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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

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Complete Your Education, and Roam Confidently
with the Cultured Class Week 15 Day 1, The
Reconquista | Rodale Books*
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

Reconquista

n. the period of almost 800 years in which the Kingdom of Spain and Portugal reconquered the territories in the Iberian Peninsula that the Moors had ruled

synonym: recapture, reconquest, reclaim

(1) Spanish **Reconquista**, (2) during the **Reconquista**

The legacy of the **Reconquista** can still be felt in modern-day Spain and Portugal, with many communities and cultural traditions tracing their roots back to this period.

caliphate

n. an Islamic state under the leadership of an Islamic steward with the title of caliph

(1) the medieval **Caliphate**, (2) **Caliphate** lasted for four years

During the **Caliphate** of Umar, many new cities were founded.

conquer

v. to bring under control by force or authority

synonym: defeat, overpower, subdue

(1) **conquer** fatal disease, (2) **conquer** the world

You must **conquer** your anxiety about driving.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym : Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

peninsula

n. a long piece of land that is almost surrounded by water but is linked to a larger part of the land

synonym : cape, foreland

(1) the tip of the **peninsula**, (2) the Arab **peninsula**

That **peninsula** was an essential base for the country's defense.

sporadic

adj. occurring at irregular intervals or only in a few places; scattered

synonym : occasional, irregular, unpredictable

(1) **sporadic** outbreaks, (2) **sporadic** attempts

The rain was falling in **sporadic** bursts.

conquest

n. the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation

synonym : subjugation, domination, mastery

(1) imperial **conquest**, (2) make a **conquest**

He continued to grow his empire through **conquest**.

stronghold

n. a fortress or secure place that is difficult to capture, especially one used as a center of military operations

synonym : fortress, bastion, citadel

(1) the last **stronghold**, (2) **stronghold** bastion

The castle served as a **stronghold** for the kingdom, protecting against invaders.

fortress

n. a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers

synonym : castle, citadel, stronghold

(1) **fortress** wall, (2) military **fortress**

The ancient **fortress** was built on a hill to give the defenders a strategic advantage.

monarch

n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen

synonym: ruler, sovereign, majesty

(1) an absolute **monarch**, (2) **monarch** butterflies

She came from a commoner background but eventually became the **monarch** of that country.

moor

n. a large area of open country, typically on high ground, covered with rough grass or heath, especially in Britain

synonym: heath, upland, bog

(1) low- **moor** bog, (2) **moor** area

The rolling **moor** was a large, open area of high ground covered with heather.

marvel

n. someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise

synonym: wonder, phenomenon, amazement

(1) a **marvel** of beauty, (2) technical **marvel**

The space shuttle is a modern engineering **marvel**.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym: captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

terrify

v. to frighten someone very much

synonym: unnerve, scare, horrify

(1) **terrify** people, (2) the threats **terrify** him

It would be best not to **terrify** your associates into doing complex tasks.

troop

n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

synonym: group, unit, band

(1) the members of a military **troop**, (2) a **troop** of deer

The **troop** of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.

expel

v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country

synonym: deport, oust, dislodge

(1) **expel** him from his native country, (2) **expel** air from the lungs

He took a big drag of his cigarette and slowly **expelled** the smoke.

vanish

v. disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely

synonym: disappear, go away, evaporate

(1) **vanish** into thin air, (2) **vanish** amid the crowd

Two months later, my tumor **vanished** utterly.

unsettle

v. to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation

synonym: aggravate, annoy, disturb

(1) **unsettle** the nervous system, (2) **unsettle** his conviction

This nationwide strike may **unsettle** the country's economy.

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.

depict

v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

synonym: illustrate, describe, express

(1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation

His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

mosque

n. a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)

(1) domed **mosque**, (2) the sacred **mosque**

Jumeirah **Mosque** is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church

Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

Session 2: Spelling

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. fa_____te the public | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly |
| 2. a ma____l of beauty | <i>n.</i> someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise |
| 3. co_____r the world | <i>v.</i> to bring under control by force or authority |
| 4. technical ma____l | <i>n.</i> someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise |
| 5. Ca_____te lasted for four years | <i>n.</i> an Islamic state under the leadership of an Islamic steward with the title of caliph |
| 6. the medieval Ca_____te | <i>n.</i> an Islamic state under the leadership of an Islamic steward with the title of caliph |
| 7. the sacred mo____e | <i>n.</i> a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies) |
| 8. teaching of Ch____t | <i>n.</i> the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity |
| 9. the Arab pe_____la | <i>n.</i> a long piece of land that is almost surrounded by water but is linked to a larger part of the land |
| 10. str_____ld bastion | <i>n.</i> a fortress or secure place that is difficult to capture, especially one used as a center of military operations |

ANSWERS: 1. fascinate, 2. marvel, 3. conquer, 4. marvel, 5. caliphate, 6. caliphate, 7. mosque, 8. Christ, 9. peninsula, 10. stronghold

11. make a co____st	<i>n.</i> the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation
12. un____le the nervous system	<i>v.</i> to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation
13. te____y people	<i>v.</i> to frighten someone very much
14. the tip of the pe____la	<i>n.</i> a long piece of land that is almost surrounded by water but is linked to a larger part of the land
15. ex__l him from his native country	<i>v.</i> to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country
16. fo____ss wall	<i>n.</i> a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers
17. ca____ic in his tastes	<i>adj.</i> universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
18. an absolute mo____h	<i>n.</i> a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
19. sp____ic outbreaks	<i>adj.</i> occurring at irregular intervals or only in a few places; scattered
20. fa____te the young	<i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
21. co____r fatal disease	<i>v.</i> to bring under control by force or authority
22. low-m__r bog	<i>n.</i> a large area of open country, typically on high ground, covered with rough grass or heath, especially in Britain

ANSWERS: 11. conquest, 12. unsettle, 13. terrify, 14. peninsula, 15. expel, 16. fortress, 17. Catholic, 18. monarch, 19. sporadic, 20. fascinate, 21. conquer, 22. moor

23. the members of a military tr__p	<i>n.</i> a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
24. the last str_____ld	<i>n.</i> a fortress or secure place that is difficult to capture, especially one used as a center of military operations
25. m__r area	<i>n.</i> a large area of open country, typically on high ground, covered with rough grass or heath, especially in Britain
26. the Ca_____ic Church	<i>adj.</i> universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
27. sp_____ic attempts	<i>adj.</i> occurring at irregular intervals or only in a few places; scattered
28. va____h into thin air	<i>v.</i> disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely
29. un_____le his conviction	<i>v.</i> to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation
30. fo____d the use of chemical weapons	<i>v.</i> to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
31. de____t a scene	<i>v.</i> to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
32. ex__l air from the lungs	<i>v.</i> to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country
33. before Ch____t	<i>n.</i> the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

ANSWERS: 23. troop, 24. stronghold, 25. moor, 26. Catholic, 27. sporadic, 28. vanish, 29. unsettle, 30. forbid, 31. depict, 32. expel, 33. Christ

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 34. domed mo___e | <i>n.</i> a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies) |
| 35. mo____h butterflies | <i>n.</i> a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen |
| 36. Spanish Rec____ta | <i>n.</i> the period of almost 800 years in which the Kingdom of Spain and Portugal reconquered the territories in the Iberian Peninsula that the Moors had ruled |
| 37. military fo____ss | <i>n.</i> a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers |
| 38. va___h amid the crowd | <i>v.</i> disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely |
| 39. imperial co____st | <i>n.</i> the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation |
| 40. fo___d smoking in public areas | <i>v.</i> to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising |
| 41. during the Rec____ta | <i>n.</i> the period of almost 800 years in which the Kingdom of Spain and Portugal reconquered the territories in the Iberian Peninsula that the Moors had ruled |
| 42. a tr__p of deer | <i>n.</i> a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit. |
| 43. the threats te____y him | <i>v.</i> to frighten someone very much |
| 44. de___t a feeling of isolation | <i>v.</i> to illustrate someone or something in a photograph |

ANSWERS: 34. mosque, 35. monarch, 36. Reconquista, 37. fortress, 38. vanish, 39. conquest, 40. forbid, 41. Reconquista, 42. troop, 43. terrify, 44. depict

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The rolling _____ was a large, open area of high ground covered with heather.
n. a large area of open country, typically on high ground, covered with rough grass or heath, especially in Britain
2. She came from a commoner background but eventually became the _____ of that country.
n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
3. The legacy of the _____ can still be felt in modern-day Spain and Portugal, with many communities and cultural traditions tracing their roots back to this period.
n. the period of almost 800 years in which the Kingdom of Spain and Portugal reconquered the territories in the Iberian Peninsula that the Moors had ruled
4. His son had accurately _____ the bloom.
v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
5. That _____ was an essential base for the country's defense.
n. a long piece of land that is almost surrounded by water but is linked to a larger part of the land
6. Two months later, my tumor _____ utterly.
v. disappear or stop being present or existing suddenly and completely
7. This nationwide strike may _____ the country's economy.
v. to make somebody feel anxious or upset, especially because of an unstable or problematic situation

ANSWERS: 1. moor, 2. monarch, 3. Reconquista, 4. depicted, 5. peninsula, 6. vanished, 7. unsettle

8. The magic tricks _____ the children.

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

9. The _____ of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.

n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

10. He took a big drag of his cigarette and slowly _____ the smoke.

v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country

11. He continued to grow his empire through _____.

n. the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation

12. During the _____ of Umar, many new cities were founded.

n. an Islamic state under the leadership of an Islamic steward with the title of caliph

13. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

14. You must _____ your anxiety about driving.

v. to bring under control by force or authority

15. The castle served as a _____ for the kingdom, protecting against invaders.

n. a fortress or secure place that is difficult to capture, especially one used as a center of military operations

ANSWERS: 8. fascinated, 9. troop, 10. expelled, 11. conquest, 12. Caliphate, 13. catholic, 14. conquer, 15. stronghold

16. The space shuttle is a modern engineering _____.

n. someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise

17. Jumeirah _____ is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.

n. a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)

18. It would be best not to _____ your associates into doing complex tasks.

v. to frighten someone very much

19. The rain was falling in _____ bursts.

adj. occurring at irregular intervals or only in a few places; scattered

20. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

21. The ancient _____ was built on a hill to give the defenders a strategic advantage.

n. a large and strongly built structure, typically with high walls and a moat, used as a military defense or for protection against attackers

22. God _____ you should regret your marriage.

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

ANSWERS: 16. marvel, 17. Mosque, 18. terrify, 19. sporadic, 20. Christmas, 21. fortress, 22. forbid