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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Gabriel Kra: 5 promising factors propelling climate action | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/gabriel_kra_5_promising_factors_propelling_climate_action

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

shrug

v. to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested

(1) **shrug** off the importance, (2) **shrug** his shoulders sadly

I respect her ability to **shrug** off harsh criticism.

recession

n. a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases

synonym: downturn, slump, contraction

(1) **recession** period, (2) recover from a **recession**

The country is facing a **recession**, with high unemployment and low GDP.

underestimate

v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

synonym: underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the

probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep
I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

entrenched

adj. established firmly and securely

synonym: deep-rooted, confirmed, ingrained

(1) **entrenched** ideas, (2) **entrenched** positions

The monarch exploited the peasants using its **entrenched** power.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

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

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

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

lithium

n. a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

synonym: lithy, Li, salt

(1) **lithium** carbonate, (2) **lithium** mining

Lithium-ion batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.

unimaginable

adj. beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision

synonym: unthinkable, inconceivable, incredulous

(1) **unimaginable** horror, (2) **unimaginable** depths

The complexity of scientific theories was **unimaginable** for most people.

bioeconomy

n. the part of the economy concerned with the production of goods and services using biological resources and processes

(1) the nation's **bioeconomy**, (2) a cornerstone of the **bioeconomy**

The development of the **bioeconomy** is critical for the transition to a low-carbon, circular economy.

laminated

n. a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring

synonym: veneer, coating, layer

(1) **laminated** flooring, (2) **laminated** table

The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable **laminated** material.

sequester

v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

synonym: isolate, set apart, segregate

(1) **sequester** ten percent of the annual carbon emissions,

(2) **sequester** myself from the world

He approved their requests to **sequester** the jury.

chic

n. a fashionable, stylish, and sophisticated elegance or gracefulness, particularly in dress or behavior;
(adjective) sophisticated, elegant, and fashionable

synonym: style, fashion, trend

(1) **chic** boutique, (2) casual **chic**

She's always dressed in the latest **chic**, making her the envy of her friends.

clunky

adj. heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement

synonym: clumsy, bulky, burdensome

(1) **clunky** phrasing, (2) **clunky** robot

Refined character portrayal makes up for **clunky** gameplay.

uglify

v. to make something appear less attractive or appealing by altering its appearance or features, often in a deliberate or intentional manner

synonym: disfigure, deform, distort

(1) **uglify** the historical building, (2) **uglify** the overall user experience

The improper disposal of electronic waste has become a growing problem, as it has been known to **uglify** the surrounding areas with piles of discarded devices.

dedicate

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

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

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

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

exhaustive

adj. comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned

synonym: thorough, complete, comprehensive

(1) **exhaustive** study, (2) **exhaustive** review

The team conducted an **exhaustive** search for the missing hiker, but unfortunately, she was never found.

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.

revolutionize

v. to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas

synonym : transform, innovate, modernize

(1) **revolutionize** the industry, (2) **revolutionize** the technology

The invention of the smartphone **revolutionized** the way we communicate with each other.

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.

emit

v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.

synonym : give off, radiate, expel

(1) **emit** a gamma ray, (2) **emit** air pollution

During the unloading, the container box **emits** a clicking sound.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. la_____te flooring | <i>n.</i> a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring |
| 2. rev_____ize the technology | <i>v.</i> to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas |
| 3. c__c boutique | <i>n.</i> a fashionable, stylish, and sophisticated elegance or gracefulness, particularly in dress or behavior; (adjective) sophisticated, elegant, and fashionable |
| 4. a cornerstone of the bio_____my | <i>n.</i> the part of the economy concerned with the production of goods and services using biological resources and processes |
| 5. re_____e milk packaging into new paper | <i>v.</i> to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again |
| 6. re_____on period | <i>n.</i> a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases |
| 7. recover from a re_____on | <i>n.</i> a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases |
| 8. sh__g his shoulders sadly | <i>v.</i> to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested |

ANSWERS: 1. laminate, 2. revolutionize, 3. chic, 4. bioeconomy, 5. recycle, 6. recession, 7. recession, 8. shrug

9. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
10. rev_____ize the industry *v.* to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas
11. ent_____ed positions *adj.* established firmly and securely
12. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
13. uni_____ble depths *adj.* beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision
14. de_____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
15. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
16. li_____m carbonate *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
17. und_____ate an enemy *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
18. cl___y robot *adj.* heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement

ANSWERS: 9. opportune, 10. revolutionize, 11. entrenched, 12. electrify, 13. unimaginable, 14. dedicate, 15. electrify, 16. lithium, 17. underestimate, 18. clunky

19. und_____ate the probability *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
20. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
21. ug___y the overall user experience *v.* to make something appear less attractive or appealing by altering its appearance or features, often in a deliberate or intentional manner
22. di_____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
23. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
24. e___t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
25. cl___y phrasing *adj.* heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement
26. uni_____ble horror *adj.* beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision
27. ent_____ed ideas *adj.* established firmly and securely
28. sh___g off the importance *v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
29. the nation's bio_____my *n.* the part of the economy concerned with the production of goods and services using biological resources and processes

ANSWERS: 19. underestimate, 20. industrious, 21. uglify, 22. disrupt, 23. dedicate, 24. emit, 25. clunky, 26. unimaginable, 27. entrenched, 28. shrug, 29. bioeconomy

30. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
31. pr____l the ship *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
32. exh_____ve review *adj.* comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned
33. casual c__c *n.* a fashionable, stylish, and sophisticated elegance or gracefulness, particularly in dress or behavior; (adjective) sophisticated, elegant, and fashionable
34. ug____y the historical building *v.* to make something appear less attractive or appealing by altering its appearance or features, often in a deliberate or intentional manner
35. exh_____ve study *adj.* comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned
36. re_____e the cardboard boxes *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
37. li_____m mining *n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder
38. la_____te table *n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring

ANSWERS: 30. opportune, 31. propel, 32. exhaustive, 33. chic, 34. uglify, 35. exhaustive, 36. recycle, 37. lithium, 38. laminate

39. se_____er myself from the world *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
40. di_____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
41. se_____er ten percent of the annual carbon emissions *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
42. e__t air pollution *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
43. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
44. pr___l growth *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

ANSWERS: 39. sequester, 40. disrupt, 41. sequester, 42. emit, 43. industrious, 44. propel

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She's always dressed in the latest _____ making her the envy of her friends.
n. a fashionable, stylish, and sophisticated elegance or gracefulness, particularly in dress or behavior; (adjective) sophisticated, elegant, and fashionable
2. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
3. The complexity of scientific theories was _____ for most people.
adj. beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision
4. The monarch exploited the peasants using its _____ power.
adj. established firmly and securely
5. The invention of the smartphone _____ the way we communicate with each other.
v. to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas
6. The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable _____ material.
n. a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
7. They frequently _____ their abilities and felt inferior.
v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
8. He approved their requests to _____ the jury.
v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

ANSWERS: 1. chic, 2. emits, 3. unimaginable, 4. entrenched, 5. revolutionized, 6. laminate, 7. underestimated, 8. sequester

9. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
10. He _____ his life to helping others.
- v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
11. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
- v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
12. The improper disposal of electronic waste has become a growing problem, as it has been known to _____ the surrounding areas with piles of discarded devices.
- v. to make something appear less attractive or appealing by altering its appearance or features, often in a deliberate or intentional manner
13. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
- adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
14. The development of the _____ is critical for the transition to a low-carbon, circular economy.
- n.* the part of the economy concerned with the production of goods and services using biological resources and processes
15. The team conducted an _____ search for the missing hiker, but unfortunately, she was never found.
- adj.* comprehensive and thorough; totally complete; leaving no stone unturned

ANSWERS: 9. disrupt, 10. dedicated, 11. electrify, 12. uglify, 13. industrious, 14. bioeconomy, 15. exhaustive

16. 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
17. The country is facing a _____ with high unemployment and low GDP.
- n.* a period of economic decline, typically lasting for six months or more, during which trade and industrial activity decrease, and unemployment increases
18. 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
19. I respect her ability to _____ off harsh criticism.
- v.* to raise your shoulders and then drop them to say you do not know or are not interested
20. Refined character portrayal makes up for _____ gameplay.
- adj.* heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement
21. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
22. _____ batteries are commonly used in laptops, smartphones, and electric vehicles.
- n.* a soft, silvery-white metal that is highly reactive and used in batteries, alloy production, and medications for bipolar disorder

ANSWERS: 16. recycle, 17. recession, 18. propel, 19. shrug, 20. clunky, 21. opportune, 22. Lithium-ion

ANSWERS: