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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Talya Hackett: Ethical dilemma: Should we get rid of mosquitoes? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

pathogen

n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease

synonym : germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) plant **pathogen**, (2) the **pathogen** in the air
mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated **pathogens**.

mosquito

n. a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria

synonym : insect, bug, flea

(1) **mosquito** bite, (2) **mosquito** repellent
A stagnant water area are breeding ground for **mosquitos**.

grapple

v. to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons

synonym : brawl, scuffle, wrestle

(1) **grapple** with problem, (2) **grapple** with each other
He needed to **grapple** with structural reforms to improve the company's revenue.

recombine

v. to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic

material is broken and joined to other genetic material)

(1) **recombine** at the surface, (2) ability to **recombine**

Some scientists argue that the genes in food should not be artificially **recombined**.

thwart

v. to prevent something from happening or succeeding
synonym: hinder, block, obstruct

(1) **thwart** enemy plans, (2) **thwart** attempts

He **thwarted** the thief's attempt to steal the painting.

inject

v. to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)

synonym: shoot, infiltrate, insinuate

(1) **inject** under the skin, (2) **inject** a personal opinion into a debate

Let's try to **inject** a bit of enthusiasm into your performance.

sterile

adj. free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing

synonym: clean, germ-free, hygienic

(1) **sterile** environment, (2) a **sterile** man

Surgeons must use **sterile** instruments to prevent infection during an operation.

inherit

v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

synonym: obtain, gain, acquire

(1) **inherit** estate, (2) **inherit** ancestral property

After his death, his sons **inherited** his business.

insecticide

n. a substance used to kill insects

synonym: pesticide, bug-killer, rodenticide

(1) **insecticide** spray, (2) **insecticide** residue

The farmer sprayed the crop with **insecticide** to protect it from pests.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

equator

n. an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)

(1) south of the **equator**, (2) above the **equator**

Ecuador is on the **equator**.

interbreed

v. to breed between different species or varieties

synonym: crossbreed, hybridize

(1) **interbreed** to produce hybrid offspring, (2) **interbreed** plants

Lions and tigers can **interbreed** to produce a liger.

feces

n. waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement

synonym: poop, stool, excrement

(1) **feces** sample, (2) human **feces**

Proper disposal of **feces** is essential for maintaining public health and sanitation.

parasite

n. an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense

synonym: hitchhiker, leech, saprophyte

(1) blood-sucking **parasite**, (2) **parasite** disease

Tapeworms are **parasites** that live in the intestines of humans and animals.

countermeasure

n. an action taken to counter or offset another action

synonym: response, remedy, antidote

(1) **countermeasure** strategy, (2) **countermeasure** plan

The government implemented several **countermeasures** to

combat the spread of the virus.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--|--|
| 1. in_____t estate | <i>v.</i> to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died |
| 2. the pa_____en in the air | <i>n.</i> a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease |
| 3. pa_____te disease | <i>n.</i> an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense |
| 4. south of the eq_____r | <i>n.</i> an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles) |
| 5. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude | <i>v.</i> to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody |
| 6. human fe__s | <i>n.</i> waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement |
| 7. in___t a personal opinion into a debate | <i>v.</i> to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube) |
| 8. th___t enemy plans | <i>v.</i> to prevent something from happening or succeeding |
| 9. plant pa_____en | <i>n.</i> a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease |
| 10. cou_____ure plan | <i>n.</i> an action taken to counter or offset another action |

ANSWERS: 1. inherit, 2. pathogen, 3. parasite, 4. equator, 5. overwhelm, 6. feces, 7. inject, 8. thwart, 9. pathogen, 10. countermeasure

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| 11. gr_____e with problem | <i>v.</i> | to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons |
| 12. blood-sucking pa_____te | <i>n.</i> | an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense |
| 13. th____t attempts | <i>v.</i> | to prevent something from happening or succeeding |
| 14. ins_____de residue | <i>n.</i> | a substance used to kill insects |
| 15. int_____ed to produce hybrid offspring | <i>v.</i> | to breed between different species or varieties |
| 16. in____t under the skin | <i>v.</i> | to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube) |
| 17. in_____t ancestral property | <i>v.</i> | to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died |
| 18. int_____ed plants | <i>v.</i> | to breed between different species or varieties |
| 19. ins_____de spray | <i>n.</i> | a substance used to kill insects |
| 20. st_____e environment | <i>adj.</i> | free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing |
| 21. mo_____to bite | <i>n.</i> | a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria |
| 22. ability to re_____ne | <i>v.</i> | to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic material is broken and joined to other genetic material) |

ANSWERS: 11. grapple, 12. parasite, 13. thwart, 14. insecticide, 15. interbreed, 16. inject, 17. inherit, 18. interbreed, 19. insecticide, 20. sterile, 21. mosquito, 22. recombine

23. mo_____to repellent *n.* a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria
24. cou_____ure strategy *n.* an action taken to counter or offset another action
25. fe__s sample *n.* waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement
26. a st_____e man *adj.* free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing
27. re_____ne at the surface *v.* to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic material is broken and joined to other genetic material)
28. above the eq_____r *n.* an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)
29. gr_____e with each other *v.* to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
30. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

ANSWERS: 23. mosquito, 24. countermeasure, 25. feces, 26. sterile, 27. recombine, 28. equator, 29. grapple, 30. overwhelm

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Proper disposal of _____ is essential for maintaining public health and sanitation.
n. waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement
2. The farmer sprayed the crop with _____ to protect it from pests.
n. a substance used to kill insects
3. The government implemented several _____ to combat the spread of the virus.
n. an action taken to counter or offset another action
4. Some scientists argue that the genes in food should not be artificially _____.
v. to combine or put together again or differently; to cause genetic recombination (= the process by which genetic material is broken and joined to other genetic material)
5. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
6. Surgeons must use _____ instruments to prevent infection during an operation.
adj. free from living microorganisms, especially bacteria, fungi, and viruses; incapable of reproducing
7. Lions and tigers can _____ to produce a liger.
v. to breed between different species or varieties

ANSWERS: 1. feces, 2. insecticide, 3. countermeasures, 4. recombined, 5. overwhelm, 6. sterile, 7. interbreed

8. Let's try to _____ a bit of enthusiasm into your performance.
- v. to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)
9. mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated _____.
- n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
10. He needed to _____ with structural reforms to improve the company's revenue.
- v. to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
11. After his death, his sons _____ his business.
- v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
12. He _____ the thief's attempt to steal the painting.
- v. to prevent something from happening or succeeding
13. A stagnant water area are breeding ground for _____.
- n. a small flying insect whose female bites people and animals and sucks their blood, and sometimes transmits serious diseases such as malaria
14. Ecuador is on the _____.
- n. an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)
15. Tapeworms are _____ that live in the intestines of humans and animals.
- n. an organism that lives on or in another organism and benefits by deriving nutrients at the other's expense

ANSWERS: 8. inject, 9. pathogens, 10. grapple, 11. inherited, 12. thwarted, 13. mosquitos, 14. equator, 15. parasites

ANSWERS: