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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Erin Meezan: What nature can teach us about sustainable business | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

countdown

n. a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline

synonym : timer

(1) **countdown** clock, (2) wedding **countdown**

The **countdown** to launch began as the astronauts prepared for their mission.

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.

footprint

n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

synonym : footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

gecko

n. a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces

synonym : lizard, salamander, chameleon

(1) **gecko** habitat, (2) house **gecko**

I saw a **gecko** crawling on the wall of my bedroom.

innovate

v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products

synonym : bring in, introduce, found

(1) **innovate** a new method, (2) **innovate** the quality of his life

Companies developing self-driving cars consistently **innovate** the emerging technologies.

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.

purify

v. to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it

synonym : refine, filter, clarify

(1) **purify** hydrogen gas, (2) **purify** the blood

The equipment is frequently used to **purify** and distribute drinking water.

rainwater

n. water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected

synonym : precipitation, drizzle, showers

(1) **rainwater** acidity, (2) **rainwater** drainage

The company installed a **rainwater** harvesting system to collect and reuse it for manufacturing.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. fo_____nts in the snow | <i>n.</i> a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface |
| 2. an op_____ne remark | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 3. pu___y the blood | <i>v.</i> to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it |
| 4. ra_____er drainage | <i>n.</i> water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected |
| 5. ge__o habitat | <i>n.</i> a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces |
| 6. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization | <i>n.</i> a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface |
| 7. house ge__o | <i>n.</i> a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces |
| 8. in_____te the quality of his life | <i>v.</i> to introduce new methods, ideas, or products |
| 9. e__t air pollution | <i>v.</i> to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc. |
| 10. 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 |

ANSWERS: 1. footprint, 2. opportune, 3. purify, 4. rainwater, 5. gecko, 6. footprint, 7. gecko, 8. innovate, 9. emit, 10. recycle

11. co_____wn clock *n.* a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline
12. e__t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
13. re_____e the cardboard boxes *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
14. wedding co_____wn *n.* a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline
15. in_____te a new method *v.* to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
16. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
17. ra_____er acidity *n.* water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected
18. pu___y hydrogen gas *v.* to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it

ANSWERS: 11. countdown, 12. emit, 13. recycle, 14. countdown, 15. innovate, 16. opportune, 17. rainwater, 18. purify

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
2. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.
n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
3. The equipment is frequently used to _____ and distribute drinking water.
v. to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it
4. Companies developing self-driving cars consistently _____ the emerging technologies.
v. to introduce new methods, ideas, or products
5. The _____ to launch began as the astronauts prepared for their mission.
n. a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline
6. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. emits, 2. footprint, 3. purify, 4. innovate, 5. countdown, 6. opportune, 7. recycle

8. The company installed a _____ harvesting system to collect and reuse it for manufacturing.
- n.* water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected
9. I saw a _____ crawling on the wall of my bedroom.
- n.* a small to medium-sized lizard with soft, velvety skin, short legs, and adhesive pads on the feet that allow them to climb and walk along vertical surfaces

ANSWERS: 8. rainwater, 9. gecko