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Ameya Gondhalekar: Why are cockroaches so hard to kill? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

banishment

n. the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons

synonym: exile, expulsion, deportation

(1) **banishment** from society, (2) self- **banishment**

The king ordered the **banishment** of the troublemaker from the kingdom.

vile

adj. highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence

synonym: disgusting, repulsive, despicable

(1) **vile** behavior, (2) **vile** language

The **vile** smell coming from the dumpster was unbearable.

cockroach

n. a flat, brown or black, chiefly nocturnal insects sometimes found in the home

synonym: roach

(1) **cockroach** killer, (2) have a **cockroach** phobia

Cockroaches sometimes cause allergic reactions in humans.

oust

v. to force someone out of a position of power, job, place, or competition

synonym : expel, depose, drive out

(1) **oust** the chairman, (2) **oust** him from his post

Higher capacity storage media have **ousted** floppy disks.

hasty

adj. done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration

synonym : rushed, impulsive, prompt

(1) a **hasty** temper, (2) **hasty** commitment

The **hasty** conclusion drawn by the researchers resulted in flawed study findings.

brandish

v. to wave or display something, typically a weapon, in a threatening or aggressive manner; to exhibit something with pride or enthusiasm

synonym : wave, flourish, exhibit

(1) **brandish** a wand, (2) **brandish** a gun

The robber **brandished** a knife and demanded money from the store clerk.

recycle

v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

synonym : reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

nourishing

adj. providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth

synonym : nutritious, healthy, sustaining

(1) **nourishing** broth, (2) **nourishing** ingredients

My mother always made sure she had a **nourishing** breakfast before school.

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.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population
She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

invertebrate

n. a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks

synonym: animal, mollusk, worm

(1) **invertebrate** species, (2) study of **invertebrates**
Many species of marine **invertebrates**, such as corals and sponges, are important components of ocean ecosystems.

compress

v. to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space

synonym: condense, constrict, squeeze

(1) **compress** the chest, (2) **compress** gas
She **compressed** the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.

expansive

adj. large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk

synonym: large, extensive, vast

(1) with an **expansive** spirit, (2) **expansive** ocean views
The company has an **expansive** network of offices and locations around the world.

digestive

adj. relating to or capable of causing or promoting digestion of food

(1) **digestive** juices, (2) a **digestive** enzyme

A nutritious diet improves **digestive** functions.

vomit

v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

synonym: puke, throw up, spew

(1) **vomit** abuse, (2) **vomit** after ingesting

She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to **vomit**.

hesitation

n. the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous

synonym: unwillingness, indecision, uncertainty

(1) perform without **hesitation**, (2) after some **hesitation**

There was a **hesitation** in her speech.

frolic

v. to play and move around happily and energetically

synonym: play, romp, gambol

(1) **frolic** underwater, (2) **frolic** with friends

Children **frolicked** in the park on a sunny day.

excrement

n. the waste matter discharged from the body, particularly that which is evacuated through the bowels or urinary tract

synonym: waste, feces, dung

(1) animal **excrement**, (2) human **excrement**

As a dog owner, cleaning up your pet's **excrement** is responsible.

tote

v. to carry or transport something, especially by hand or with some effort; to haul or convey something from one place to another

synonym: carry, haul, transport

(1) **tote** a cell-phone, (2) **tote** her books in a colorful backpack

Can you help me **tote** these groceries to the car?

microbe

n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

synonym: germ, microorganism, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microbe**, (2) **microbes** sterilizer

Microbes thrive on the surface of the human skin.

aureus

n. a type of bacteria, particularly the species *Staphylococcus aureus*, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective, "golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold

synonym: (adjective) golden

(1) **aureus** color, (2) **aureus** infection

Staphylococcus aureus is a type of bacteria that can cause skin infections.

coli

n. a bacterium of the genus *Escherichia* that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry

(1) *E. coli* bacteria strain, (2) **coli** cells

The study of *Escherichia coli* has led to important advancements in areas such as antibiotic resistance, gut microbiome, and synthetic biology.

pathogen

n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease

synonym: germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) plant **pathogen**, (2) the **pathogen** in the air

mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated **pathogens**.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym: pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus

Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

unleash

v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

synonym: discharge, free, release

(1) **unleash** a hound, (2) **unleash** her anger

The general was still reluctant to **unleash** his troops in pursuit of an enemy.

antimicrobial

adj. having the ability to prevent or combat the growth of microorganisms, particularly bacteria and fungi

synonym: antibacterial, germicidal, disinfectant

(1) **antimicrobial** properties, (2) **antimicrobial** treatment

The medical team used an **antimicrobial** solution to clean the surgical instruments.

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.

insecticide

n. a substance used to kill insects

synonym: pesticide, bug-killer, rodenticide

(1) **insecticide** spray, (2) **insecticide** residue

The farmer sprayed the crop with **insecticide** to protect it from pests.

propagate

v. to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction

synonym: propagate, multiply, reproduce

(1) **propagate** a rumor, (2) **propagate** plants

The company is working hard to **propagate** their brand message to as many people as possible

detoxification

n. the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something

synonym : cleansing, purification, detox

(1) **detoxification** process, (2) natural **detoxification**

Detoxification programs can help eliminate harmful substances and improve overall health.

excrete

v. to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland

synonym : eliminate, expel, secrete

(1) **excrete** a sticky liquid, (2) **excrete** waste products

The body **excretes** excess salt through urine to maintain proper electrolyte balance.

apocalyptic

adj. describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world

synonym : fateful, prophetic, ominous

(1) **apocalyptic** event, (2) have **apocalyptic** overtones

The **apocalyptic** landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.

comp

v. short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment

synonym : waive, cover, provide

(1) **comp** their meal, (2) **comp** the employees with a bonus

The casino **comped** her room and meals for being a high-rolling gambler.

moreover

adv. indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before

synonym : furthermore, besides, in addition

(1) **moreover**, she decided to go, (2) but **moreover**, they work well together

The company is environmentally conscious, and **moreover**, it uses sustainable materials in its products.

jeopardize

v. to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone

synonym: endanger, imperil, risk

(1) **jeopardize** safety, (2) **jeopardize** reputation

His reckless behavior could **jeopardize** his chances of getting hired for the job.

Session 2: Spelling

1. c__p their meal *v.* short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment
2. E. c__i bacteria strain *n.* a bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
3. after some hes_____on *n.* the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous
4. 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
5. fr___c underwater *v.* to play and move around happily and energetically
6. a di_____ve enzyme *adj.* relating to or capable of causing or promoting digestion of food
7. study of inv_____ates *n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
8. co_____ss gas *v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
9. o__t him from his post *v.* to force someone out of a position of power, job, place, or competition
10. ex_____e waste products *v.* to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland

ANSWERS: 1. comp, 2. coli, 3. hesitation, 4. germ, 5. frolic, 6. digestive, 7. invertebrate, 8. compress, 9. oust, 10. excrete

11. t__e her books in a colorful backpack
12. have a co_____ch phobia
13. au___s infection
14. br_____sh a wand
15. but mo_____er, they work well together
16. ha__y commitment
17. nou_____ng broth
18. plant pa_____en
- v.* to carry or transport something, especially by hand or with some effort; to haul or convey something from one place to another
- n.* a flat, brown or black, chiefly nocturnal insects sometimes found in the home
- n.* a type of bacteria, particularly the species *Staphylococcus aureus*, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective, "golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold
- v.* to wave or display something, typically a weapon, in a threatening or aggressive manner; to exhibit something with pride or enthusiasm
- adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
- adj.* done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration
- adj.* providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
- n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease

ANSWERS: 11. tote, 12. cockroach, 13. aureus, 14. brandish, 15. moreover, 16. hasty, 17. nourishing, 18. pathogen

19. v__e behavior *adj.* highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence
20. inv_____ate species *n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
21. animal ex_____nt *n.* the waste matter discharged from the body, particularly that which is evacuated through the bowels or urinary tract
22. perform without hes_____on *n.* the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous
23. c__i cells *n.* a bacterium of the genus *Escherichia* that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
24. human ex_____nt *n.* the waste matter discharged from the body, particularly that which is evacuated through the bowels or urinary tract
25. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
26. pr_____te a rumor *v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
27. nou_____ng ingredients *adj.* providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth

ANSWERS: 19. vile, 20. invertebrate, 21. excrement, 22. hesitation, 23. coli, 24. excrement, 25. resilient, 26. propagate, 27. nourishing

28. det_____ion process *n.* the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something
29. ant_____ial treatment *adj.* having the ability to prevent or combat the growth of microorganisms, particularly bacteria and fungi
30. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
31. ins_____de spray *n.* a substance used to kill insects
32. 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
33. co_____ch killer *n.* a flat, brown or black, chiefly nocturnal insects sometimes found in the home
34. re_____e milk packaging into new paper *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
35. ban_____nt from society *n.* the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
36. with an ex_____ve spirit *adj.* large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk
37. ins_____de residue *n.* a substance used to kill insects
38. mi_____es sterilizer *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

ANSWERS: 28. detoxification, 29. antimicrobial, 30. resilient, 31. insecticide, 32. slew, 33. cockroach, 34. recycle, 35. banishment, 36. expansive, 37. insecticide, 38. microbe

39. un____h a hound *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
40. ant_____ial properties *adj.* having the ability to prevent or combat the growth of microorganisms, particularly bacteria and fungi
41. a ha__y temper *adj.* done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration
42. un____h her anger *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
43. natural det_____ion *n.* the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something
44. mo_____er, she decided to go *adv.* indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
45. au___s color *n.* a type of bacteria, particularly the species *Staphylococcus aureus*, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective, "golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold
46. vo__t after ingesting *v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

ANSWERS: 39. unleash, 40. antimicrobial, 41. hasty, 42. unleash, 43. detoxification, 44. moreover, 45. aureus, 46. vomit

47. ex_____ve ocean views *adj.* large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk
48. br_____sh a gun *v.* to wave or display something, typically a weapon, in a threatening or aggressive manner; to exhibit something with pride or enthusiasm
49. pathogenic mi_____e *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
50. vo__t abuse *v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth
51. s__w around suddenly *v.* to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay; (noun) a large number or amount or extent
52. fr___c with friends *v.* to play and move around happily and energetically
53. v__e language *adj.* highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence
54. c__p the employees with a bonus *v.* short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment
55. re_____e the cardboard boxes *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
56. apo_____ic event *adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world

ANSWERS: 47. expansive, 48. brandish, 49. microbe, 50. vomit, 51. slew, 52. frolic, 53. vile, 54. comp, 55. recycle, 56. apocalyptic

57. co____ss the chest *v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
58. di_____ve juices *adj.* relating to or capable of causing or promoting digestion of food
59. the pa_____en in the air *n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
60. jeo_____ze safety *v.* to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone
61. in___t other animal species *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
62. have apo_____ic overtones *adj.* describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
63. ex_____e a sticky liquid *v.* to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland
64. pr_____te plants *v.* to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
65. 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
66. o__t the chairman *v.* to force someone out of a position of power, job, place, or competition
67. t__e a cell-phone *v.* to carry or transport something, especially by hand or with some effort; to haul or convey something from one place to another

ANSWERS: 57. compress, 58. digestive, 59. pathogen, 60. jeopardize, 61. infect, 62. apocalyptic, 63. excrete, 64. propagate, 65. germ, 66. oust, 67. tote

68. self-ban_____nt *n.* the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
69. jeo_____ze reputation *v.* to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone
70. in___t a computer with a virus *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

ANSWERS: 68. banishment, 69. jeopardize, 70. infect

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. As a dog owner, cleaning up your pet's _____ is responsible.
 - n.* the waste matter discharged from the body, particularly that which is evacuated through the bowels or urinary tract
2. The king ordered the _____ of the troublemaker from the kingdom.
 - n.* the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
3. Many species of marine _____ such as corals and sponges, are important components of ocean ecosystems.
 - n.* a class of animals that do not have a backbone; they include insects, worms, and mollusks
4. The study of Escherichia _____ has led to important advancements in areas such as antibiotic resistance, gut microbiome, and synthetic biology.
 - n.* a bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the human gut and is used as a model organism in molecular biology and biochemistry
5. mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated _____.
 - n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
6. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.
 - v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
7. The farmer sprayed the crop with _____ to protect it from pests.
 - n.* a substance used to kill insects

ANSWERS: 1. excrement, 2. banishment, 3. invertebrates, 4. coli, 5. pathogens, 6. infect, 7. insecticide

8. The _____ conclusion drawn by the researchers resulted in flawed study findings.
adj. done or acting with excessive speed or urgency and without sufficient thought or consideration
9. There was a _____ in her speech.
n. the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous
10. Can you help me _____ these groceries to the car?
v. to carry or transport something, especially by hand or with some effort; to haul or convey something from one place to another
11. _____ programs can help eliminate harmful substances and improve overall health.
n. the process of removing harmful or toxic substances from the body; the process of eliminating or reducing the harmful effects of something
12. The _____ landscape of burnt-out villages and bombed-out ruins spread out before them.
adj. describing severe damage and destruction in past or future events, or the end of the world
13. We largely _____ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.
v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
14. She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to _____.
v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

ANSWERS: 8. hasty, 9. hesitation, 10. tote, 11. Detoxification, 12. apocalyptic, 13. recycle, 14. vomit

15. _____ sometimes cause allergic reactions in humans.
n. a flat, brown or black, chiefly nocturnal insects sometimes found in the home
16. The general was still reluctant to _____ his troops in pursuit of an enemy.
v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
17. The company is environmentally conscious, and _____ it uses sustainable materials in its products.
adv. indicating that what follows is an additional or supplementary point; furthermore; in addition to what has been said before
18. 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
19. 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
20. The casino _____ her room and meals for being a high-rolling gambler.
v. short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment
21. Higher capacity storage media have _____ floppy disks.
v. to force someone out of a position of power, job, place, or competition
22. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

ANSWERS: 15. Cockroaches, 16. unleash, 17. moreover, 18. slew, 19. germ, 20. comped, 21. ousted, 22. resilient

23. My mother always made sure she had a _____ breakfast before school.
adj. providing the necessary nutrients or sustenance to support health and growth
24. A nutritious diet improves _____ functions.
adj. relating to or capable of causing or promoting digestion of food
25. _____ thrive on the surface of the human skin.
n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
26. His reckless behavior could _____ his chances of getting hired for the job.
v. to put something at risk or in danger; to threaten or endanger something or someone
27. The _____ smell coming from the dumpster was unbearable.
adj. highly offensive, unpleasant, or objectionable; morally reprehensible or wicked; characterized by cruelty or violence
28. The body _____ excess salt through urine to maintain proper electrolyte balance.
v. to discharge waste matter, such as urine or feces, from the body or a cell or gland
29. The company is working hard to _____ their brand message to as many people as possible
v. to spread or promote something widely, particularly beliefs, ideas, or plants and animals through reproduction
30. Children _____ in the park on a sunny day.
v. to play and move around happily and energetically

ANSWERS: 23. nourishing, 24. digestive, 25. Microbes, 26. jeopardize, 27. vile, 28. excretes, 29. propagate, 30. frolicked

31. The company has an _____ network of offices and locations around the world.

adj. large or wide in extent or scope; friendly and open and willing to talk

32. The robber _____ a knife and demanded money from the store clerk.

v. to wave or display something, typically a weapon, in a threatening or aggressive manner; to exhibit something with pride or enthusiasm

33. The medical team used an _____ solution to clean the surgical instruments.

adj. having the ability to prevent or combat the growth of microorganisms, particularly bacteria and fungi

34. Staphylococcus _____ is a type of bacteria that can cause skin infections.

n. a type of bacteria, particularly the species *Staphylococcus aureus*, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective, "golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold

35. She _____ the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.

v. to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space

ANSWERS: 31. expansive, 32. brandished, 33. antimicrobial, 34. aureus, 35. compressed