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Soraya Field Fiorio: How did they build the Great Pyramid of Giza? | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

Pharaoh

n. the title of the ancient Egyptian kings

(1) a young **Pharaoh**, (2) Egyptian **Pharaoh**

The **Pharaoh** Khufu had his people build the most famous pyramids in the world.

ascend

v. to go or move upward; to become king or queen; to inherit something, such as a power

synonym: rise, climb, go up

(1) **ascend** the ladder, (2) **ascend** to power

The plane began to **ascend** into the sky.

human-made

adj. created or produced by humans; artificial

synonym: artificial, unnatural, manufactured

(1) **human-made** climate change, (2) the worst **human-made** disaster

The bridge is a **human-made** structure and was built to span the river.

quarry

n. a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting

synonym: stone pit, prey, target

(1) **quarry** operation, (2) **quarry** site

The hunter tracked down his **quarry** in the woods.

limestone

n. a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite

synonym: calcareous rock, chalk

(1) sheer **limestone** cliffs, (2) **limestone** pavement

The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of **limestone**.

plateau

n. an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress

synonym: mesa, tableland, plain

(1) **plateau** region, (2) **plateau** in performance

The hikers finally reached the **plateau** after a long climb up the mountain.

bedrock

n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

synonym: foundation, foundation stone, base

(1) **bedrock** foundation, (2) **bedrock** geology

The **bedrock** beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.

mason

n. a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

synonym: bricklayer, stonemason, masonry worker

(1) **mason** jar, (2) the craft of a **mason**

The accomplished **mason** expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.

carve

v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

synonym: sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

staggering

adj. so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
synonym : astounding, astonishing, stunning

(1) **staggering** number, (2) a **staggering** defeat
The amount of money required was **staggering**.

enslave

v. to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
synonym : coerce, deprive, imprison

(1) **enslave** poor peasants, (2) **enslave** indigenous people
Her beauty **enslaved** me completely.

deem

v. to consider or decide something in a particular way
synonym : believe, consider, suppose

(1) **deem** socially responsible, (2) **deem** wrong or inappropriate
Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were **deemed** unsafe.

sled

n. a vehicle used for traveling over snow or ice, typically consisting of a flat-bottomed frame mounted on runners, sometimes pulled by dogs or horses
synonym : sleigh, toboggan, sledge

(1) pull a **sled**, (2) **sled** dog
We used a **sled** to slide down the hill in the snow.

cedar

n. a type of fragrant, evergreen tree that is known for its reddish-brown wood and its use in furniture, building materials, and as an ornamental plant
synonym : juniper, redwood, pine

(1) **cedar** wood, (2) **cedar** bark
Tall **cedar** trees surrounded the cabin in the woods.

mallet

n. a tool used to strike or tap an object, typically with a wooden, rubber, or plastic head; a percussion instrument consisting of a handle and a head, often used in orchestral percussion and marimba
synonym : hammer, stick, beater

(1) percussion **mallet**, (2) lucky **mallet**

The percussionist switched from sticks to **mallets** for a softer sound.

chisel

n. a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior

synonym: gouge, bevel, plane

(1) sharpen **chisel**, (2) **chisel** some money

The archaeologist used a small **chisel** to excavate the ancient artifact.

inaccuracy

n. a lack of precision, correctness, or truthfulness; the state of being incorrect or mistaken

synonym: inexactness, error, mistake

(1) **inaccuracy** of measurements, (2) accumulated **inaccuracy**

There was an **inaccuracy** in the report that had to be corrected before it was published.

catastrophic

adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

synonym: fatal, disastrous, destructive

(1) victim of **catastrophic** injuries, (2) **catastrophic** climate change

The extinction rate of aquatic animals was **catastrophic**.

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.

passageway

n. a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions

synonym: corridor, hallway, passage

(1) **passageway** lighting, (2) an enclosed **passageway**
The narrow **passageway** was the only route to the hidden chamber.

dolerite

n. a type of basaltic rock that is typically dark in color and has a fine-grained texture

synonym: diabase, microgabbro, blackstone

(1) coarse-grained **dolerite**, (2) hard **dolerite** rock

The monument was carved out of **dolerite**, a type of igneous rock.

atop

adv. on, to, or at the top

synonym: upon, onto

(1) stand **atop**, (2) sit **atop** a stack of books

The eagle perched **atop** the tallest tree in the forest.

encase

v. to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer

synonym: encircle, enclose, enclasp

(1) **encase** in glass, (2) **encase** his feet

They **encased** the fragile vase in bubble wrap to protect it during shipping.

gleam

v. to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent

synonym: glitter, shimmer, shine

(1) **gleam** in eyes, (2) **gleam** like honey

The diamond ring **gleamed** in the sunlight, catching everyone's eye.

capstone

n. a final stone or brick placed on top of a structure, such as a wall or arch, often serving as a decorative element; a high point, or a crowning achievement

synonym: summit, topstone, copestone

(1) architectural **capstone**, (2) the **capstone** of her career

The **capstone** project was the culmination of the student's four-year college experience.

electrum

n. a naturally occurring alloy of gold and silver often found in deposits with these precious metals

synonym: alloy, amalgam, blend

(1) ancient **electrum** coin, (2) natural **electrum** alloy

Ancient civilizations used **electrum** as a form of currency.

glimmer

n. a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something

synonym: gleam, dazzle, gleam

(1) without a **glimmer** of truth, (2) give a **glimmer** of light

There is however a **glimmer** of hope.

propel

v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

synonym: drive, push, move

(1) **propel** growth, (2) **propel** the ship

An increase in employment helps **propel** economic growth.

Session 2: Spelling

1. the craft of a ma__n
n. a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete
2. lucky ma___t
n. a tool used to strike or tap an object, typically with a wooden, rubber, or plastic head; a percussion instrument consisting of a handle and a head, often used in orchestral percussion and marimba
3. pr___l the ship
v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
4. sit a__p a stack of books
adv. on, to, or at the top
5. stand a__p
adv. on, to, or at the top
6. an enclosed pas_____ay
n. a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions
7. li_____ne pavement
n. a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
8. be_____k geology
n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium
9. percussion ma___t
n. a tool used to strike or tap an object, typically with a wooden, rubber, or plastic head; a percussion instrument consisting of a handle and a head, often used in orchestral percussion and marimba

ANSWERS: 1. mason, 2. mallet, 3. propel, 4. atop, 5. atop, 6. passageway, 7. limestone, 8. bedrock, 9. mallet

10. ca__e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
11. s__d dog *n.* a vehicle used for traveling over snow or ice, typically consisting of a flat-bottomed frame mounted on runners, sometimes pulled by dogs or horses
12. sta_____ng number *adj.* so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
13. pr___l growth *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
14. pas_____ay lighting *n.* a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions
15. sharpen ch___l *n.* a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior
16. give a gl_____r of light *n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something
17. a sta_____ng defeat *adj.* so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
18. coarse-grained do_____te *n.* a type of basaltic rock that is typically dark in color and has a fine-grained texture
19. ch___l some money *n.* a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior

ANSWERS: 10. carve, 11. sled, 12. staggering, 13. propel, 14. passageway, 15. chisel, 16. glimmer, 17. staggering, 18. dolerite, 19. chisel

20. d__m socially responsible *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
21. en___e his feet *v.* to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer
22. gl__m like honey *v.* to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
23. without a gl_____r of truth *n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something
24. a young Ph_____h *n.* the title of the ancient Egyptian kings
25. Egyptian Ph_____h *n.* the title of the ancient Egyptian kings
26. as___d to power *v.* to go or move upward; to become king or queen; to inherit something, such as a power
27. the worst hum_____de disaster *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
28. the ca_____ne of her career *n.* a final stone or brick placed on top of a structure, such as a wall or arch, often serving as a decorative element; a high point, or a crowning achievement
29. pull a s__d *n.* a vehicle used for traveling over snow or ice, typically consisting of a flat-bottomed frame mounted on runners, sometimes pulled by dogs or horses
30. ce__r bark *n.* a type of fragrant, evergreen tree that is known for its reddish-brown wood and its use in furniture, building materials, and as an ornamental plant

ANSWERS: 20. deem, 21. encase, 22. gleam, 23. glimmer, 24. Pharaoh, 25. Pharaoh, 26. ascend, 27. human-made, 28. capstone, 29. sled, 30. cedar

31. en____e indigenous people *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
32. ca__e a statue *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
33. sheer li_____ne cliffs *n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
34. accumulated ina_____cy *n.* a lack of precision, correctness, or truthfulness; the state of being incorrect or mistaken
35. gl__m in eyes *v.* to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
36. qu___y operation *n.* a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting
37. hum_____de climate change *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
38. natural el_____um alloy *n.* a naturally occurring alloy of gold and silver often found in deposits with these precious metals
39. en____e poor peasants *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
40. d__m wrong or inappropriate *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way

ANSWERS: 31. enslave, 32. carve, 33. limestone, 34. inaccuracy, 35. gleam, 36. quarry, 37. human-made, 38. electrum, 39. enslave, 40. deem

41. architectural ca_____ne *n.* a final stone or brick placed on top of a structure, such as a wall or arch, often serving as a decorative element; a high point, or a crowning achievement
42. be_____k foundation *n.* the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium
43. hard do_____te rock *n.* a type of basaltic rock that is typically dark in color and has a fine-grained texture
44. pl_____u in performance *n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress
45. ancient el_____um coin *n.* a naturally occurring alloy of gold and silver often found in deposits with these precious metals
46. ina_____cy of measurements *n.* a lack of precision, correctness, or truthfulness; the state of being incorrect or mistaken
47. victim of cat_____hic injuries *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
48. cat_____hic climate change *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
49. ce__r wood *n.* a type of fragrant, evergreen tree that is known for its reddish-brown wood and its use in furniture, building materials, and as an ornamental plant
50. en___e in glass *v.* to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer

ANSWERS: 41. capstone, 42. bedrock, 43. dolerite, 44. plateau, 45. electrum, 46. inaccuracy, 47. catastrophic, 48. catastrophic, 49. cedar, 50. encase

51. as___d the ladder *v.* to go or move upward; to become king or queen; to inherit something, such as a power
52. s__r in popularity *v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease
53. ma__n jar *n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete
54. qu___y site *n.* a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting
55. pl_____u region *n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress
56. s__r to new heights *v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease

ANSWERS: 51. ascend, 52. soar, 53. mason, 54. quarry, 55. plateau, 56. soar

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. There was an _____ in the report that had to be corrected before it was published.
 - n.* a lack of precision, correctness, or truthfulness; the state of being incorrect or mistaken

2. Tall _____ trees surrounded the cabin in the woods.
 - n.* a type of fragrant, evergreen tree that is known for its reddish-brown wood and its use in furniture, building materials, and as an ornamental plant

3. The bridge is a _____ structure and was built to span the river.
 - adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial

4. The accomplished _____ expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.
 - n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

5. The _____ beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.
 - n.* the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

6. The hikers finally reached the _____ after a long climb up the mountain.
 - n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress

7. Her beauty _____ me completely.
 - v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

ANSWERS: 1. inaccuracy, 2. cedar, 3. human-made, 4. mason, 5. bedrock, 6. plateau, 7. enslaved

8. The amount of money required was _____.
adj. so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
9. They _____ the fragile vase in bubble wrap to protect it during shipping.
v. to enclose or cover something in a protective or decorative layer
10. The diamond ring _____ in the sunlight, catching everyone's eye.
v. to reflect light in a way that creates a shining or bright and attractive appearance; to become visible or apparent
11. The archaeologist used a small _____ to excavate the ancient artifact.
n. a tool with a sharpened edge at one end used for shaping wood, stone, or metal; (verb) to engage in deceitful behavior
12. 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
13. An increase in employment helps _____ economic growth.
v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
14. We used a _____ to slide down the hill in the snow.
n. a vehicle used for traveling over snow or ice, typically consisting of a flat-bottomed frame mounted on runners, sometimes pulled by dogs or horses
15. Ancient civilizations used _____ as a form of currency.
n. a naturally occurring alloy of gold and silver often found in deposits with these precious metals

ANSWERS: 8. staggering, 9. encased, 10. gleamed, 11. chisel, 12. soared, 13. propel, 14. sled, 15. electrum

16. The narrow _____ was the only route to the hidden chamber.
- n.* a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions
17. The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of _____.
- n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
18. The hunter tracked down his _____ in the woods.
- n.* a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting
19. There is however a _____ of hope.
- n.* a flash of light especially unsteady or reflected light; a slight sign of something
20. The percussionist switched from sticks to _____ for a softer sound.
- n.* a tool used to strike or tap an object, typically with a wooden, rubber, or plastic head; a percussion instrument consisting of a handle and a head, often used in orchestral percussion and marimba
21. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was _____.
- adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
22. This statue is _____ from a single tree trunk.
- v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
23. The plane began to _____ into the sky.
- v.* to go or move upward; to become king or queen; to inherit something, such as a power

ANSWERS: 16. passageway, 17. limestone, 18. quarry, 19. glimmer, 20. mallets, 21. catastrophic, 22. carved, 23. ascend

24. The eagle perched _____ the tallest tree in the forest.

adv. on, to, or at the top

25. The monument was carved out of _____ a type of igneous rock.

n. a type of basaltic rock that is typically dark in color and has a fine-grained texture

26. The _____ project was the culmination of the student's four-year college experience.

n. a final stone or brick placed on top of a structure, such as a wall or arch, often serving as a decorative element; a high point, or a crowning achievement

27. The _____ Khufu had his people build the most famous pyramids in the world.

n. the title of the ancient Egyptian kings

28. Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were _____ unsafe.

v. to consider or decide something in a particular way

ANSWERS: 24. atop, 25. dolerite, 26. capstone, 27. Pharaoh, 28. deemed