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Sofia Crespo: AI-generated creatures that stretch the boundaries of imagination | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

visualize

v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

synonym: imagine, picture, envision

(1) **visualize** data, (2) **visualize** flying through space

She tried to **visualize** the layout of the new house in her mind.

conjure

v. to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination

synonym: summon, evoke, call forth

(1) **conjure** evil spirits away, (2) **conjure** a vision

The magician **conjured** up a rabbit out of thin air.

colorblind

adj. (of a person) unable to distinguish certain colors or used to describe a lack of racial or cultural bias

synonym: color-deficient, chromatic-impaired

(1) **colorblind** condition, (2) **colorblind** person

The company's HR policy advocates for a **colorblind** workplace where all employees are treated equally regardless of race.

peacock

n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
(1) as proud as a **peacock**, (2) male **peacock**
The vibrant feathers of the **peacock** made it stand out in the garden.

mantis

n. a type of predatory insect known for its distinctive front legs that are bent in a way that resembles a praying posture
synonym: insect, predator, bug
(1) **mantis** predator, (2) narrow-winged **mantis**
The praying **mantis** was an exciting subject for the biology class.

augment

v. to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
synonym: boost, increase, expand
(1) **augment** the reality, (2) **augment** immunity
Economic factors and monetary policy **augmented** inflation.

jellyfish

n. a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging
synonym: medusa, sea nettle, moon jelly
(1) spineless **jellyfish**, (2) **jellyfish** sting
The beach was filled with hundreds of **jellyfish**, so swimming was not recommended.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
synonym: renovate, vivify, revive
(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s
She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

escalate

v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
synonym: increase, intensify, expand

(1) **escalate** into a major international incident, (2) to **escalate**

The situation quickly **escalated** and turned violent.

anemone

n. a type of flowering plant that has bright, showy flowers and typically blooms in the spring; a marine creature that resembles flowers but has oral rings of tentacles

synonym : flower, blossom

(1) **anemone** flower, (2) European **anemone**

The beautiful **anemones** swayed gently in the ocean current.

amphibian

n. a cold-blooded animal that can live both on land and in water

synonym : frog, toad, salamander

(1) **amphibian** species, (2) **amphibian** habitat

Scientists are concerned about the rapid decline in **amphibian** populations around the world.

distill

v. to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements

synonym : extract, condense, purify

(1) **distill** a liquid, (2) **distill** information

She decided to **distill** her thoughts into a more manageable list.

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**.

rodent

n. a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail

synonym : mouse, rat, hamster

(1) **rodent** repellent, (2) prevent **rodent** damage

He set up a trap to catch the **rodent**.

beetle

n. an insect having a hard shell-like back covering its wings

(1) **beetle** brows, (2) a **beetle** larva

In ancient civilizations, the scarab **beetle** was worshiped as a sacred creature.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

blob

n. a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance

synonym : chunk, lump, hunk

(1) a big **blob** of yellow, (2) a **blob** of jelly

A **blob** of ink fell on the floor.

repurpose

v. to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended

synonym : reutilize, recycle, reuse

(1) **repurpose** an old building, (2) **repurpose** a used car

The old barn was **repurposed** into a modern event space.

hacky

adj. (of computer programming) done in a poor or unoriginal way or is intended to be humorous but is not funny; not new or funny

synonym : makeshift, inelegant, clunky

(1) **hacky** coding, (2) **hacky** solution

The software was deemed **hacky** and unreliable, with numerous bugs and glitches.

anatomical

adj. of or relating to the structure of the body and its parts

synonym : physical, bodily, structural

(1) **anatomical** structure, (2) **anatomical** elements

The **anatomical** model of the human body was used to teach medical students.

speculate

v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

synonym: assume, conjecture, infer

(1) **speculate** about the reason, (2) **speculate** on the outcome

He **speculated** that this investment would lead to success.

boreal

adj. relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga

synonym: arctic, northern, tundra

(1) **boreal** conifer, (2) **boreal** ecosystem

The **boreal** forest covers vast areas of Canada and Alaska.

lichen

n. a composite organism consisting of a symbiotic relationship between a fungus and an alga or cyanobacterium

synonym: fungus, plant, symbiotic organism

(1) **lichen** fungus, (2) **lichen** families

The **lichen** on the old tree bark was thick and lush, a sign of a healthy ecosystem.

fluffy

adj. soft and light, often with a texture that resembles feathers or fur

synonym: soft, feathery, puffy

(1) **fluffy** clouds, (2) **fluffy** blanket

The kitten had **fluffy** fur that was soft to the touch.

tarantula

n. a large, venomous spider with a round body and long, hairy legs

synonym: spider, arachnid, hairy spider

(1) keep **tarantulas** as pets, (2) fear a **tarantula**

The furry **tarantula** crawled across the floor, causing some to

scream.

endemic

adj. (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area

synonym: prevalent, widespread, native

(1) **endemic** disease, (2) cholera- **endemic** area

Malaria is **endemic** in many tropical countries.

mangrove

n. a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it

(1) **mangrove** forest, (2) **mangrove** swamp

The **mangrove** trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.

finch

n. a small songbird with a short, conical beak and typically a cheerful song

synonym: bird, avian, passerine

(1) a **finch** bird, (2) strawberry **finch**

A flock of **finches** gathered at the bird feeder.

chimera

n. (in Greek mythology) a fire-breathing creature with a lion's head, a goat's body, and a snake's tail; a thing that is illusory or impossible to achieve

synonym: delusion, illusion, figment

(1) **chimera** mouse, (2) interspecies **chimera**

Animal **chimeras** are created by combining multiple fertilized eggs.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

enrich

v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

synonym: enhance, improve, augment

(1) **enrich** a gas with a balloon, (2) **enrich** public services
Reading not only increases knowledge but also **enriches** life.

Session 2: Spelling

1. en____c disease *adj.* (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area
2. re____te a single country *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
3. co____e evil spirits away *v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination
4. am____an species *n.* a cold-blooded animal that can live both on land and in water
5. di____l a liquid *v.* to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements
6. am____an habitat *n.* a cold-blooded animal that can live both on land and in water
7. strawberry fi__h *n.* a small songbird with a short, conical beak and typically a cheerful song
8. je____sh sting *n.* a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging
9. ha__y coding *adj.* (of computer programming) done in a poor or unoriginal way or is intended to be humorous but is not funny; not new or funny
10. an op____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
11. interspecies ch____a *n.* (in Greek mythology) a fire-breathing creature with a lion's head, a goat's body, and a snake's tail; a thing that is illusory or impossible to achieve

ANSWERS: 1. endemic, 2. recreate, 3. conjure, 4. amphibian, 5. distill, 6. amphibian, 7. finch, 8. jellyfish, 9. hacky, 10. opportune, 11. chimera

12. b__r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
13. en___h a gas with a balloon *v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
14. to es____te *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
15. li___n families *n.* a composite organism consisting of a symbiotic relationship between a fungus and an alga or cyanobacterium
16. di____l information *v.* to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements
17. cholera-en____c area *adj.* (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area
18. col_____nd person *adj.* (of a person) unable to distinguish certain colors or used to describe a lack of racial or cultural bias
19. li___n fungus *n.* a composite organism consisting of a symbiotic relationship between a fungus and an alga or cyanobacterium
20. au____t the reality *v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
21. bo___l conifer *adj.* relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga

ANSWERS: 12. blur, 13. enrich, 14. escalate, 15. lichen, 16. distill, 17. endemic, 18. colorblind, 19. lichen, 20. augment, 21. boreal

22. es____te into a major international incident *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
23. keep ta_____las as pets *n.* a large, venomous spider with a round body and long, hairy legs
24. re_____se a used car *v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
25. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
26. en____h public services *v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
27. fear a ta_____la *n.* a large, venomous spider with a round body and long, hairy legs
28. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
29. a be____e larva *n.* an insect having a hard shell-like back covering its wings
30. au_____t immunity *v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
31. narrow-winged ma____s *n.* a type of predatory insect known for its distinctive front legs that are bent in a way that resembles a praying posture
32. ability to re_____ne *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)

ANSWERS: 22. escalate, 23. tarantula, 24. repurpose, 25. blur, 26. enrich, 27. tarantula, 28. opportune, 29. beetle, 30. augment, 31. mantis, 32. recombine

33. fl___y clouds *adj.* soft and light, often with a texture that resembles feathers or fur
34. as proud as a pe____k *n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
35. ro___t repellent *n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
36. re____te the feeling of the 1920s *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
37. fl___y blanket *adj.* soft and light, often with a texture that resembles feathers or fur
38. ana_____al elements *adj.* of or relating to the structure of the body and its parts
39. vi_____ze data *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
40. co_____e a vision *v.* to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination
41. sp_____te about the reason *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
42. ha__y solution *adj.* (of computer programming) done in a poor or unoriginal way or is intended to be humorous but is not funny; not new or funny
43. a fi__h bird *n.* a small songbird with a short, conical beak and typically a cheerful song
44. prevent ro___t damage *n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail

ANSWERS: 33. fluffy, 34. peacock, 35. rodent, 36. recreate, 37. fluffy, 38. anatomical, 39. visualize, 40. conjure, 41. speculate, 42. hacky, 43. finch, 44. rodent

45. an____e flower *n.* a type of flowering plant that has bright, showy flowers and typically blooms in the spring; a marine creature that resembles flowers but has oral rings of tentacles
46. a b__b of jelly *n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance
47. ma____s predator *n.* a type of predatory insect known for its distinctive front legs that are bent in a way that resembles a praying posture
48. sp_____te on the outcome *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
49. male pe____k *n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
50. spineless je_____sh *n.* a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging
51. European an____e *n.* a type of flowering plant that has bright, showy flowers and typically blooms in the spring; a marine creature that resembles flowers but has oral rings of tentacles
52. re_____se an old building *v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
53. be____e brows *n.* an insect having a hard shell-like back covering its wings
54. bo____l ecosystem *adj.* relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga
55. ma_____ve forest *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it

ANSWERS: 45. anemone, 46. blob, 47. mantis, 48. speculate, 49. peacock, 50. jellyfish, 51. anemone, 52. repurpose, 53. beetle, 54. boreal, 55. mangrove

56. ana_____al structure *adj.* of or relating to the structure of the body and its parts
57. vi_____ze flying through space *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
58. 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)
59. ch_____a mouse *n.* (in Greek mythology) a fire-breathing creature with a lion's head, a goat's body, and a snake's tail; a thing that is illusory or impossible to achieve
60. a big b__b of yellow *n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance
61. col_____nd condition *adj.* (of a person) unable to distinguish certain colors or used to describe a lack of racial or cultural bias
62. ma_____ve swamp *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it

ANSWERS: 56. anatomical, 57. visualize, 58. recombine, 59. chimera, 60. blob, 61. colorblind, 62. mangrove

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The furry _____ crawled across the floor, causing some to scream.
n. a large, venomous spider with a round body and long, hairy legs

2. He set up a trap to catch the _____.
n. a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail

3. Scientists are concerned about the rapid decline in _____ populations around the world.
n. a cold-blooded animal that can live both on land and in water

4. The situation quickly _____ and turned violent.
v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

5. The beautiful _____ swayed gently in the ocean current.
n. a type of flowering plant that has bright, showy flowers and typically blooms in the spring; a marine creature that resembles flowers but has oral rings of tentacles

6. The _____ forest covers vast areas of Canada and Alaska.
adj. relating to the Northern Hemisphere or relating to the northern forests called taiga

7. He _____ that this investment would lead to success.
v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

ANSWERS: 1. tarantula, 2. rodent, 3. amphibian, 4. escalated, 5. anemones, 6. boreal, 7. speculated

8. The _____ on the old tree bark was thick and lush, a sign of a healthy ecosystem.
- n.* a composite organism consisting of a symbiotic relationship between a fungus and an alga or cyanobacterium
9. The old barn was _____ into a modern event space.
- v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
10. A _____ of ink fell on the floor.
- n.* a small amount or drop of a thick liquid or sticky substance
11. Malaria is _____ in many tropical countries.
- adj.* (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area
12. A flock of _____ gathered at the bird feeder.
- n.* a small songbird with a short, conical beak and typically a cheerful song
13. Animal _____ are created by combining multiple fertilized eggs.
- n.* (in Greek mythology) a fire-breathing creature with a lion's head, a goat's body, and a snake's tail; a thing that is illusory or impossible to achieve
14. The _____ trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.
- n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
15. 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)

ANSWERS: 8. lichen, 9. repurposed, 10. blob, 11. endemic, 12. finches, 13. chimeras, 14. mangrove, 15. recombined

16. The vibrant feathers of the _____ made it stand out in the garden.
n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
17. The company's HR policy advocates for a _____ workplace where all employees are treated equally regardless of race.
adj. (of a person) unable to distinguish certain colors or used to describe a lack of racial or cultural bias
18. Economic factors and monetary policy _____ inflation.
v. to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
19. In ancient civilizations, the scarab _____ was worshiped as a sacred creature.
n. an insect having a hard shell-like back covering its wings
20. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
21. The _____ model of the human body was used to teach medical students.
adj. of or relating to the structure of the body and its parts
22. Reading not only increases knowledge but also _____ life.
v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
23. She _____ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
24. The magician _____ up a rabbit out of thin air.
v. to call forth by magic; to create or bring about through the imagination

ANSWERS: 16. peacock, 17. colorblind, 18. augmented, 19. beetle, 20. blur, 21. anatomical, 22. enriches, 23. recreated, 24. conjured

25. The software was deemed _____ and unreliable, with numerous bugs and glitches.

adj. (of computer programming) done in a poor or unoriginal way or is intended to be humorous but is not funny; not new or funny

26. She decided to _____ her thoughts into a more manageable list.

v. to purify or refine; to extract the essential elements

27. She tried to _____ the layout of the new house in her mind.

v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

28. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

29. The beach was filled with hundreds of _____ so swimming was not recommended.

n. a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging

30. The praying _____ was an exciting subject for the biology class.

n. a type of predatory insect known for its distinctive front legs that are bent in a way that resembles a praying posture

31. The kitten had _____ fur that was soft to the touch.

adj. soft and light, often with a texture that resembles feathers or fur

ANSWERS: 25. hacky, 26. distill, 27. visualize, 28. opportune, 29. jellyfish, 30. mantis, 31. fluffy