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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alex Gendler: Building the impossible: Golden Gate Bridge | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

spire

n. a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal

synonym: spike, turret, pinnacle

(1) **spire** cathedral, (2) gilded **spire**

The church's **spire** towered over the small village, visible from miles away.

dismantle

v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

synonym: take apart, demolish, take down

(1) **dismantle** a machine, (2) **dismantle** a system

The old building had to be **dismantled** because it was structurally unsound.

strait

n. a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas

synonym: narrows, channel, passage

(1) **strait** passage, (2) **strait** channel

The ship navigated through the **strait** with great care.

swirl

v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern

synonym: spin, whirl, turn

(1) **swirl** the wine, (2) **swirl** up dirt and dust
The chef expertly **swirled** the sauce onto the plate.

commuter

n. a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car

synonym: traveler, passenger

(1) **commuter** shuttle, (2) daily **commuter**

The **commuter** train was delayed due to a signal failure on the line.

cantilever

n. a long projecting beam or structure that is anchored at one end and carries a load at the other end, often used to support balconies, walkways, and bridges

synonym: projection, beam, girder

(1) **cantilever** beam, (2) **cantilever** bridge

The designer utilized a **cantilever** technique to create a sleek and modern staircase.

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.

steelwork

n. the use of steel in construction, engineering, or manufacturing; a factory or industrial complex where steel is produced or processed, typically involving the use of furnaces, rollers, and other heavy equipment to shape and refine raw materials into finished products

synonym: steel mill, foundry, ironworks

(1) rusted **steelwork**, (2) **steelwork** production

The bridge's **steelwork** had to be reinforced to withstand the high winds in the area.

seawall

n. a barrier or structure made of concrete, stone, or other materials that are built along the coastline or riverbanks to protect against erosion, flooding, or waves; a structure that separates the water from the land and helps to preserve the shoreline

synonym: embankment, breakwater

(1) strong **seawall**, (2) **seawall** construction

The beachfront property owners installed a **seawall** to protect their homes from the rising tides.

precaution

n. a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness

synonym: safeguard, measure, provision

(1) airborne **precaution**, (2) take extra **precautions**

As a **precaution**, the company locked all of its doors after a threat was made.

scaffold

n. a temporary platform or structure used to support workers and materials during construction or maintenance work

synonym: platform, staging, framework

(1) **scaffold** construction, (2) go to the **scaffold**

The construction workers set up the **scaffold** to reach the top of the building.

suspender

n. an elastic band or strap worn over the shoulders and attached to the waistband of pants or a skirt, used to hold up the garment; a device used to suspend or support something else

synonym: brace, gallus, garter

(1) **suspender** straps, (2) **suspender** belt

He wore a suit with **suspenders** to the job interview.

roadway

n. the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders

synonym: highway, street, thoroughfare

(1) busy **roadway**, (2) **roadway** asphalt

Cyclists are not allowed on the highway **roadway** for safety reasons.

morrow

n. the next day, or tomorrow:

synonym: future, tomorrow, dawn

(1) on the **morrow**, (2) take thought for the **morrow**

Seize the present day, trusting the **morrow** as little as may be.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|---|
| 1. sw__l up dirt and dust | v. | to move in a circular or spiral pattern |
| 2. st___t channel | n. | a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas |
| 3. gilded sp__e | n. | a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal |
| 4. on the mo___w | n. | the next day, or tomorrow: |
| 5. st_____rk production | n. | the use of steel in construction, engineering, or manufacturing; a factory or industrial complex where steel is produced or processed, typically involving the use of furnaces, rollers, and other heavy equipment to shape and refine raw materials into finished products |
| 6. take thought for the mo___w | n. | the next day, or tomorrow: |
| 7. can_____er beam | n. | a long projecting beam or structure that is anchored at one end and carries a load at the other end, often used to support balconies, walkways, and bridges |
| 8. sw__l the wine | v. | to move in a circular or spiral pattern |
| 9. daily co_____er | n. | a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car |

ANSWERS: 1. swirl, 2. strait, 3. spire, 4. morrow, 5. steelwork, 6. morrow, 7. cantilever, 8. swirl, 9. commuter

10. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
11. can_____er bridge *n.* a long projecting beam or structure that is anchored at one end and carries a load at the other end, often used to support balconies, walkways, and bridges
12. busy ro_____y *n.* the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders
13. co_____er shuttle *n.* a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car
14. su_____er belt *n.* an elastic band or strap worn over the shoulders and attached to the waistband of pants or a skirt, used to hold up the garment; a device used to suspend or support something else
15. go to the sc_____ld *n.* a temporary platform or structure used to support workers and materials during construction or maintenance work
16. di_____le a machine *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
17. su_____er straps *n.* an elastic band or strap worn over the shoulders and attached to the waistband of pants or a skirt, used to hold up the garment; a device used to suspend or support something else

ANSWERS: 10. resilient, 11. cantilever, 12. roadway, 13. commuter, 14. suspender, 15. scaffold, 16. dismantle, 17. suspender

18. ro____y asphalt *n.* the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders
19. strong se_____l *n.* a barrier or structure made of concrete, stone, or other materials that are built along the coastline or riverbanks to protect against erosion, flooding, or waves; a structure that separates the water from the land and helps to preserve the shoreline
20. rusted st_____rk *n.* the use of steel in construction, engineering, or manufacturing; a factory or industrial complex where steel is produced or processed, typically involving the use of furnaces, rollers, and other heavy equipment to shape and refine raw materials into finished products
21. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
22. st___t passage *n.* a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas
23. take extra pre_____ons *n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
24. sp__e cathedral *n.* a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal

ANSWERS: 18. roadway, 19. seawall, 20. steelwork, 21. resilient, 22. strait, 23. precaution, 24. spire

25. se_____l construction *n.* a barrier or structure made of concrete, stone, or other materials that are built along the coastline or riverbanks to protect against erosion, flooding, or waves; a structure that separates the water from the land and helps to preserve the shoreline
26. airborne pre_____on *n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
27. sc_____ld construction *n.* a temporary platform or structure used to support workers and materials during construction or maintenance work
28. di_____le a system *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

ANSWERS: 25. seawall, 26. precaution, 27. scaffold, 28. dismantle

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He wore a suit with _____ to the job interview.
n. an elastic band or strap worn over the shoulders and attached to the waistband of pants or a skirt, used to hold up the garment; a device used to suspend or support something else
2. The ship navigated through the _____ with great care.
n. a narrow stretch of water or sea connecting two larger bodies of water or seas
3. The designer utilized a _____ technique to create a sleek and modern staircase.
n. a long projecting beam or structure that is anchored at one end and carries a load at the other end, often used to support balconies, walkways, and bridges
4. The old building had to be _____ because it was structurally unsound.
v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
5. The beachfront property owners installed a _____ to protect their homes from the rising tides.
n. a barrier or structure made of concrete, stone, or other materials that are built along the coastline or riverbanks to protect against erosion, flooding, or waves; a structure that separates the water from the land and helps to preserve the shoreline
6. The _____ train was delayed due to a signal failure on the line.
n. a person who regularly travels long distances between their home and place of work, typically by public transportation or car

ANSWERS: 1. suspenders, 2. strait, 3. cantilever, 4. dismantled, 5. seawall, 6. commuter

7. Seize the present day, trusting the _____ as little as may be.
n. the next day, or tomorrow:
8. As a _____ the company locked all of its doors after a threat was made.
n. a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
9. The chef expertly _____ the sauce onto the plate.
v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern
10. The church's _____ towered over the small village, visible from miles away.
n. a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal
11. Cyclists are not allowed on the highway _____ for safety reasons.
n. the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders
12. The construction workers set up the _____ to reach the top of the building.
n. a temporary platform or structure used to support workers and materials during construction or maintenance work
13. The bridge's _____ had to be reinforced to withstand the high winds in the area.
n. the use of steel in construction, engineering, or manufacturing; a factory or industrial complex where steel is produced or processed, typically involving the use of furnaces, rollers, and other heavy equipment to shape and refine raw materials into finished products
14. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

ANSWERS: 7. morrow, 8. precaution, 9. swirled, 10. spire, 11. roadway, 12. scaffold, 13. steelwork, 14. resilient

ANSWERS: