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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Victoria Hwang: What is the rarest color in nature? |

TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/victoria_hwang_what_is_the_rarest_color_in_nature

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

hue *n.* the quality of a color as determined by its dominant wavelength

synonym: dye, tint, coloring

(1) the **hues** of a rainbow, (2) **hue** change

To achieve a warmer **hue**, add orange paint.

imaginable *adj.* capable of being imagined

synonym: conceivable, plausible, possible

(1) easily **imaginable**, (2) worst **imaginable** case

This is the only **imaginable** strategy.

rarity *n.* the condition or trait of being unusual; something that is unusual

synonym: rareness, infrequency, uncommonness

(1) the **rarity** of the event, (2) book of great **rarity**

Due to their **rarity**, diamonds are expensive.

matte *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy

synonym: dull, flat, lusterless

(1) **matte** coating, (2) photo with a **matte** finish

The body of his car has a **matte** finish.

leftover

adj. not consumed or used at the end of something
synonym: extra, residual, unused

(1) **leftover** from a party, (2) **leftover** goods

The chef will make soup with the **leftover** ham bone.

photosynthesis

n. the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.

(1) oxygenic **photosynthesis**, (2) process of **photosynthesis**

In **photosynthesis**, plants use carbon dioxide to feed themselves.

chlorophyll

n. any of a group of green pigments found in photosynthetic organisms

(1) **chlorophyll** pigment, (2) bacterial **chlorophyll**

Chlorophyll utilizes sunlight to create sugars.

carotenoid

n. organic pigments of yellow, orange, and red that are produced by plants, algae, and various bacteria and fungus

(1) **carotenoid** pigment, (2) **carotenoid** biosynthesis

Carotenoids provide two essential features for living things.

scatter

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions
synonym: disperse, spread, bestrew

(1) **scatter** seeds, (2) **scatter** around the internet

The hunter's approach **scattered** the geese.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
synonym: intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

overpower

v. to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength

synonym : overwhelm, conquer, surpass

(1) **overpower** the suspect, (2) **overpower** the opponent
The shooter was eventually **overpowered** and arrested by police.

microscopic

adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

synonym : infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis
Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

nanostucture

n. a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size

(1) **nanostucture** material, (2) three-dimensional **nanostucture**

This feature of the material is a result of its **nanostucture**.

vibrate

v. to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side

synonym : oscillate, convulse, jerk

(1) **vibrate** at a regular frequency, (2) **vibrate** with anger
During the flight, the wings of the plane **vibrate**.

resonate

v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

synonym : echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

illumination

n. light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment

synonym : light, luminosity, brightness

(1) starry **illumination**, (2) indirect **illumination**

The skylight will give adequate **illumination** from above.

contender

n. the contestant you hope to defeat

synonym: rival, competitor, challenger

(1) championship **contender**, (2) presidential **contender**

We were looking at a severe **contender** indeed.

iridescent

adj. varying in color when seen in different lights or from different angles

synonym: pearlescent, rainbowy, opaline

(1) an **iridescent** oil slick, (2) **iridescent** color

Her most recent fashion collection incorporates sparkling **iridescent** materials.

violet

adj. between blue and purple in hue

synonym: purple

(1) bluish- **violet**, (2) **violet** quartz

Red and **violet** are opposites on the color spectrum.

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.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

synonym: bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

emperor

n. the male ruler of an empire

synonym: ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor**

The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

spectacle

n. something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision

synonym : marvel, sensation, phenomenon

(1) pretty **spectacle**, (2) **spectacle** lens

She could not help watching the sad **spectacle**.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. former em____r | <i>n.</i> the male ruler of an empire |
| 2. co____e fantasy with reality | <i>v.</i> to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand |
| 3. photo with a ma__e finish | <i>adj.</i> having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy |
| 4. the ra____y of the event | <i>n.</i> the condition or trait of being unusual; something that is unusual |
| 5. starry ill_____ion | <i>n.</i> light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment |
| 6. le____er from a party | <i>adj.</i> not consumed or used at the end of something |
| 7. deeply re____te with the consumers | <i>v.</i> to be filled with a deep echoing sound |
| 8. easily ima_____le | <i>adj.</i> capable of being imagined |
| 9. h_e change | <i>n.</i> the quality of a color as determined by its dominant wavelength |
| 10. oxygenic pho_____sis | <i>n.</i> the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities. |
| 11. the h_es of a rainbow | <i>n.</i> the quality of a color as determined by its dominant wavelength |
| 12. mic_____ic analysis | <i>adj.</i> tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy |

ANSWERS: 1. emperor, 2. confuse, 3. matte, 4. rarity, 5. illumination, 6. leftover, 7. resonate, 8. imaginable, 9. hue, 10. photosynthesis, 11. hue, 12. microscopic

13. pretty sp_____le *n.* something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision
14. ov_____er the opponent *v.* to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength
15. car_____id pigment *n.* organic pigments of yellow, orange, and red that are produced by plants, algae, and various bacteria and fungus
16. worst ima_____le case *adj.* capable of being imagined
17. ov_____er the suspect *v.* to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength
18. presidential co_____er *n.* the contestant you hope to defeat
19. book of great ra____y *n.* the condition or trait of being unusual; something that is unusual
20. sp_____le lens *n.* something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision
21. vi____t quartz *adj.* between blue and purple in hue
22. sc_____r around the internet *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
23. bacterial chl_____ll *n.* any of a group of green pigments found in photosynthetic organisms

ANSWERS: 13. spectacle, 14. overpower, 15. carotenoid, 16. imaginable, 17. overpower, 18. contender, 19. rarity, 20. spectacle, 21. violet, 22. scatter, 23. chlorophyll

24. am_____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
25. chl_____ll pigment *n.* any of a group of green pigments found in photosynthetic organisms
26. iri_____nt color *adj.* varying in color when seen in different lights or from different angles
27. process of pho_____sis *n.* the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
28. vi_____e at a regular frequency *v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
29. sc_____r seeds *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
30. em_____r of Rome *n.* the male ruler of an empire
31. three-dimensional nan_____ure *n.* a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size
32. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
33. st_____e through life *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
34. ma__e coating *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
35. championship co_____er *n.* the contestant you hope to defeat
36. mic_____ic inquiry *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

ANSWERS: 24. amplify, 25. chlorophyll, 26. iridescent, 27. photosynthesis, 28. vibrate, 29. scatter, 30. emperor, 31. nanostructure, 32. amplify, 33. stumble, 34. matte, 35. contender, 36. microscopic

37. nan_____ure material *n.* a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size
38. st_____e financially *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
39. bluish-vi____t *adj.* between blue and purple in hue
40. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
41. le_____er goods *adj.* not consumed or used at the end of something
42. indirect ill_____ion *n.* light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment
43. re_____te in the same frequency *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
44. vi_____e with anger *v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
45. car_____id biosynthesis *n.* organic pigments of yellow, orange, and red that are produced by plants, algae, and various bacteria and fungus
46. an iri_____nt oil slick *adj.* varying in color when seen in different lights or from different angles

ANSWERS: 37. nanostructure, 38. stumble, 39. violet, 40. confuse, 41. leftover, 42. illumination, 43. resonate, 44. vibrate, 45. carotenoid, 46. iridescent

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Due to their _____ diamonds are expensive.
n. the condition or trait of being unusual; something that is unusual
2. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.
v. to cause to separate and go in different directions
3. The shooter was eventually _____ and arrested by police.
v. to conquer or establish complete control over someone by using superior strength
4. _____ provide two essential features for living things.
n. organic pigments of yellow, orange, and red that are produced by plants, algae, and various bacteria and fungus
5. _____ utilizes sunlight to create sugars.
n. any of a group of green pigments found in photosynthetic organisms
6. We were looking at a severe _____ indeed.
n. the contestant you hope to defeat
7. Her most recent fashion collection incorporates sparkling _____ materials.
adj. varying in color when seen in different lights or from different angles
8. During the flight, the wings of the plane _____.
v. to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side

ANSWERS: 1. rarity, 2. scattered, 3. overpowered, 4. Carotenoids, 5. Chlorophyll, 6. contender, 7. iridescent, 8. vibrate

9. This feature of the material is a result of its _____.
- n.* a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size
10. You might need to _____ this point.
- v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
11. The _____ once lived in the vast palace.
- n.* the male ruler of an empire
12. To achieve a warmer _____ add orange paint.
- n.* the quality of a color as determined by its dominant wavelength
13. The skylight will give adequate _____ from above.
- n.* light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment
14. Her remarks _____ the debate.
- v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
15. Inspectors noticed _____ cracks in the submarine's hull.
- adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
16. In _____ plants use carbon dioxide to feed themselves.
- n.* the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
17. The sound _____ well in this theater.
- v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound

ANSWERS: 9. nanostructure, 10. amplify, 11. Emperor, 12. hue, 13. illumination, 14. confused, 15. microscopic, 16. photosynthesis, 17. resonates

18. She _____ over the tree root.

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

19. Red and _____ are opposites on the color spectrum.

adj. between blue and purple in hue

20. The body of his car has a _____ finish.

adj. having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy

21. This is the only _____ strategy.

adj. capable of being imagined

22. The chef will make soup with the _____ ham bone.

adj. not consumed or used at the end of something

23. She could not help watching the sad _____.

n. something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision

ANSWERS: 18. stumbled, 19. violet, 20. matte, 21. imaginable, 22. leftover, 23. spectacle