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Kayla Wolf: The biggest mistakes in mapmaking history | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sentimental

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

synonym : bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage

Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

mapmaking

n. the process of creating maps or charts, including the interpretation of symbols, features, and data and the use of various techniques and technologies to represent geographical or other information in visual form

synonym : cartography, map drawing

(1) digital **mapmaking**, (2) **mapmaking** technology

Many famous explorers were also skilled in the art of **mapmaking**.

scrawl

v. to write or draw something in a careless or untidy way, often with difficulty or haste

synonym : scribble, scratch, squiggle

(1) **scrawl** my signature, (2) **scrawl** a message

She quickly **scrawled** her phone number on paper before running out the door.

terra

n. a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area

synonym : earth, land, ground

(1) **terra** cotta, (2) **terra** firma

Scientists study the **terra** of other planets to learn more about their formations and compositions.

topography

n. the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features

synonym : terrain, landscape, geography

(1) **topography** map, (2) detailed **topography**

The **topography** of the region is rugged, with many hills and valleys.

coastline

n. the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea

synonym : shoreline, seashore, beach

(1) **coastline** erosion, (2) deeply indented **coastline**

The new resort was built along the **coastline**, offering stunning ocean views from every room.

cosmography

n. the science or study of the universe or cosmos, including its structure, properties, and history; the art or practice of describing or representing the cosmos or its features, such as the stars or the planets

synonym : cosmology, astronomy, space science

(1) **cosmography** textbook, (2) **cosmography** map

The **cosmography** of the Milky Way Galaxy remains a mystery to many scientists.

cosmos

n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system

synonym : universe, macrocosm

(1) exploration of **cosmos**, (2) origin of the **cosmos**
Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the **cosmos**.

constellation

n. a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people

synonym: asterism, array, pattern

(1) the stars of the Scorpion **constellation**, (2) northern **constellation**

Navigators still use the Little Bear **constellation** at sea.

cartographer

v. a person who creates or produces maps, typically by gathering or analyzing geographic data and using specialized software or tools

synonym: mapmaker

(1) expert **cartographer**, (2) **cartographer's** tool

A **cartographer's** job requires a strong eye for detail and a deep understanding of geographic principles.

slew

v. to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay;
(noun) a large number or amount or extent

synonym: slide, curve, (noun) heap

(1) **slew** around suddenly, (2) have a **slew** of ideas

He **slew** many Trojan warriors in this war.

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.

glaringly

adv. in a way that is obvious, conspicuous, or highly visible;
in a manner that draws immediate attention or scrutiny

synonym: blatantly, obviously, conspicuously

(1) **glaringly** obvious fact, (2) **glaringly** bright

The flaws of the proposal were **glaringly** apparent during the

meeting.

disprove

v. to show that something is not true or correct

synonym : refute, discredit, invalidate

(1) **disprove** global warming, (2) **disprove** the conjecture
The researchers were unable to **disprove** the theory.

vogue

n. the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture

synonym : trend, style, fashion

(1) current **vogue**, (2) follow **vogue** trends

Bellbottoms were in **vogue** during the 1970s but are not as popular today.

veer

v. to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another

synonym : swerve, diverge, shift

(1) **veer** toward danger, (2) **veer** to the left

The car **veered** off the road and crashed into a tree.

mythical

adj. based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination

synonym : mythological, fictitious, legendary

(1) **mythical** heroes, (2) **mythical** world

Many cultures have their **mythical** creatures and legends.

portrayal

n. a representation or depiction of someone or something, especially in art, literature, or drama

synonym : depiction, representation, characterization

(1) **portrayal** representation, (2) accurate **portrayal**

Critics praised her **portrayal** of the character.

sub-Saharan

adj. of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

(1) **sub-Saharan** Africa, (2) **sub-Saharan** countries

The coffee producers in **sub-Saharan** countries are at the

sharp end of fluctuations in price.

misstep

n. a mistake or error in judgment or action, often resulting in an awkward or embarrassing situation; a misjudged or poorly executed step or movement

synonym: mistake, blunder, fumble

(1) recover from a **misstep**, (2) navigating **missteps**

She took a **misstep** on the stairs and tumbled down to the bottom.

germ

n. a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one

synonym: bacterium, microbe, pathogen

(1) antibiotic-resistant **germ**, (2) a **germ-free** environment

The **germ** of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.

sliver

n. a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

synonym: splinter, shard, fragment

(1) **sliver** of wood, (2) **sliver** of metal

I had to be careful not to step on a **sliver** of glass on the floor.

stab

v. to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife

synonym: poke, thrust, jab

(1) **stab** at the enemy with a knife, (2) **stab** in the chest

He was **stabbed** many times with scissors.

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.

astray

adv. away from the right path or direction
synonym: off course, misdirected, wayward

(1) led **astray** by superstition, (2) gone **astray**
He wandered **astray** from the path and got lost in the forest.

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.

whirlpool

n. a rapidly rotating mass of water or air, especially one in a river or sea, causing a suction or vortex
synonym: maelstrom, vortex, eddy

(1) **whirlpool** effect, (2) **whirlpool** bathtub
The river had several dangerous **whirlpools** that were difficult to navigate.

utopia

n. an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
synonym: paradise, heaven, Arcadia

(1) perfect **utopia**, (2) a **utopia** for an engineer
The concept of **utopia** is often viewed as an impossible or unrealistic goal, as it goes beyond what is currently possible.

fairyland

n. a fictional or imaginary realm or world, often associated with stories, folklore, mythology, or children's literature, that is inhabited by fairies, sprites, or other magical creatures and is often depicted as a place of wonder, enchantment, and beauty
synonym: enchanted land, fantasy world

(1) **fairyl**and meadow, (2) **fairyl**and tale

As a child, I always dreamed of visiting **fairyl**and.

eradicate

v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

synonym: destroy, eliminate, exterminate

(1) **eradicate** the deficit, (2) **eradicate** racial discrimination

We are trying to **eradicate** this disease from the world.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sen_____al damage *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
2. di_____ve global warming *v.* to show that something is not true or correct
3. antibiotic-resistant g__m *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
4. fa_____nd meadow *n.* a fictional or imaginary realm or world, often associated with stories, folklore, mythology, or children's literature, that is inhabited by fairies, sprites, or other magical creatures and is often depicted as a place of wonder, enchantment, and beauty
5. v__r to the left *v.* to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another
6. have a s__w of ideas *v.* to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay; (noun) a large number or amount or extent
7. accurate po_____al *n.* a representation or depiction of someone or something, especially in art, literature, or drama
8. ma_____ng technology *n.* the process of creating maps or charts, including the interpretation of symbols, features, and data and the use of various techniques and technologies to represent geographical or other information in visual form

ANSWERS: 1. sentimental, 2. disprove, 3. germ, 4. fairyland, 5. veer, 6. slew, 7. portrayal, 8. mapmaking

9. the tip of the pe_____la *n.* a long piece of land that is almost surrounded by water but is linked to a larger part of the land
10. sub_____an Africa *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
11. s__b at the enemy with a knife *v.* to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife
12. sl___r of metal *n.* a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something
13. cos_____hy textbook *n.* the science or study of the universe or cosmos, including its structure, properties, and history; the art or practice of describing or representing the cosmos or its features, such as the stars or the planets
14. the stars of the Scorpion
con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
15. exploration of co___s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
16. gone as___y *adv.* away from the right path or direction
17. sub_____an countries *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

ANSWERS: 9. peninsula, 10. sub-Saharan, 11. stab, 12. sliver, 13. cosmography, 14. constellation, 15. cosmos, 16. astray, 17. sub-Saharan

18. te__a firma *n.* a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area
19. te__a cotta *n.* a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area
20. sp_____te on the outcome *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
21. cos_____hy map *n.* the science or study of the universe or cosmos, including its structure, properties, and history; the art or practice of describing or representing the cosmos or its features, such as the stars or the planets
22. digital ma_____ng *n.* the process of creating maps or charts, including the interpretation of symbols, features, and data and the use of various techniques and technologies to represent geographical or other information in visual form
23. origin of the co___s *n.* another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
24. gl_____ly obvious fact *adv.* in a way that is obvious, conspicuous, or highly visible; in a manner that draws immediate attention or scrutiny
25. sc___l my signature *v.* to write or draw something in a careless or untidy way, often with difficulty or haste

ANSWERS: 18. terra, 19. terra, 20. speculate, 21. cosmography, 22. mapmaking, 23. cosmos, 24. glaringly, 25. scrawl

26. gl_____ly bright
adv. in a way that is obvious, conspicuous, or highly visible; in a manner that draws immediate attention or scrutiny
27. in a sen_____al mood
adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
28. co_____ne erosion
n. the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea
29. di_____ve the conjecture
v. to show that something is not true or correct
30. fa_____nd tale
n. a fictional or imaginary realm or world, often associated with stories, folklore, mythology, or children's literature, that is inhabited by fairies, sprites, or other magical creatures and is often depicted as a place of wonder, enchantment, and beauty
31. wh_____ol bathtub
n. a rapidly rotating mass of water or air, especially one in a river or sea, causing a suction or vortex
32. s__w around suddenly
v. to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay; (noun) a large number or amount or extent
33. expert car_____her
v. a person who creates or produces maps, typically by gathering or analyzing geographic data and using specialized software or tools
34. po_____al representation
n. a representation or depiction of someone or something, especially in art, literature, or drama

ANSWERS: 26. glaringly, 27. sentimental, 28. coastline, 29. disprove, 30. fairyland, 31. whirlpool, 32. slew, 33. cartographer, 34. portrayal

35. a ut___a for an engineer *n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
36. car_____her's tool *v.* a person who creates or produces maps, typically by gathering or analyzing geographic data and using specialized software or tools
37. led as___y by superstition *adv.* away from the right path or direction
38. navigating mi_____ps *n.* a mistake or error in judgment or action, often resulting in an awkward or embarrassing situation; a misjudged or poorly executed step or movement
39. detailed top_____hy *n.* the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features
40. perfect ut___a *n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
41. sl___r of wood *n.* a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something
42. northern con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people

ANSWERS: 35. utopia, 36. cartographer, 37. astray, 38. misstep, 39. topography, 40. utopia, 41. sliver, 42. constellation

43. a g__m-free environment *n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
44. v__r toward danger *v.* to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another
45. my____al world *adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination
46. my____al heroes *adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination
47. the Arab pe_____la *n.* a long piece of land that is almost surrounded by water but is linked to a larger part of the land
48. s__b in the chest *v.* to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife
49. er_____te the deficit *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
50. current vo__e *n.* the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture
51. top_____hy map *n.* the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features

ANSWERS: 43. germ, 44. veer, 45. mythical, 46. mythical, 47. peninsula, 48. stab, 49. eradicate, 50. vogue, 51. topography

52. er_____te racial discrimination *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
53. follow vo__e trends *n.* the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture
54. deeply indented co_____ne *n.* the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea
55. de___t a feeling of isolation *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
56. wh_____ol effect *n.* a rapidly rotating mass of water or air, especially one in a river or sea, causing a suction or vortex
57. sc___l a message *v.* to write or draw something in a careless or untidy way, often with difficulty or haste
58. de___t a scene *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
59. sp_____te about the reason *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
60. recover from a mi_____p *n.* a mistake or error in judgment or action, often resulting in an awkward or embarrassing situation; a misjudged or poorly executed step or movement

ANSWERS: 52. eradicate, 53. vogue, 54. coastline, 55. depict, 56. whirlpool, 57. scrawl, 58. depict, 59. speculate, 60. misstep

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She quickly _____ her phone number on paper before running out the door.
v. to write or draw something in a careless or untidy way, often with difficulty or haste
2. Supercomputers enable scientists to create computational models of the _____.
n. another name for the universe, mainly used when it is thought of as an ordered system
3. The new resort was built along the _____ offering stunning ocean views from every room.
n. the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea
4. The coffee producers in _____ countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.
adj. of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
5. The _____ of the Milky Way Galaxy remains a mystery to many scientists.
n. the science or study of the universe or cosmos, including its structure, properties, and history; the art or practice of describing or representing the cosmos or its features, such as the stars or the planets
6. I had to be careful not to step on a _____ of glass on the floor.
n. a small, thin, narrow piece or fragment of something, often characterized by its length or its sharpness or thinness; a small portion or amount of something, often used in a metaphorical sense to describe a trace or a hint of something

ANSWERS: 1. scrawled, 2. cosmos, 3. coastline, 4. sub-Saharan, 5. cosmography, 6. sliver

7. The _____ of his idea came from watching birds flying in flocks.
- n.* a very tiny living that causes the disease; a piece of something such as an organism, concept, etc., capable of growing into a new one or part of one
8. Bellbottoms were in _____ during the 1970s but are not as popular today.
- n.* the popular or fashionable trend or style of a particular time, especially in clothing, music, or general culture
9. His son had accurately _____ the bloom.
- v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
10. As a child, I always dreamed of visiting _____.
- n.* a fictional or imaginary realm or world, often associated with stories, folklore, mythology, or children's literature, that is inhabited by fairies, sprites, or other magical creatures and is often depicted as a place of wonder, enchantment, and beauty
11. Many cultures have their _____ creatures and legends.
- adj.* based on or related to myths, legends, or folklore; existing only in tales or in the imagination
12. 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
13. The car _____ off the road and crashed into a tree.
- v.* to change direction suddenly or sharply; to turn or swerve from one course or direction to another
14. He was _____ many times with scissors.
- v.* to cause harm with a sharp, pointed object, such as a knife

ANSWERS: 7. germ, 8. vogue, 9. depicted, 10. fairyland, 11. mythical, 12. peninsula, 13. veered, 14. stabbed

15. The river had several dangerous _____ that were difficult to navigate.
- n.* a rapidly rotating mass of water or air, especially one in a river or sea, causing a suction or vortex
16. She took a _____ on the stairs and tumbled down to the bottom.
- n.* a mistake or error in judgment or action, often resulting in an awkward or embarrassing situation; a misjudged or poorly executed step or movement
17. The concept of _____ is often viewed as an impossible or unrealistic goal, as it goes beyond what is currently possible.
- n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
18. Navigators still use the Little Bear _____ at sea.
- n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
19. Scientists study the _____ of other planets to learn more about their formations and compositions.
- n.* a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area
20. A _____ job requires a strong eye for detail and a deep understanding of geographic principles.
- v.* a person who creates or produces maps, typically by gathering or analyzing geographic data and using specialized software or tools
21. Many famous explorers were also skilled in the art of _____.
- n.* the process of creating maps or charts, including the interpretation of symbols, features, and data and the use of various techniques and technologies to represent geographical or other information in visual form

ANSWERS: 15. whirlpools, 16. misstep, 17. utopia, 18. constellation, 19. terra, 20. cartographer's, 21. mapmaking

22. He _____ many Trojan warriors in this war.

- v.* to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay; (noun) a large number or amount or extent

23. He _____ that this investment would lead to success.

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

24. Critics praised her _____ of the character.

- n.* a representation or depiction of someone or something, especially in art, literature, or drama

25. The flaws of the proposal were _____ apparent during the meeting.

- adv.* in a way that is obvious, conspicuous, or highly visible; in a manner that draws immediate attention or scrutiny

26. Stop being _____ and always speak the truth.

- adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

27. The _____ of the region is rugged, with many hills and valleys.

- n.* the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features

28. We are trying to _____ this disease from the world.

- v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

29. He wandered _____ from the path and got lost in the forest.

- adv.* away from the right path or direction

ANSWERS: 22. slew, 23. speculated, 24. portrayal, 25. glaringly, 26. sentimental, 27. topography, 28. eradicate, 29. astray

30. The researchers were unable to _____ the theory.

v. to show that something is not true or correct

ANSWERS: 30. disprove