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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Tessa Khan: How can we escape soaring energy bills? Stop using fossil fuels | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

soar

v. to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease

synonym: fly, rise, ascend

(1) **soar** in popularity, (2) **soar** to new heights

The bird **soared** through the sky, and its wings spread wide.

strife

n. conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups

synonym: conflict, disagreement, dissension

(1) at **strife** over the land, (2) civil **strife**

The country has been wracked by political **strife** for many years.

quo

n. the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

synonym: status, condition, state

(1) status **quo** politician, (2) **quo** warranto

The company has been successful in maintaining the status **quo**.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym: frightening, intimidating, alarming

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

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

apocalyptic

adj. describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world

synonym : fateful, prophetic, ominous

(1) **apocalyptic** event, (2) have **apocalyptic** overtones

The **apocalyptic** landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.

savage

adj. extremely wild, ferocious, or uncivilized

synonym : brutal, fierce, barbarous

(1) reply in a **savage** voice, (2) **savage** attack

The animal was injured and became **savage**, attacking anyone who approached.

wildfire

n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

synonym : blaze, bonfire, flame

(1) **wildfire** spread, (2) arson-caused **wildfire**

The **wildfire** destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.

devastation

n. the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale

synonym : destruction, ruin, havoc

(1) financial **devastation**, (2) **devastation** to life

The economic recession caused **devastation** in the housing market, with many people losing their homes.

wrought

adj. made or fashioned carefully or decoratively; (of materials) beaten out or shaped by hammering

synonym : made, produced, created

(1) well- **wrought** steel, (2) tragedy **wrought** by hurricane

He won an award for his photographs of the ruins **wrought** by the war.

reliant

adj. needing something or something to continue, to work correctly, or to succeed

synonym : dependent, subservient

(1) heavily **reliant** on oil, (2) export- **reliant** economy

The company is heavily **reliant** on its overseas operations for revenue.

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.

peril

n. serious and great danger or risk

synonym : hazard, danger, threat

(1) the **peril** of the sea, (2) environmental **peril**

Due to hunger, the lives of the refugees were in **peril**.

wreak

v. to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events

synonym : cause, inflict, bring about

(1) **wreak** a lot of changes, (2) **wreak** further damage

The virus has **wreaked** havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.

havoc

n. widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events

synonym : destruction, devastation, ruin

(1) cause **havoc**, (2) play **havoc** in the mind

The storm wreaked **havoc** on the town, causing widespread damage and power outages.

portray

v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

synonym : depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

fleeting

adj. brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

synonym : temporary, brief, transitory

(1) for a **fleeting** moment, (2) **fleeting** opportunity

She savored the **fleeting** happiness she felt during the vacation.

catastrophe

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

synonym : disaster, calamity, cataclysm

(1) **catastrophe** risk management, (2) avoid climate **catastrophe**

The lack of funds has resulted in a **catastrophe** for our university system.

leaky

adj. having a hole or crack that allows liquids or gases to pass through it

synonym : faulty, permeable, porous

(1) heal **leaky** gut, (2) **leaky** bucket

The boat had a **leaky** hull and needed to be patched.

peddle

v. to sell or promote something or spread an idea or story, often in a persistent or aggressive way

synonym : sell, promote, advertise

(1) **peddle** influence, (2) **peddle** drugs

The street vendor **peddled** his wares to passing tourists.

incontrovertible

adj. true and therefore not able to be disputed or denied

synonym : undeniable, irrefutable, indisputable

(1) **incontrovertible** truth, (2) **incontrovertible** proof of his infidelity

The evidence presented in court was **incontrovertible**, and the defendant was found guilty.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. the pe__l of the sea | <i>n.</i> serious and great danger or risk |
| 2. inc_____ble truth | <i>adj.</i> true and therefore not able to be disputed or denied |
| 3. status q_o politician | <i>n.</i> the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue |
| 4. q_o warranto | <i>n.</i> the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue |
| 5. environmental pe__l | <i>n.</i> serious and great danger or risk |
| 6. apo_____ic event | <i>adj.</i> describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world |
| 7. wr__k further damage | <i>v.</i> to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events |
| 8. ter_____ng events | <i>adj.</i> very frightening or intimidating |
| 9. fl_____ng opportunity | <i>adj.</i> brief or temporary, lasting only a short time |
| 10. po_____y feelings in words | <i>v.</i> to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work |
| 11. s__r in popularity | <i>v.</i> to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease |
| 12. el_____fy the audience | <i>v.</i> to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something |

ANSWERS: 1. peril, 2. incontrovertible, 3. quo, 4. quo, 5. peril, 6. apocalyptic, 7. wreak, 8. terrifying, 9. fleeting, 10. portray, 11. soar, 12. electrify

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| 13. pe___e drugs | <i>v.</i> to sell or promote something or spread an idea or story, often in a persistent or aggressive way |
| 14. sa___e attack | <i>adj.</i> extremely wild, ferocious, or uncivilized |
| 15. cause ha__c | <i>n.</i> widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events |
| 16. well-wr_____t steel | <i>adj.</i> made or fashioned carefully or decoratively; (of materials) beaten out or shaped by hammering |
| 17. at st___e over the land | <i>n.</i> conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups |
| 18. arson-caused wi_____re | <i>n.</i> a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope |
| 19. wi_____re spread | <i>n.</i> a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope |
| 20. le__y bucket | <i>adj.</i> having a hole or crack that allows liquids or gases to pass through it |
| 21. reply in a sa___e voice | <i>adj.</i> extremely wild, ferocious, or uncivilized |
| 22. financial dev_____on | <i>n.</i> the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale |
| 23. heal le__y gut | <i>adj.</i> having a hole or crack that allows liquids or gases to pass through it |
| 24. el_____fy a manufacturing process | <i>v.</i> to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something |

ANSWERS: 13. peddle, 14. savage, 15. havoc, 16. wrought, 17. strife, 18. wildfire, 19. wildfire, 20. leaky, 21. savage, 22. devastation, 23. leaky, 24. electrify

25. accurately po____y the condition *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
26. export-re____t economy *adj.* needing something or something to continue, to work correctly, or to succeed
27. ter____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
28. tragedy wr____t by hurricane *adj.* made or fashioned carefully or decoratively; (of materials) beaten out or shaped by hammering
29. inc_____ble proof of his infidelity *adj.* true and therefore not able to be disputed or denied
30. civil st____e *n.* conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups
31. dev____on to life *n.* the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
32. heavily re____t on oil *adj.* needing something or something to continue, to work correctly, or to succeed
33. avoid climate cat_____he *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
34. wr__k a lot of changes *v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
35. have apo_____ic overtones *adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
36. cat_____he risk management *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

ANSWERS: 25. portray, 26. reliant, 27. terrifying, 28. wrought, 29. incontrovertible, 30. strife, 31. devastation, 32. reliant, 33. catastrophe, 34. wreak, 35. apocalyptic, 36. catastrophe

37. s__r to new heights *v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease
38. for a fl____ng moment *adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
39. play ha__c in the mind *n.* widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events
40. pe___e influence *v.* to sell or promote something or spread an idea or story, often in a persistent or aggressive way

ANSWERS: 37. soar, 38. fleeting, 39. havoc, 40. peddle

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.
n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
2. The company is heavily _____ on its overseas operations for revenue.
adj. needing something or something to continue, to work correctly, or to succeed
3. The country has been wracked by political _____ for many years.
n. conflict or disagreement, especially between people or groups
4. We often _____ political problems as religious issues.
v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
5. The _____ landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.
adj. describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
6. The boat had a _____ hull and needed to be patched.
adj. having a hole or crack that allows liquids or gases to pass through it
7. He won an award for his photographs of the ruins _____ by the war.
adj. made or fashioned carefully or decoratively; (of materials) beaten out or shaped by hammering

ANSWERS: 1. wildfire, 2. reliant, 3. strife, 4. portray, 5. apocalyptic, 6. leaky, 7. wrought

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 evidence presented in court was _____ and the defendant was found guilty.
- adj.* true and therefore not able to be disputed or denied
10. The virus has _____ havoc on the healthcare system, overwhelming hospitals and causing shortages of supplies.
- v.* to cause or bring about something, often as a result of harmful or destructive actions or events
11. The economic recession caused _____ in the housing market, with many people losing their homes.
- n.* the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
12. She savored the _____ happiness she felt during the vacation.
- adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
13. The bird _____ through the sky, and its wings spread wide.
- v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease
14. The company has been successful in maintaining the status ____.
- n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
15. Due to hunger, the lives of the refugees were in ____.
- n.* serious and great danger or risk

ANSWERS: 8. electrify, 9. incontrovertible, 10. wreaked, 11. devastation, 12. fleeting, 13. soared, 14. quo, 15. peril

16. The storm wreaked _____ on the town, causing widespread damage and power outages.

n. widespread destruction or devastation, often caused by natural disasters, war, or other violent events

17. The street vendor _____ his wares to passing tourists.

v. to sell or promote something or spread an idea or story, often in a persistent or aggressive way

18. The lack of funds has resulted in a _____ for our university system.

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

19. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.

adj. very frightening or intimidating

20. The animal was injured and became _____ attacking anyone who approached.

adj. extremely wild, ferocious, or uncivilized

ANSWERS: 16. havoc, 17. peddled, 18. catastrophe, 19. terrifying, 20. savage,