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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ramez Naam: A faster way to get to a clean energy future | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

optimist

n. a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future

synonym: positive thinker, dreamer, idealist

(1) **optimist** by nature, (2) excessive **optimist**

She is a confident **optimist** who always looks on the bright side.

deception

n. the act of misleading or tricking someone, often by creating a false impression or concealing the truth; a fraudulent or dishonest action

synonym: fraud, deceit, trickery

(1) **deception** tactics, (2) **deception** in advertising

The politician was accused of **deception** for making false promises during his campaign.

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.

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.

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.

fluctuate

v. to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

synonym : vary, oscillate, sway

(1) **fluctuate** prices, (2) **fluctuate** rapidly

Stock prices **fluctuate** daily based on market demand and supply.

intermittent

adj. occurring at irregular intervals; not continuous or steady; stopping and starting periodically; sporadic

synonym : sporadic, irregular, periodic

(1) **intermittent** fever, (2) **intermittent** Wi-Fi

The **intermittent** rain made it difficult to plan a picnic.

reluctance

n. a feeling of unwillingness or hesitation, especially when faced with a decision or undertaking

synonym : hesitation, resistance, unwillingness

(1) overcoming **reluctance**, (2) **reluctance** in buying

The company's **reluctance** to invest in new technology kept them from competing with other businesses.

graze

v. to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part

by scraping

synonym : nibble, feed, scrape

(1) turn cattle out to **graze**, (2) **graze** the left shoulder

The sheep **graze** on the green grass in the meadow.

devote

v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

synonym : commit, dedicate, apply

(1) **devote** all of my energies, (2) **devote** my own life

He **devoted** himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.

hydro

n. a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology

synonym : water, aqua, liquid

(1) **hydro** power, (2) **hydro** turbine

The **hydro** plant generates electricity by harnessing the power of water.

countercyclical

adj. describes policies, actions, or industries that oppose or mitigate the effects of an economic cycle, meaning that they work to support economic growth during times of recession and reduce it during times of expansion

synonym : anticyclical, opposite, counter-seasonal

(1) **countercyclical** policies, (2) **countercyclical** government spending

The government's **countercyclical** measures helped prevent a deep recession during the economic downturn.

oversimplify

v. to describe or explain something in a way that is too simple and no longer holds true

(1) **oversimplify** the problem, (2) **oversimplify** a complex reality

People may **oversimplify** natural phenomena due to the improved accessibility of knowledge.

decarbonize

v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy

synonym : decoke, decarburise, decarburize

(1) **decarbonize** their manufacturing process,

(2) **decarbonize** its energy system

We have to seek methods to **decarbonize** its fossil fuel economy.

devoid

adj. completely lacking or free from something

synonym : empty, lacking, void

(1) **devoid** of life, (2) air **devoid** of pollution

The room was **devoid** of any furniture or decorations.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

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.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|---|
| 1. fl_____te rapidly | v. | to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably |
| 2. de___e all of my energies | v. | to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose |
| 3. und_____ate the probability | v. | to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is |
| 4. 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 |
| 5. ove_____ify a complex reality | v. | to describe or explain something in a way that is too simple and no longer holds true |
| 6. 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 |
| 7. gr___e the left shoulder | v. | to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping |
| 8. excessive op_____st | n. | a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future |
| 9. r_v up the crowd | n. | a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute |

ANSWERS: 1. fluctuate, 2. devote, 3. underestimate, 4. electrify, 5. oversimplify, 6. disrupt, 7. graze, 8. optimist, 9. rev

10. ove_____ify the problem *v.* to describe or explain something in a way that is too simple and no longer holds true
11. de___d of life *adj.* completely lacking or free from something
12. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
13. air de___d of pollution *adj.* completely lacking or free from something
14. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
15. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
16. und_____ate an enemy *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
17. dec_____ze its energy system *v.* to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
18. dec_____ze their manufacturing process *v.* to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
19. 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
20. turn cattle out to gr__e *v.* to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping

ANSWERS: 10. oversimplify, 11. devoid, 12. industrious, 13. devoid, 14. resilient, 15. industrious, 16. underestimate, 17. decarbonize, 18. decarbonize, 19. electrify, 20. graze

21. cou_____cal government spending
adj. describes policies, actions, or industries that oppose or mitigate the effects of an economic cycle, meaning that they work to support economic growth during times of recession and reduce it during times of expansion
22. int_____ent fever
adj. occurring at irregular intervals; not continuous or steady; stopping and starting periodically; sporadic
23. de_____on in advertising
n. the act of misleading or tricking someone, often by creating a false impression or concealing the truth; a fraudulent or dishonest action
24. op_____st by nature
n. a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future
25. overcoming rel_____ce
n. a feeling of unwillingness or hesitation, especially when faced with a decision or undertaking
26. de_____on tactics
n. the act of misleading or tricking someone, often by creating a false impression or concealing the truth; a fraudulent or dishonest action
27. low-r_v engine
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
28. de___e my own life
v. to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

ANSWERS: 21. countercyclical, 22. intermittent, 23. deception, 24. optimist, 25. reluctance, 26. deception, 27. rev, 28. devote

29. rel_____ce in buying *n.* a feeling of unwillingness or hesitation, especially when faced with a decision or undertaking
30. hy__o turbine *n.* a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology
31. int_____ent Wi-Fi *adj.* occurring at irregular intervals; not continuous or steady; stopping and starting periodically; sporadic
32. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
33. cou_____cal policies *adj.* describes policies, actions, or industries that oppose or mitigate the effects of an economic cycle, meaning that they work to support economic growth during times of recession and reduce it during times of expansion
34. hy__o power *n.* a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology
35. 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
36. fl_____te prices *v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

ANSWERS: 29. reluctance, 30. hydro, 31. intermittent, 32. resilient, 33. countercyclical, 34. hydro, 35. disrupt, 36. fluctuate

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The politician was accused of _____ for making false promises during his campaign.
 - n.* the act of misleading or tricking someone, often by creating a false impression or concealing the truth; a fraudulent or dishonest action

2. The government's _____ measures helped prevent a deep recession during the economic downturn.
 - adj.* describes policies, actions, or industries that oppose or mitigate the effects of an economic cycle, meaning that they work to support economic growth during times of recession and reduce it during times of expansion

3. Stock prices _____ daily based on market demand and supply.
 - v.* to rise and fall irregularly or unexpectedly; to vary or change often and unpredictably

4. They frequently _____ their abilities and felt inferior.
 - v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

5. The company's _____ to invest in new technology kept them from competing with other businesses.
 - n.* a feeling of unwillingness or hesitation, especially when faced with a decision or undertaking

6. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
 - adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

7. She is a confident _____ who always looks on the bright side.
 - n.* a person who tends to expect the best in all things and to be hopeful and confident about the future

ANSWERS: 1. deception, 2. countercyclical, 3. fluctuate, 4. underestimated, 5. reluctance, 6. resilient, 7. optimist

8. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.
- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
9. The sheep _____ on the green grass in the meadow.
- v.* to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping
10. 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
11. The _____ rain made it difficult to plan a picnic.
- adj.* occurring at irregular intervals; not continuous or steady; stopping and starting periodically; sporadic
12. The _____ plant generates electricity by harnessing the power of water.
- n.* a prefix denoting water or relating to water, usually used in scientific or technical terminology
13. We have to seek methods to _____ its fossil fuel economy.
- v.* to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
14. He _____ himself to studying the history of ancient civilizations.
- v.* to commit or dedicate oneself or one's time, effort, or energy to a particular task or purpose

ANSWERS: 8. rev, 9. graze, 10. electrify, 11. intermittent, 12. hydro, 13. decarbonize, 14. devoted

15. The room was _____ of any furniture or decorations.

adj. completely lacking or free from something

16. 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

17. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

18. People may _____ natural phenomena due to the improved accessibility of knowledge.

v. to describe or explain something in a way that is too simple and no longer holds true

ANSWERS: 15. devoid, 16. disrupt, 17. industrious, 18. oversimplify