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Charita Gainey: How Phillis Wheatley captured the attention of the world | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

burgeon

v. to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way

synonym : flourish, bloom, thrive

(1) **burgeon** rapidly, (2) **burgeon** from every corner.

The city's art scene has been **burgeoning** recently, with new galleries and exhibitions popping up regularly.

ode

n. a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone

synonym : poem, song, verse

(1) nature **ode**, (2) an **ode** to love

The poet composed a beautiful **ode** to nature and its wonders.

aloof

adj. emotionally detached or reserved; distant or uninvolved in personal relationships or social interactions; standing apart from others

synonym : distant, detached, standoffish

(1) **aloof** attitude, (2) keep **aloof**

The **aloof** cat refused to cuddle with its owner.

aristocratic

adj. relating to or characteristic of the aristocracy (= the most powerful class of society); noble or aristocratic in manner or appearance

synonym : noble, titled, patrician

(1) **aristocratic** titles, (2) **aristocratic** government

The **aristocratic** family had a long history of wealth and privilege.

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.

rename

v. to give a new name to something; to change the name of something

synonym : rebrand, rechristen, re-label

(1) **rename** the street, (2) **rename** in plain English

The new owners **renamed** the restaurant to give it a fresh start.

versed

adj. well-informed or experienced in a particular field or skill; knowledgeable or proficient

synonym : knowledgeable, experienced, skilled

(1) **versed** in law, (2) tech- **versed** professional

She was well- **versed** in French literature and could recite many works by heart.

elegy

n. a mournful, sorrowful, or melancholic poem or song written as a tribute or a lament for someone who has died or for a past era or experience that has passed away

synonym : dirge, lament, requiem

(1) **elegy** poem, (2) funeral **elegy**

The poet composed an **elegy** in memory of his deceased father.

revere

v. to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem

synonym: worship, venerate, admire

(1) **revere** a hero, (2) **revere** a deity

Many people **revere** their religious leaders and look up to them for guidance.

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.

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.

sermon

n. a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service

synonym: homily, discourse, lecture

(1) lengthy **sermon**, (2) a lay **sermon**

The preacher delivered a powerful **sermon** on the importance of forgiveness.

inflame

v. to cause very strong feelings such as anger or excitement in a person or a group of people

synonym: agitate, arouse, enrage

(1) **inflame** skin, (2) **inflame** his passion

Her eyes **inflamed** with crying.

captivate

v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of

synonym: enchant, charm, fascinate

(1) **captivate** public sentiment, (2) **captivate** the mind

The magician **captivated** the audience with his illusions.

arresting

adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something

synonym : striking, impressive, captivating

(1) an **arresting** image, (2) an **arresting** sight

The painting's **arresting** beauty made it difficult to look away.

animate

v. to make something full of interest and energy

synonym : invigorate, energize, enliven

(1) **animate** the body, (2) **animate** his soul

The positive attitude of the supervisor **animated** the discussion.

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.

hymn

n. a song of praise or worship, especially one in a religious service or ceremony

synonym : psalm, song, religious song

(1) a sacred **hymn**, (2) **hymn** tune

The congregation sang the **hymn** during the service.

portray

v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

synonym : depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

muse

n. a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists

synonym : source of inspiration, minstrel, versifier

(1) **muse** inspiration, (2) creative **muse**

She gazed out the window, deep in thought, as if waiting for her **muse** to strike.

unsurprising

adj. not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted

synonym: predictable, expected, foreseeable

(1) **unsurprising** success, (2) **unsurprising** result

The **unsurprising** outcome of the election was a victory for the incumbent candidate.

incapable

adj. unable to do, control, or achieve something

synonym: unable, incompetent, unskilled

(1) drunk and **incapable**, (2) **incapable** of being resisted

He seems **incapable** of understanding what she says.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

imitation

n. a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something

synonym: fabrication, replica, fake

(1) **imitation** antique, (2) artificial **imitation**

Many individuals believe that children learn languages through **imitation**.

enamored

adj. deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for

synonym: captivated, smitten, in love

(1) **enamored** of the idea, (2) **enamored** of bygone days

He had been **enamored** with her since the first time he saw her.

condemn

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
synonym: criticize, denounce, censure

(1) **condemn** violence, (2) **condemn** crime

The government was **condemned** for its handling of the crisis.

nuanced

adj. characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.

synonym: fine, subtle, slight

(1) **nuanced** view, (2) the common but **nuanced** opinion

The sommelier can distinguish **nuanced** variance in the flavor of the wine.

kidnapping

n. the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

synonym: abduction, snatch, kidnap

(1) **kidnapping** attempt, (2) mass **kidnapping**

She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated **kidnapping**.

disparage

v. to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly

synonym: derogate, belittle, criticize

(1) **disparage** my work, (2) **disparage** a company's reputation

He didn't want to **disparage** his colleague in front of their boss.

evoke

v. to bring or recall a feeling, memory, or image into your mind

synonym: arouse, raise, inspire

(1) **evoke** a sense of awe, (2) **evoke** sympathy

This movie is likely to **evoke** strong emotions in the viewer.

lament

v. to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning

synonym: mourn, grieve, bemoan

(1) **lament** my misfortunes, (2) **lament** the situation
She **lamented** the loss of her beloved cat.

emancipation

n. the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence

synonym: liberation, freedom, release

(1) self- **emancipation**, (2) history of **emancipation**

His **emancipation** from his parents was a defining moment and gave him newfound freedom.

infancy

n. the state or period of being a baby or very young child

synonym: childhood, babyhood, juvenescence

(1) **infancy** stage, (2) in early **infancy**

The technology is still in its **infancy** and has much room for improvement.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

synonym: entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

ravage

v. to cause damage to something badly

synonym: devastate, ruin, destroy

(1) **ravage** a country, (2) **ravage** the brain

A large fire **ravaged** the forest.

sustenance

n. food and drink that living things need to nourish their body

synonym: nourishment, livelihood, nutrition

(1) scanty **sustenance**, (2) **sustenance** allowance

A regular job is often a spiritual **sustenance**.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. kid_____ng attempt | <i>n.</i> the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive |
| 2. b__y emotion | <i>v.</i> to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb |
| 3. de___t a scene | <i>v.</i> to illustrate someone or something in a photograph |
| 4. s__r in popularity | <i>v.</i> to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease |
| 5. scanty sus_____ce | <i>n.</i> food and drink that living things need to nourish their body |
| 6. b__y in the earth | <i>v.</i> to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb |
| 7. an_____e the body | <i>v.</i> to make something full of interest and energy |
| 8. la___t the situation | <i>v.</i> to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning |
| 9. al__f attitude | <i>adj.</i> emotionally detached or reserved; distant or uninvolved in personal relationships or social interactions; standing apart from others |
| 10. ev__e a sense of awe | <i>v.</i> to bring or recall a feeling, memory, or image into your mind |
| 11. re___e in plain English | <i>v.</i> to give a new name to something; to change the name of something |
| 12. en_____e indigenous people | <i>v.</i> to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action |

ANSWERS: 1. kidnapping, 2. bury, 3. depict, 4. soar, 5. sustenance, 6. bury, 7. animate, 8. lament, 9. aloof, 10. evoke, 11. rename, 12. enslave

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 13. enrich my in_____ct | <i>n.</i> the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level |
| 14. co_____n violence | <i>v.</i> to express strong disapproval or criticism of something |
| 15. ca_____te the mind | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention or interest of |
| 16. creative m__e | <i>n.</i> a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists |
| 17. nature o_e | <i>n.</i> a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone |
| 18. human in_____ct | <i>n.</i> the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level |
| 19. mass kid_____ng | <i>n.</i> the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive |
| 20. h__n tune | <i>n.</i> a song of praise or worship, especially one in a religious service or ceremony |
| 21. di_____ge my work | <i>v.</i> to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly |
| 22. funeral el__y | <i>n.</i> a mournful, sorrowful, or melancholic poem or song written as a tribute or a lament for someone who has died or for a past era or experience that has passed away |

ANSWERS: 13. intellect, 14. condemn, 15. captivate, 16. muse, 17. ode, 18. intellect, 19. kidnapping, 20. hymn, 21. disparage, 22. elegy

23. an____e his soul
v. to make something full of interest and energy
24. an ar_____ng image
adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
25. uns_____ing success
adj. not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
26. el__y poem
n. a mournful, sorrowful, or melancholic poem or song written as a tribute or a lament for someone who has died or for a past era or experience that has passed away
27. co_____n crime
v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
28. ve____d in law
adj. well-informed or experienced in a particular field or skill; knowledgeable or proficient
29. nu_____d view
adj. characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.
30. ca_____te public sentiment
v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of
31. a sacred h__n
n. a song of praise or worship, especially one in a religious service or ceremony
32. an ar_____ng sight
adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
33. lengthy se____n
n. a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service

ANSWERS: 23. animate, 24. arresting, 25. unsurprising, 26. elegy, 27. condemn, 28. versed, 29. nuanced, 30. captivate, 31. hymn, 32. arresting, 33. sermon

34. history of ema_____ion *n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence
35. la___t my misfortunes *v.* to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning
36. fa_____te the young *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
37. en_____ed of bygone days *adj.* deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
38. in_____e his passion *v.* to cause very strong feelings such as anger or excitement in a person or a group of people
39. bu_____n rapidly *v.* to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way
40. uns_____ing result *adj.* not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
41. sus_____ce allowance *n.* food and drink that living things need to nourish their body
42. ari_____tic titles *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the aristocracy (= the most powerful class of society); noble or aristocratic in manner or appearance
43. di_____ge a company's reputation *v.* to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly
44. ari_____tic government *adj.* relating to or characteristic of the aristocracy (= the most powerful class of society); noble or aristocratic in manner or appearance

ANSWERS: 34. emancipation, 35. lament, 36. fascinate, 37. enamored, 38. inflame, 39. burgeon, 40. unsurprising, 41. sustenance, 42. aristocratic, 43. disparage, 44. aristocratic

45. bu____n from every corner. *v.* to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way
46. in_____le of being resisted *adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something
47. artificial im_____on *n.* a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something
48. tech-ve___d professional *adj.* well-informed or experienced in a particular field or skill; knowledgeable or proficient
49. de___t a feeling of isolation *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
50. the common but nu_____d opinion *adj.* characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.
51. keep al___f *adj.* emotionally detached or reserved; distant or uninvolved in personal relationships or social interactions; standing apart from others
52. m___e inspiration *n.* a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists
53. re___e a hero *v.* to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem
54. re___e the street *v.* to give a new name to something; to change the name of something
55. s___r to new heights *v.* to fly or rise very high or to a great height, often with great grace or ease

ANSWERS: 45. burgeon, 46. incapable, 47. imitation, 48. versed, 49. depict, 50. nuanced, 51. aloof, 52. muse, 53. revere, 54. rename, 55. soar

56. self-ema_____ion *n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence
57. ra___e a country *v.* to cause damage to something badly
58. in_____e skin *v.* to cause very strong feelings such as anger or excitement in a person or a group of people
59. accurately po_____y the condition *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
60. po_____y feelings in words *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
61. an o_e to love *n.* a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone
62. fa_____te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
63. a lay se___n *n.* a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service
64. in_____y stage *n.* the state or period of being a baby or very young child
65. ra___e the brain *v.* to cause damage to something badly
66. en_____ed of the idea *adj.* deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for
67. in early in_____y *n.* the state or period of being a baby or very young child

ANSWERS: 56. emancipation, 57. ravage, 58. inflame, 59. portray, 60. portray, 61. ode, 62. fascinate, 63. sermon, 64. infancy, 65. ravage, 66. enamored, 67. infancy

68. im_____on antique *n.* a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something
69. en_____e poor peasants *v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
70. re_____e a deity *v.* to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem
71. drunk and in_____le *adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something
72. ev__e sympathy *v.* to bring or recall a feeling, memory, or image into your mind

ANSWERS: 68. imitation, 69. enslave, 70. revere, 71. incapable, 72. evoke

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Her eyes _____ with crying.
v. to cause very strong feelings such as anger or excitement in a person or a group of people

2. This movie is likely to _____ strong emotions in the viewer.
v. to bring or recall a feeling, memory, or image into your mind

3. The government was _____ for its handling of the crisis.
v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

4. The congregation sang the _____ during the service.
n. a song of praise or worship, especially one in a religious service or ceremony

5. The sommelier can distinguish _____ variance in the flavor of the wine.
adj. characterized by subtle differences in appearance, meaning, sound, etc.

6. He seems _____ of understanding what she says.
adj. unable to do, control, or achieve something

7. A regular job is often a spiritual _____.
n. food and drink that living things need to nourish their body

8. He had been _____ with her since the first time he saw her.
adj. deeply in love; having a strong affection or admiration for

9. She _____ the loss of her beloved cat.
v. to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning

ANSWERS: 1. inflamed, 2. evoke, 3. condemned, 4. hymn, 5. nuanced, 6. incapable, 7. sustenance, 8. enamored, 9. lamented

10. Her beauty _____ me completely.

- v.* to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

11. The poet composed an _____ in memory of his deceased father.

- n.* a mournful, sorrowful, or melancholic poem or song written as a tribute or a lament for someone who has died or for a past era or experience that has passed away

12. The new owners _____ the restaurant to give it a fresh start.

- v.* to give a new name to something; to change the name of something

13. The _____ family had a long history of wealth and privilege.

- adj.* relating to or characteristic of the aristocracy (= the most powerful class of society); noble or aristocratic in manner or appearance

14. She was well-_____ in French literature and could recite many works by heart.

- adj.* well-informed or experienced in a particular field or skill; knowledgeable or proficient

15. 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

16. His _____ from his parents was a defining moment and gave him newfound freedom.

- n.* the act or process of setting someone free from control or influence

17. The magician _____ the audience with his illusions.

- v.* to attract and hold the attention or interest of

ANSWERS: 10. enslaved, 11. elegy, 12. renamed, 13. aristocratic, 14. versed, 15. soared, 16. emancipation, 17. captivated

18. He didn't want to _____ his colleague in front of their boss.
v. to describe or represent as being of little worth or value; to belittle, degrade, or criticize unfairly
19. The _____ outcome of the election was a victory for the incumbent candidate.
adj. not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
20. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.
v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
21. We often _____ political problems as religious issues.
v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
22. The preacher delivered a powerful _____ on the importance of forgiveness.
n. a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service
23. She gazed out the window, deep in thought, as if waiting for her _____ to strike.
n. a source of inspiration, particularly for creative endeavors such as writing or art; a mythical spirit thought to inspire poets and artists
24. The painting's _____ beauty made it difficult to look away.
adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
25. The technology is still in its _____ and has much room for improvement.
n. the state or period of being a baby or very young child

ANSWERS: 18. disparage, 19. unsurprising, 20. bury, 21. portray, 22. sermon, 23. muse, 24. arresting, 25. infancy

26. The city's art scene has been _____ recently, with new galleries and exhibitions popping up regularly.
- v. to grow or develop rapidly, especially in a healthy or vigorous way
27. The positive attitude of the supervisor _____ the discussion.
- v. to make something full of interest and energy
28. The poet composed a beautiful ____ to nature and its wonders.
- n. a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone
29. His son had accurately _____ the bloom.
- v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
30. Many individuals believe that children learn languages through _____.
- n. a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something
31. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
- n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
32. The _____ cat refused to cuddle with its owner.
- adj. emotionally detached or reserved; distant or uninvolved in personal relationships or social interactions; standing apart from others
33. Many people _____ their religious leaders and look up to them for guidance.
- v. to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem

ANSWERS: 26. burgeoning, 27. animated, 28. ode, 29. depicted, 30. imitation, 31. intellect, 32. aloof, 33. revere

34. A large fire _____ the forest.

v. to cause damage to something badly

35. The magic tricks _____ the children.

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

36. She received a year's imprisonment for aggravated _____.

n. the act of taking somebody away illegally and holding them captive

ANSWERS: 34. ravaged, 35. fascinated, 36. kidnapping