention
16. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
17. shipping c__k *n.* a strong, cylindrical, and often wooden container used for storing liquids, especially alcoholic drinks

ANSWERS: 9. meme, 10. terrifying, 11. Christ, 12. cleanser, 13. cleanser, 14. dictator, 15. catchy, 16. confuse, 17. cask

18. a chick's tw__t *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
19. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
20. a di_____or with enormous powers *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
21. talk sa__y to the teacher *adj.* rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit
22. his latest tw__ts *n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
23. before Ch___t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
24. p__e over reference books *n.* a tiny hole in the skin of people or other animals that sweat can pass through; *v.* to read carefully or study attentively
25. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
26. ra___e the brain *v.* to cause damage to something badly
27. sn__k a cigarette *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

ANSWERS: 18. tweet, 19. confuse, 20. dictator, 21. sassy, 22. tweet, 23. Christ, 24. pore, 25. electrify, 26. ravage, 27. sneak

28. sn__k out of danger *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
29. a sa__y child *adj.* rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit
30. c__p my hands *v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
31. as____ng prime minister *adj.* desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
32. ra___e a country *v.* to cause damage to something badly

ANSWERS: 28. sneak, 29. sassy, 30. clap, 31. aspiring, 32. ravage

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. This track starts with a _____ guitar riff.
adj. pleasing and easy to remember; likely to attract attention
2. A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the _____.
n. a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
3. A truck rollover accident scattered wine _____ all over the road.
n. a strong, cylindrical, and often wooden container used for storing liquids, especially alcoholic drinks
4. This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet _____.
n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
5. I was sweating at every _____.
n. a tiny hole in the skin of people or other animals that sweat can pass through;
(verb) to read carefully or study attentively
6. A large fire _____ the forest.
v. to cause damage to something badly
7. He was extremely generous to the _____ young artist.
adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life

ANSWERS: 1. catchy, 2. dictator, 3. casks, 4. meme, 5. pore, 6. ravaged, 7. aspiring

8. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
- v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
9. The children tried to _____ out and eat the candy.
- v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
10. My son has been getting _____ recently.
- adj.* rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit
11. We _____ along with the singer's song.
- v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
12. I have sensitive skin and use a weakly acidic _____.
- n.* a product that cleans or removes dirt or other substances, especially a liquid or cream for cleaning your face
13. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.
- n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application
14. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.
- n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
15. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.
- adj.* very frightening or intimidating

ANSWERS: 8. electrify, 9. sneak, 10. sassy, 11. clapped, 12. cleanser, 13. tweet, 14. Christmas, 15. terrifying

16. Her remarks _____ the debate.

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

ANSWERS: 16. confused