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Alex Gendler: Can you solve the prisoner hat riddle? |

TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

capture

v. to catch a person or an animal and confine them in an area which they cannot escape

synonym : catch, arrest, imprison

(1) **capture** a glimpse, (2) **capture** customers' hearts

I was able to **capture** the moment on film.

intelligent

adj. having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree

synonym : brilliant, clever, competent

(1) an **intelligent** person, (2) **intelligent** assisting system

Intelligent robots that can cooperate with humans have limited motor output for safety.

alien

n. a person who comes from a different country, race, or group; a form of life assumed to exist outside the Earth or its atmosphere

synonym : foreigner, unfamiliar, unknown

(1) **alien** fungi, (2) resident **aliens**

Alien species have drastically altered the ecosystem in this area.

overlord

n. a person who has great power over many other people, especially in the past

synonym : master, tyrant, autocrat

(1) evil **overlord**, (2) colonial **overlord**

In the feudal system, the **overlord** owned most of the wealth.

tasty

adj. having a strong and pleasant flavor when it is eaten

synonym : flavorful, delectable, delicious

(1) **tasty** treats, (2) prepare **tasty** food

This meal wasn't as **tasty** as we had imagined.

forbid

v. to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising

synonym : prohibit, ban, outlaw

(1) **forbid** smoking in public areas, (2) **forbid** the use of chemical weapons

God **forbid** you should regret your marriage.

cooperative

adj. involving doing something jointly or working with others to achieve a common goal

synonym : harmonious, collegial, helpful

(1) **cooperative** savings, (2) fishing **cooperative**

We appreciate your **cooperative** efforts.

unfortunately

adv. by bad luck; unluckily

synonym : regrettably, unluckily, alas

(1) **unfortunately** caught in a shower, (2) even more **unfortunately**

The treatments were done but, **unfortunately**, were unsuccessful.

qualify

v. to reach the standard or fulfill the requirement of ability or knowledge needed to do a particular job or receive a particular benefit or privilege

synonym : permit, authorize, allow

(1) **qualify** as a candidate, (2) **qualify** for membership

The top three teams in this tournament **qualify** for the Olympics.

universal

adj. existing or affecting everywhere or everyone

synonym : common, broad, worldwide

(1) **universal** life, (2) principles of **universal** design

The picture earned near- **universal** acclaim from critics.

translator

n. a person whose job is restating written messages from one language to another

synonym : interpreter

(1) electronic **translator**, (2) professional **translator**

The author discovered that the **translator** had inserted several unique interpretations into his book.

assign

v. to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone

synonym : entrust, delegate, designate

(1) **assign** projects, (2) **assign** top priority

Please **assign** a different color to each other kind of item.

random

adj. made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern

synonym : incidental, arbitrary, unanticipated

(1) a **random** choice, (2) bombs fell at **random**

To find drunk drivers, police conduct **random** tests.

intonation

n. the rise and fall of the voice pitch in speaking

synonym : pitch, accent, emphasis

(1) question **intonation**, (2) an unchanging **intonation**

Some questions have a rising **intonation** in English.

volume

n. the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound

synonym : capacity, amount, intensity

(1) **volume** of work, (2) high **volume**

This container has a **volume** of 10 cubic meters.

immediately

adv. now or without delay

synonym : directly, instantly, promptly

(1) **immediately** recall a product, (2) write him an answer **immediately**

A suspension order from the court is effective **immediately**.

spare

adj. additional to what is necessary for ordinary use; (verb) to give time, money, space, etc. to someone

synonym: extra, excess, (verb) afford

(1) **spare** parts, (2) **spare** cost

I made plans to spend my **spare** time beneficially.

guarantee

v. to promise something will happen formally, especially that certain conditions about a product, service, or transaction would be met

synonym: assure, promise, warrant

(1) **guarantee** a high quality, (2) **guarantee** women equality

We cannot **guarantee** enough raw material sources.

pause

v. to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing

synonym: halt, break, intermit

(1) **pause** a moment, (2) **pause** for a reaction

The man **paused** before opening the door.

communicate

v. to share or exchange information with others by speaking, writing, moving your body, or using other signals

synonym: convey, share, transmit

(1) **communicate** his anxieties to the psychiatrist,

(2) **communicate** well with my advisor

Dolphins use sound to **communicate** with each other.

deduce

v. to arrive at an answer, a conclusion, or a decision by reasoning

synonym: conclude, infer, suppose

(1) **deduce** facts from the evidence, (2) **deduce** the meaning of a word

The researcher **deduced** the momentum of the particles from meteoritic velocities.

parity

n. the state or condition of being equal, especially in status or payment

synonym: equality, sameness, equivalence

(1) gender **parity**, (2) **parity** of fighting ability

We have yet to achieve wage or occupational **parity** for women in many fields.

odd

adj. strange or unexpected; not divisible by two

synonym: strange, bizarre, abnormal

(1) in an **odd** way, (2) **odd** behavior

His grandfather was an **odd** man.

distribute

v. to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something

synonym: broadcast, disperse, hand out

(1) **distribute** wealth evenly, (2) **distribute** video content

His estate was **distributed** to his sons.

captivity

n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from

synonym: confinement, detention, imprisonment

(1) escape from **captivity**, (2) animals in **captivity** in the zoo

Pandas rarely breed in **captivity**.

arrangement

n. a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order

synonym: placement, configuration, account

(1) **arrangement** of the furniture, (2) **arrangement** committee

As a first **arrangement**, we agreed to meet the following Friday.

convey

v. to express ideas, feelings, etc. so that it is known or understood by other people; to carry something from one place to another

synonym: communicate, transfer, deliver

(1) **convey** a complex idea, (2) **convey** goods by truck
An ironic remark often **conveys** an intended meaning obliquely.

absolute

adj. perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible

synonym: complete, infrangible, indisputable

(1) **absolute** loyalty, (2) an **absolute** must
Gandhi had an **absolute** zeal for nonviolence.

certainty

n. the state of being certain

synonym: inevitability, confidence, assurance

(1) scientific **certainty**, (2) reach **certainty** about the theory
Through investigation, his suspicions hardened into **certainty**.

specify

v. to explain or state something clearly and exactly

synonym: establish, pinpoint, identify

(1) **specify** a cause, (2) **specify** an option
You can **specify** the font color by clicking the Color tab.

abduct

v. to take someone away illegally to an undisclosed location by force, usually to extract a ransom

synonym: kidnap, seize, snatch

(1) **abduct** a girl, (2) **abduct** at gunpoint
The passerby witnessed the moment the boy was **abducted**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ab___t a girl
v. to take someone away illegally to an undisclosed location by force, usually to extract a ransom
2. a ra___m choice
adj. made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern
3. in an o_d way
adj. strange or unexpected; not divisible by two
4. colonial ov____rd
n. a person who has great power over many other people, especially in the past
5. pa___y of fighting ability
n. the state or condition of being equal, especially in status or payment
6. write him an answer imm_____ly
adv. now or without delay
7. gu_____ee a high quality
v. to promise something will happen formally, especially that certain conditions about a product, service, or transaction would be met
8. fo___d smoking in public areas
v. to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
9. vo___e of work
n. the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound
10. un_____al life
adj. existing or affecting everywhere or everyone

ANSWERS: 1. abduct, 2. random, 3. odd, 4. overlord, 5. parity, 6. immediately, 7. guarantee, 8. forbid, 9. volume, 10. universal

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|-------------------------------------|--|
| 11. principles of un_____al design | <i>adj.</i> existing or affecting everywhere or everyone |
| 12. o_d behavior | <i>adj.</i> strange or unexpected; not divisible by two |
| 13. resident al__ns | <i>n.</i> a person who comes from a different country, race, or group; a form of life assumed to exist outside the Earth or its atmosphere |
| 14. dis_____te wealth evenly | <i>v.</i> to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something |
| 15. gender pa____y | <i>n.</i> the state or condition of being equal, especially in status or payment |
| 16. an ab_____te must | <i>adj.</i> perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible |
| 17. co____y a complex idea | <i>v.</i> to express ideas, feelings, etc. so that it is known or understood by other people; to carry something from one place to another |
| 18. escape from ca_____ty | <i>n.</i> the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from |
| 19. animals in ca_____ty in the zoo | <i>n.</i> the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from |
| 20. high vo____e | <i>n.</i> the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound |
| 21. pa__e for a reaction | <i>v.</i> to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing |

ANSWERS: 11. universal, 12. odd, 13. alien, 14. distribute, 15. parity, 16. absolute, 17. convey, 18. captivity, 19. captivity, 20. volume, 21. pause

22. coo_____ve savings *adj.* involving doing something jointly or working with others to achieve a common goal
23. com_____te his anxieties to the psychiatrist *v.* to share or exchange information with others by speaking, writing, moving your body, or using other signals
24. ca_____e customers' hearts *v.* to catch a person or an animal and confine them in an area which they cannot escape
25. unf_____ely caught in a shower *adv.* by bad luck; unluckily
26. pa__e a moment *v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
27. prepare ta__y food *adj.* having a strong and pleasant flavor when it is eaten
28. even more unf_____ely *adv.* by bad luck; unluckily
29. int_____nt assisting system *adj.* having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree
30. de___e facts from the evidence *v.* to arrive at an answer, a conclusion, or a decision by reasoning
31. dis_____te video content *v.* to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something
32. sp__e cost *adj.* additional to what is necessary for ordinary use; (verb) to give time, money, space, etc. to someone
33. sp__e parts *adj.* additional to what is necessary for ordinary use; (verb) to give time, money, space, etc. to someone

ANSWERS: 22. cooperative, 23. communicate, 24. capture, 25. unfortunately, 26. pause, 27. tasty, 28. unfortunately, 29. intelligent, 30. deduce, 31. distribute, 32. spare, 33. spare

34. bombs fell at ra___m *adj.* made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern
35. evil ov_____rd *n.* a person who has great power over many other people, especially in the past
36. an int_____nt person *adj.* having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree
37. qu_____y for membership *v.* to reach the standard or fulfill the requirement of ability or knowledge needed to do a particular job or receive a particular benefit or privilege
38. sp_____y a cause *v.* to explain or state something clearly and exactly
39. professional tra_____or *n.* a person whose job is restating written messages from one language to another
40. sp_____y an option *v.* to explain or state something clearly and exactly
41. fo___d the use of chemical weapons *v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
42. co___y goods by truck *v.* to express ideas, feelings, etc. so that it is known or understood by other people; to carry something from one place to another
43. electronic tra_____or *n.* a person whose job is restating written messages from one language to another

ANSWERS: 34. random, 35. overlord, 36. intelligent, 37. qualify, 38. specify, 39. translator, 40. specify, 41. forbid, 42. convey, 43. translator

44. arr_____nt of the furniture *n.* a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order
45. de___e the meaning of a word *v.* to arrive at an answer, a conclusion, or a decision by reasoning
46. com_____te well with my advisor *v.* to share or exchange information with others by speaking, writing, moving your body, or using other signals
47. scientific ce_____ty *n.* the state of being certain
48. question int_____on *n.* the rise and fall of the voice pitch in speaking
49. ab_____te loyalty *adj.* perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
50. gu_____ee women equality *v.* to promise something will happen formally, especially that certain conditions about a product, service, or transaction would be met
51. arr_____nt committee *n.* a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order
52. al__n fungi *n.* a person who comes from a different country, race, or group; a form of life assumed to exist outside the Earth or its atmosphere
53. ca_____e a glimpse *v.* to catch a person or an animal and confine them in an area which they cannot escape
54. qu_____y as a candidate *v.* to reach the standard or fulfill the requirement of ability or knowledge needed to do a particular job or receive a particular benefit or privilege

ANSWERS: 44. arrangement, 45. deduce, 46. communicate, 47. certainty, 48. intonation, 49. absolute, 50. guarantee, 51. arrangement, 52. alien, 53. capture, 54. qualify

55. ab___t at gunpoint *v.* to take someone away illegally to an undisclosed location by force, usually to extract a ransom
56. as___n projects *v.* to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone
57. fishing coo_____ve *adj.* involving doing something jointly or working with others to achieve a common goal
58. reach ce_____ty about the theory *n.* the state of being certain
59. ta__y treats *adj.* having a strong and pleasant flavor when it is eaten
60. as___n top priority *v.* to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone
61. an unchanging int_____on *n.* the rise and fall of the voice pitch in speaking
62. imm_____ly recall a product *adv.* now or without delay

ANSWERS: 55. abduct, 56. assign, 57. cooperative, 58. certainty, 59. tasty, 60. assign, 61. intonation, 62. immediately

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Dolphins use sound to _____ with each other.
v. to share or exchange information with others by speaking, writing, moving your body, or using other signals
2. Through investigation, his suspicions hardened into _____.
n. the state of being certain
3. This meal wasn't as _____ as we had imagined.
adj. having a strong and pleasant flavor when it is eaten
4. A suspension order from the court is effective _____.
adv. now or without delay
5. Gandhi had an _____ zeal for nonviolence.
adj. perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
6. I was able to _____ the moment on film.
v. to catch a person or an animal and confine them in an area which they cannot escape
7. Please _____ a different color to each other kind of item.
v. to give a specific job or piece of work to a someone
8. The top three teams in this tournament _____ for the Olympics.
v. to reach the standard or fulfill the requirement of ability or knowledge needed to do a particular job or receive a particular benefit or privilege

ANSWERS: 1. communicate, 2. certainty, 3. tasty, 4. immediately, 5. absolute, 6. capture, 7. assign, 8. qualify

9. In the feudal system, the _____ owned most of the wealth.
n. a person who has great power over many other people, especially in the past
10. Pandas rarely breed in _____.
n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
11. This container has a _____ of 10 cubic meters.
n. the amount of space occupied by an object or substance; the magnitude of sound
12. The author discovered that the _____ had inserted several unique interpretations into his book.
n. a person whose job is restating written messages from one language to another
13. I made plans to spend my _____ time beneficially.
adj. additional to what is necessary for ordinary use; (verb) to give time, money, space, etc. to someone
14. The picture earned near-_____ acclaim from critics.
adj. existing or affecting everywhere or everyone
15. We appreciate your _____ efforts.
adj. involving doing something jointly or working with others to achieve a common goal
16. We cannot _____ enough raw material sources.
v. to promise something will happen formally, especially that certain conditions about a product, service, or transaction would be met

ANSWERS: 9. overlord, 10. captivity, 11. volume, 12. translator, 13. spare, 14. universal, 15. cooperative, 16. guarantee

17. The passerby witnessed the moment the boy was _____.
- v.* to take someone away illegally to an undisclosed location by force, usually to extract a ransom
18. We have yet to achieve wage or occupational _____ for women in many fields.
- n.* the state or condition of being equal, especially in status or payment
19. Some questions have a rising _____ in English.
- n.* the rise and fall of the voice pitch in speaking
20. His estate was _____ to his sons.
- v.* to give something to a large number of individuals, or to spread or furnish something
21. To find drunk drivers, police conduct _____ tests.
- adj.* made, done, or happening without method, conscious decision, or any regular pattern
22. His grandfather was an ____ man.
- adj.* strange or unexpected; not divisible by two
23. You can _____ the font color by clicking the Color tab.
- v.* to explain or state something clearly and exactly
24. _____ robots that can cooperate with humans have limited motor output for safety.
- adj.* having the capacity for thought and reason, especially to a high degree
25. An ironic remark often _____ an intended meaning obliquely.
- v.* to express ideas, feelings, etc. so that it is known or understood by other people; to carry something from one place to another

ANSWERS: 17. abducted, 18. parity, 19. intonation, 20. distributed, 21. random, 22. odd, 23. specify, 24. Intelligent, 25. conveys

26. The researcher _____ the momentum of the particles from meteoritic velocities.
- v.* to arrive at an answer, a conclusion, or a decision by reasoning
27. As a first _____ we agreed to meet the following Friday.
- n.* a plan or preparation for the future event; the action or process of placing things in a particular order
28. _____ species have drastically altered the ecosystem in this area.
- n.* a person who comes from a different country, race, or group; a form of life assumed to exist outside the Earth or its atmosphere
29. The treatments were done but, _____ were unsuccessful.
- adv.* by bad luck; unluckily
30. The man _____ before opening the door.
- v.* to take a short break from talking or doing something before continuing
31. God _____ you should regret your marriage.
- v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising

ANSWERS: 26. deduced, 27. arrangement, 28. Alien, 29. unfortunately, 30. paused, 31. forbid