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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Vincent Yeow Lim: The nostalgia behind your favorite Chinese food | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

nostalgia

n. a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past

synonym: longing, wistfulness, yearning

(1) a warm **nostalgia**, (2) **nostalgia** trip

The ice cream truck's sound brought back **nostalgia** for my childhood.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

indulgent

adj. given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish

synonym: lavish, self-indulgent, excessive

(1) an **indulgent** father, (2) **indulgent** lifestyle

The rich and **indulgent** dessert was worth every calorie.

pandemic

n. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area

synonym: outbreak

(1) flu **pandemic**, (2) global **pandemic**

They fear a **pandemic** of a new type of virus.

beep

v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

synonym: bleep, honk, buzz

(1) **beep** out a warning, (2) **beep** the horn

The timer **beeped**, reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.

aromatic

adj. having a strong, sweet smell; fragrant

synonym: fragrant, perfumed, redolent

(1) **aromatic** soap, (2) **aromatic** spices

The **aromatic** herbs and spices in the dish made my mouth water.

pebble

n. a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water

synonym: rock, stone, cobble

(1) drop a **pebble** into a pond, (2) **pebble** pathway

She picked up a **pebble** from the beach and put it in her pocket as a souvenir.

sizzle

v. to make a hissing or crackling sound, especially when something is cooking in a pan

synonym: crackle, hiss, pop

(1) **sizzle** in the distance, (2) **sizzle** in the pan

The hot metal **sizzled** as it hit the water, creating steam.

prawn

n. a large freshwater or marine shrimp, typically boiled or steamed and served in salads or as a garnish for cocktails

synonym: shrimp, lobster, crab

(1) **prawn** cocktail, (2) banana **prawn**

The seafood restaurant specializes in dishes featuring **prawns**.

decorate

v. to add beauty or distinction to something by the addition of ornament, art, etc

synonym: adorn, embellish, beautify

(1) **decorate** a wall, (2) **decorate** for Christmas

They **decorated** the room with balloons and streamers for the birthday party.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

chili

n. a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers

synonym: capsicum, pepper

(1) **chili** sauce, (2) red **chili** powder

I love making a big pot of **chili** on a cold winter day.

linger

v. to stay in a place or exist longer than expected

synonym: dawdle, tarry, loiter

(1) **linger** in the mind, (2) **linger** over your work

She **lingered** for a moment before leaving the room.

mastery

n. complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity

synonym: proficiency, aptitude, domination

(1) **mastery** of mathematics, (2) strive for **mastery**

The country finally gained **mastery** over the whole land of its neighbors.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

pea

n. a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable

synonym: legume, bean, pulse

(1) **pea** protein, (2) **pea** family

She shelled the **peas** and added them to the pot.

saltiness

n. the quality or state of being salty

(1) the taste of **saltiness**, (2) enhance the **saltiness**

She tasted the dish and detected a slight **saltiness**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. de_____te a few hours
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
2. drop a pe___e into a pond
n. a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water
3. a warm no_____ia
n. a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past
4. ind_____us worker
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
5. ch__i sauce
n. a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers
6. no_____ia trip
n. a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past
7. global pa_____ic
n. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
8. an in_____nt father
adj. given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish
9. the taste of sa_____ss
n. the quality or state of being salty
10. banana pr__n
n. a large freshwater or marine shrimp, typically boiled or steamed and served in salads or as a garnish for cocktails

ANSWERS: 1. dedicate, 2. pebble, 3. nostalgia, 4. industrious, 5. chili, 6. nostalgia, 7. pandemic, 8. indulgent, 9. saltiness, 10. prawn

11. si___e in the distance *v.* to make a hissing or crackling sound, especially when something is cooking in a pan
12. ar____ic spices *adj.* having a strong, sweet smell; fragrant
13. pr__n cocktail *n.* a large freshwater or marine shrimp, typically boiled or steamed and served in salads or as a garnish for cocktails
14. si___e in the pan *v.* to make a hissing or crackling sound, especially when something is cooking in a pan
15. de____te for Christmas *v.* to add beauty or distinction to something by the addition of ornament, art, etc
16. p_a family *n.* a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable
17. ar____ic soap *adj.* having a strong, sweet smell; fragrant
18. serial qu____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
19. flu pa____ic *n.* an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
20. ma____y of mathematics *n.* complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity
21. de____te a wall *v.* to add beauty or distinction to something by the addition of ornament, art, etc

ANSWERS: 11. sizzle, 12. aromatic, 13. prawn, 14. sizzle, 15. decorate, 16. pea, 17. aromatic, 18. quitter, 19. pandemic, 20. mastery, 21. decorate

22. red ch__i powder *n.* a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers
23. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
24. li___r in the mind *v.* to stay in a place or exist longer than expected
25. enhance the sa_____ss *n.* the quality or state of being salty
26. strive for ma_____y *n.* complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity
27. pe___e pathway *n.* a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water
28. de_____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
29. in_____nt lifestyle *adj.* given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish
30. b__p the horn *v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
31. li___r over your work *v.* to stay in a place or exist longer than expected
32. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

ANSWERS: 22. chili, 23. industrious, 24. linger, 25. saltiness, 26. mastery, 27. pebble, 28. dedicate, 29. indulgent, 30. beep, 31. linger, 32. quitter

33. p_a protein
- n.* a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable
34. b__p out a warning
- v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

ANSWERS: 33. pea, 34. beep

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. They fear a _____ of a new type of virus.
n. an outbreak of a disease that affects many people over a very wide area
2. She picked up a _____ from the beach and put it in her pocket as a souvenir.
n. a small, smooth, rounded rock, especially one worn by the action of water
3. The hot metal _____ as it hit the water, creating steam.
v. to make a hissing or crackling sound, especially when something is cooking in a pan
4. She shelled the _____ and added them to the pot.
n. a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable
5. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
6. They _____ the room with balloons and streamers for the birthday party.
v. to add beauty or distinction to something by the addition of ornament, art, etc
7. I love making a big pot of _____ on a cold winter day.
n. a small hot-tasting fruit of a type of pepper plant used in sauces, relishes, and spice powders; a spicy stew made from ground beef and beans, typically seasoned with chili peppers
8. She _____ for a moment before leaving the room.
v. to stay in a place or exist longer than expected

ANSWERS: 1. pandemic, 2. pebble, 3. sizzled, 4. peas, 5. industrious, 6. decorated, 7. chili, 8. lingered

9. The rich and _____ dessert was worth every calorie.

adj. given to yielding to the desires or whims of oneself or others, especially by being generous or lavish

10. The timer _____ reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.

v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

11. He _____ his life to helping others.

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

12. She tasted the dish and detected a slight _____.

n. the quality or state of being salty

13. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

14. The seafood restaurant specializes in dishes featuring _____.

n. a large freshwater or marine shrimp, typically boiled or steamed and served in salads or as a garnish for cocktails

15. The ice cream truck's sound brought back _____ for my childhood.

n. a sentimental longing or wistful affection for a period in the past

16. The _____ herbs and spices in the dish made my mouth water.

adj. having a strong, sweet smell; fragrant

ANSWERS: 9. indulgent, 10. beeped, 11. dedicated, 12. saltiness, 13. quitter, 14. prawns, 15. nostalgia, 16. aromatic

17. The country finally gained _____ over the whole land of its neighbors.

- n.* complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity

ANSWERS: 17. mastery