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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alex Gendler: Can you solve the bridge riddle? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

intern

- v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

synonym : apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

janitor

- n.* a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats

synonym : keeper, guardian, custodian

(1) part-time **janitor**, (2) duty of the **janitor**

The school **janitor** was laid off.

headstart

- n.* an advantage granted or gained at the beginning of something, such as a competition or race

synonym : advantage

(1) have a good **headstart**, (2) **headstart** in that market

The horse was able to get a **headstart**.

gorge

- n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it

synonym : canyon, gully, ravine

(1) cast the **gorge**, (2) the **gorges** of the Yangtse River
We must pass through the narrow **gorge** with a stream running through it.

lantern

n. a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective enclosure for the light source
synonym: lamp, beacon, flashlight

(1) candle **lantern**, (2) a **lantern** in the dark
The paper-covered **lantern** glowed softly in the darkness.

illuminate

v. to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity
synonym: brighten, light, adorn

(1) **illuminate** a dark hall, (2) **illuminate** my understanding
That biologist **illuminated** the mechanism of heredity.

raft

n. a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
synonym: flatboat, boat, barge

(1) a **raft** for carrying horses, (2) a life **raft**
The rubber **raft** was swept out to sea.

befriend

v. to become a friend of someone, especially when in need
synonym: support, advise, patronize

(1) **befriend** a young boy, (2) **befriend** other members
I'm willing to **befriend** the weak and the poor.

mutter

v. to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath
synonym: grumble, mumble, complain

(1) **mutter** in a low voice, (2) **mutter** to myself
He **muttered** under his breath about the job relocation.

Session 2: Spelling

1. in___n civilians
 2. duty of the ja____r
 3. a life r__t
 4. he_____rt in that market
 5. cast the go__e
 6. the go__es of the Yangtse River
 7. part-time ja____r
 8. be____nd a young boy
 9. mu___r in a low voice
- v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
- n.* a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats
- n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer
- n.* an advantage granted or gained at the beginning of something, such as a competition or race
- n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
- n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it
- n.* a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats
- v.* to become a friend of someone, especially when in need
- v.* to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath

ANSWERS: 1. intern, 2. janitor, 3. raft, 4. headstart, 5. gorge, 6. gorge, 7. janitor, 8. befriend, 9. mutter

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|---------------------------------|--|
| 10. a la_____n in the dark | <i>n.</i> a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective enclosure for the light source |
| 11. be_____nd other members | <i>v.</i> to become a friend of someone, especially when in need |
| 12. candle la_____n | <i>n.</i> a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective enclosure for the light source |
| 13. have a good he_____rt | <i>n.</i> an advantage granted or gained at the beginning of something, such as a competition or race |
| 14. medical in_____n | <i>v.</i> to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria |
| 15. ill_____te my understanding | <i>v.</i> to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity |
| 16. a r__t for carrying horses | <i>n.</i> a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer |
| 17. ill_____te a dark hall | <i>v.</i> to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity |
| 18. mu___r to myself | <i>v.</i> to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath |

ANSWERS: 10. lantern, 11. befriend, 12. lantern, 13. headstart, 14. intern, 15. illuminate, 16. raft, 17. illuminate, 18. mutter

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. We must pass through the narrow _____ with a stream running through it.
 - n.* a deep narrow valley between hills or mountains, usually with steep sides and a river running through it

2. The navy _____ ships of defeated nations.
 - v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

3. That biologist _____ the mechanism of heredity.
 - v.* to light something or to make something lighter or brighter; to make something free from confusion or ambiguity

4. I'm willing to _____ the weak and the poor.
 - v.* to become a friend of someone, especially when in need

5. The rubber _____ was swept out to sea.
 - n.* a flat structure, usually made of logs or planks, that can be used for transport or as a platform for swimmer

6. The paper-covered _____ glowed softly in the darkness.
 - n.* a portable source of lighting, typically featuring a protective enclosure for the light source

7. He _____ under his breath about the job relocation.
 - v.* to speak or say something quietly and in a low voice; to make complaining remarks or noises under one's breath

ANSWERS: 1. gorge, 2. interned, 3. illuminated, 4. befriend, 5. raft, 6. lantern, 7. muttered

8. The school _____ was laid off.

n. a person whose job is to clean and maintain a large building, such as a school or a block of flats

9. The horse was able to get a _____.

n. an advantage granted or gained at the beginning of something, such as a competition or race

ANSWERS: 8. janitor, 9. headstart