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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kathryn M. Stephenson and David L. Suskind: What is a poop transplant, and how does it work? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

alchemy

n. a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious

synonym : sorcery, magic, transmutation

(1) **alchemy** experiment, (2) **alchemy** of emotions

Today, the study of **alchemy** remains an important part of the history of science and philosophy

stew

n. a dish consisting of meat and vegetables simmered in liquid typically served hot as a main course or soup; a state of mental or emotional agitation or confusion

synonym : casserole, hotpot

(1) **stew** meat, (2) vegetable **stew**

I made a delicious beef **stew** for dinner tonight.

aroma

n. a distinctive, usually pleasant smell, often of a specific food, plant, or object

synonym : fragrance, scent, smell

(1) **aroma** therapy, (2) coffee **aroma**

The **aroma** of freshly baked bread filled the kitchen.

unwise

adj. not sensible or prudent; likely to cause harm or negative consequences; lacking in good judgment or common sense

synonym : absurd, ill-advised, imprudent

(1) **unwise** decision, (2) **unwise** strategy

Ignoring warning signs of a potential health issue is **unwise** and can harm your health.

feces

n. waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement

synonym : poop, stool, excrement

(1) **feces** sample, (2) human **feces**

Proper disposal of **feces** is essential for maintaining public health and sanitation.

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.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym : mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

archaea

n. a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats

synonym : microbe, microorganism

(1) **archaea** microorganism, (2) thermophile **archaea**

The study of **archaea** is important for understanding the origins of life on Earth

microbiome

n. the community of microorganisms (= living things too small to be seen) that can usually be found living together in any given environment or the human body

synonym : flora

(1) skin **microbiome**, (2) have a diverse **microbiome**

The gut **microbiome** is a major producer of serotonin, which is necessary for human mental stability.

posse

n. a group of people who come together for a common purpose, often to pursue or capture a criminal; a group of people who share a common interest, belief, or trait

synonym : crew, gang, retinue

(1) **posse** member, (2) **posse** of citizens

My friends and I formed a **posse** to search for the lost hiker.

circadian

adj. relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones

synonym : daily, diurnal, day-to-day

(1) **circadian** clock, (2) **circadian** disruption

Having a consistent sleep schedule is important for maintaining a healthy **circadian** rhythm.

womb

n. the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth

synonym : uterus, matrice

(1) tumor of **womb**, (2) **womb** transplant

The fertilized egg implanted itself in the **womb**.

diversify

v. to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments

synonym : branch out, expand, broaden

(1) **diversify** my portfolio, (2) **diversify** energy sources

This inclusive environment has allowed the plant species to **diversify**.

disturb

v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.

synonym: agitate, bother, intrude

(1) **disturb** the peace, (2) **disturb** his sleep

Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.

overgrow

v. to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage

synonym: overrun, choke, overwhelm

(1) **overgrow** neighboring corals, (2) aquatic plants

overgrow

Weeds **overgrow** throughout the garden.

infuse

v. to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue

synonym: instill, fill, permeate

(1) **infuse** with spirit, (2) **infuse** life with meaning

She **infused** fresh herbs into the soup for added flavor.

microorganism

n. a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope

synonym: germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microorganism**, (2) **microorganisms** in his gut

This **microorganism** is a producer of respiratory disease.

intestine

n. a long, tube-like organ in the digestive system that is responsible for absorbing nutrients from food and eliminating waste products

synonym: gut, bowel, tract

(1) large **intestine**, (2) **intestine** wall

The small **intestine** is responsible for absorbing most of the nutrients from food.

unanswered

adj. not responded to or explained

synonym : ignored, unrequited, undecided

(1) **unanswered** love, (2) **unanswered** e-mail

Pardon me for leaving some of your questions **unanswered**.

difficile

n. a bacterium of the genus *Clostridium* that can cause severe diarrhea, particularly in a hospital or nursing home settings; a disease caused by this bacterium; (adjective) difficult or hard to do, understand, or deal with

(1) *Clostridioides* **difficile**, (2) **difficile** to understand

My grandmother was hospitalized due to a severe *Clostridium* **difficile** infection, which required several rounds of antibiotics and careful monitoring by the medical staff.

spore

n. a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae

synonym : seed, reproductive cell, particle

(1) anthrax **spore**, (2) **spore** reproduction

Bacteria and some algae also produce **spores** as a means of survival and dispersal, and they are often found in soil, water, and other environments.

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.

cramp

n. a sudden, painful contraction or spasm of a muscle, typically in the leg or abdomen; a feeling of tightness or discomfort in a muscle caused by prolonged use or stress

synonym : crick, spasm, twinge

(1) hand **cramp**, (2) stomach **cramp**

I had to stop running because of a severe **cramp** in my leg.

gastroenterology

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the structure, function, diagnosis, and treatment of the digestive system and its diseases

synonym : gastrology, digestive medicine, enterology

(1) **gastroenterology** clinic, (2) **gastroenterology** research

The doctor specializes in **gastroenterology** and treats patients with digestive disorders.

displace

v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

synonym : evict, exile, remove

(1) **displace** workers, (2) **displace** the explosive power

The construction of the new dam will **displace** hundreds of families living downstream.

invade

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

synonym : intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

rodent

n. a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail

synonym : mouse, rat, hamster

(1) **rodent** repellent, (2) prevent **rodent** damage

He set up a trap to catch the **rodent**.

bacteriotherapy

n. the use of bacteria, particularly beneficial bacteria, to treat or prevent disease, typically by introducing them into the digestive system through food or supplements

synonym : fecal microorganism transplant, FMT, stool transplant

(1) **bacteriotherapy** treatment, (2) **bacteriotherapy** research

The effectiveness of fecal **bacteriotherapy** in treating recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* infections has been

well-established in clinical trials.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

autoimmune

adj. relating to a condition in which the body's immune system attacks and destroys healthy body tissue, mistaking it for harmful foreign substances

(1) insulin **autoimmune** syndrome, (2) **autoimmune** disorder

The presence of certain substances triggered the **autoimmune** response.

oncology

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies

synonym: cancer treatment, study of tumors

(1) **oncology** center, (2) modern **oncology** treatment

The pharmaceutical company unveiled its latest breakthrough drug for the **oncology** market.

Session 2: Spelling

1. di____ce the explosive power *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
2. human fe__s *n.* waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement
3. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
4. skin mic_____me *n.* the community of microorganisms (= living things too small to be seen) that can usually be found living together in any given environment or the human body
5. symbiotic fu____s *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
6. s__w meat *n.* a dish consisting of meat and vegetables simmered in liquid typically served hot as a main course or soup; a state of mental or emotional agitation or confusion
7. in_____ne wall *n.* a long, tube-like organ in the digestive system that is responsible for absorbing nutrients from food and eliminating waste products

ANSWERS: 1. displace, 2. feces, 3. improvisation, 4. microbiome, 5. fungus, 6. stew, 7. intestine

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 8. fe__s sample | <i>n.</i> waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement |
| 9. un___e strategy | <i>adj.</i> not sensible or prudent; likely to cause harm or negative consequences; lacking in good judgment or common sense |
| 10. bac_____apy research | <i>n.</i> the use of bacteria, particularly beneficial bacteria, to treat or prevent disease, typically by introducing them into the digestive system through food or supplements |
| 11. ar_____a microorganism | <i>n.</i> a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats |
| 12. bac_____apy treatment | <i>n.</i> the use of bacteria, particularly beneficial bacteria, to treat or prevent disease, typically by introducing them into the digestive system through food or supplements |
| 13. imp_____ion on stage | <i>n.</i> the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation |
| 14. pathogenic mic_____ism | <i>n.</i> a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope |
| 15. tumor of w__b | <i>n.</i> the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth |

ANSWERS: 8. feces, 9. unwise, 10. bacteriotherapy, 11. archaea, 12. bacteriotherapy, 13. improvisation, 14. microorganism, 15. womb

16. ci_____an clock *adj.* relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones
17. w__b transplant *n.* the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth
18. hand cr__p *n.* a sudden, painful contraction or spasm of a muscle, typically in the leg or abdomen; a feeling of tightness or discomfort in a muscle caused by prolonged use or stress
19. thermophile ar_____a *n.* a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats
20. una_____ed e-mail *adj.* not responded to or explained
21. vegetable s__w *n.* a dish consisting of meat and vegetables simmered in liquid typically served hot as a main course or soup; a state of mental or emotional agitation or confusion
22. un___e decision *adj.* not sensible or prudent; likely to cause harm or negative consequences; lacking in good judgment or common sense

ANSWERS: 16. circadian, 17. womb, 18. cramp, 19. archaea, 20. unanswered, 21. stew, 22. unwise

23. di_____ce workers *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
24. gas_____ogy research *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the structure, function, diagnosis, and treatment of the digestive system and its diseases
25. di_____fy my portfolio *v.* to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments
26. al_____y of emotions *n.* a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious
27. al_____y experiment *n.* a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious
28. pathogenic mi_____e *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
29. have a diverse mic_____me *n.* the community of microorganisms (= living things too small to be seen) that can usually be found living together in any given environment or the human body

ANSWERS: 23. displace, 24. gastroenterology, 25. diversify, 26. alchemy, 27. alchemy, 28. microbe, 29. microbiome

30. prevent ro___t damage *n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
31. di___b the peace *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
32. ro___t repellent *n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
33. fu___s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
34. mic_____isms in his gut *n.* a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope
35. insulin aut_____ne syndrome *adj.* relating to a condition in which the body's immune system attacks and destroys healthy body tissue, mistaking it for harmful foreign substances
36. po___e of citizens *n.* a group of people who come together for a common purpose, often to pursue or capture a criminal; a group of people who share a common interest, belief, or trait
37. on_____gy center *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies
38. int_____ent Wi-Fi *adj.* occurring at irregular intervals; not continuous or steady; stopping and starting periodically; sporadic

ANSWERS: 30. rodent, 31. disturb, 32. rodent, 33. fungus, 34. microorganism, 35. autoimmune, 36. posse, 37. oncology, 38. intermittent

39. di____b his sleep *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
40. in___e life with meaning *v.* to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue
41. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
42. large in_____ne *n.* a long, tube-like organ in the digestive system that is responsible for absorbing nutrients from food and eliminating waste products
43. gas_____ogy clinic *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the structure, function, diagnosis, and treatment of the digestive system and its diseases
44. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
45. int_____ent fever *adj.* occurring at irregular intervals; not continuous or steady; stopping and starting periodically; sporadic
46. mi_____es sterilizer *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
47. sp__e reproduction *n.* a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae
48. coffee ar__a *n.* a distinctive, usually pleasant smell, often of a specific food, plant, or object

ANSWERS: 39. disturb, 40. infuse, 41. invade, 42. intestine, 43. gastroenterology, 44. invade, 45. intermittent, 46. microbe, 47. spore, 48. aroma

49. di_____le to understand *n.* a bacterium of the genus Clostridium that can cause severe diarrhea, particularly in a hospital or nursing home settings; a disease caused by this bacterium; (adjective) difficult or hard to do, understand, or deal with
50. modern on_____gy treatment *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies
51. stomach cr__p *n.* a sudden, painful contraction or spasm of a muscle, typically in the leg or abdomen; a feeling of tightness or discomfort in a muscle caused by prolonged use or stress
52. ov_____ow neighboring corals *v.* to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage
53. una_____ed love *adj.* not responded to or explained
54. aquatic plants ov_____ow *v.* to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage
55. Clostridioides di_____le *n.* a bacterium of the genus Clostridium that can cause severe diarrhea, particularly in a hospital or nursing home settings; a disease caused by this bacterium; (adjective) difficult or hard to do, understand, or deal with
56. di_____fy energy sources *v.* to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments
57. po__e member *n.* a group of people who come together for a common purpose, often to pursue or capture a criminal; a group of people who share a common interest, belief, or trait

ANSWERS: 49. difficile, 50. oncology, 51. cramp, 52. overgrow, 53. unanswered, 54. overgrow, 55. difficile, 56. diversify, 57. posse

58. in___e with spirit

v. to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue

59. aut_____ne disorder

adj. relating to a condition in which the body's immune system attacks and destroys healthy body tissue, mistaking it for harmful foreign substances

60. ci_____an disruption

adj. relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones

61. anthrax sp__e

n. a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae

62. ar__a therapy

n. a distinctive, usually pleasant smell, often of a specific food, plant, or object

ANSWERS: 58. infuse, 59. autoimmune, 60. circadian, 61. spore, 62. aroma

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The fertilized egg implanted itself in the _____.
n. the organ of a woman or female mammal in which a baby develops before birth
2. Having a consistent sleep schedule is important for maintaining a healthy _____ rhythm.
adj. relating to a physiological cycle that lasts approximately 24 hours, impacting physical and behavioral changes that occur over the course of a day, such as sleep-wake cycles or fluctuations in hormones
3. My grandmother was hospitalized due to a severe Clostridium _____ infection, which required several rounds of antibiotics and careful monitoring by the medical staff.
n. a bacterium of the genus Clostridium that can cause severe diarrhea, particularly in a hospital or nursing home settings; a disease caused by this bacterium; (adjective) difficult or hard to do, understand, or deal with
4. I had to stop running because of a severe _____ in my leg.
n. a sudden, painful contraction or spasm of a muscle, typically in the leg or abdomen; a feeling of tightness or discomfort in a muscle caused by prolonged use or stress
5. Today, the study of _____ remains an important part of the history of science and philosophy
n. a medieval chemical philosophy and speculative theory that aimed to transform base metals into gold or produce a universal elixir that could cure all diseases and grant immortality; a process of transformation or creation that appears magical or mysterious

ANSWERS: 1. womb, 2. circadian, 3. difficile, 4. cramp, 5. alchemy

6. The _____ of freshly baked bread filled the kitchen.
- n.* a distinctive, usually pleasant smell, often of a specific food, plant, or object
7. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
8. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
- v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
9. This inclusive environment has allowed the plant species to _____.
- v.* to make something include more different types or things; to spread out activities or investments
10. He set up a trap to catch the _____.
- n.* a small, gnawing mammal, such as a mouse, rat, or squirrel, that has sharp incisors and typically has a long, thin tail
11. The effectiveness of fecal _____ in treating recurrent *Clostridioides difficile* infections has been well-established in clinical trials.
- n.* the use of bacteria, particularly beneficial bacteria, to treat or prevent disease, typically by introducing them into the digestive system through food or supplements
12. I made a delicious beef _____ for dinner tonight.
- n.* a dish consisting of meat and vegetables simmered in liquid typically served hot as a main course or soup; a state of mental or emotional agitation or confusion
13. My friends and I formed a _____ to search for the lost hiker.
- n.* a group of people who come together for a common purpose, often to pursue or capture a criminal; a group of people who share a common interest, belief, or trait

ANSWERS: 6. aroma, 7. improvisation, 8. invade, 9. diversify, 10. rodent, 11. bacteriotherapy, 12. stew, 13. posse

14. Proper disposal of _____ is essential for maintaining public health and sanitation.
- n.* waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement
15. Ignoring warning signs of a potential health issue is _____ and can harm your health.
- adj.* not sensible or prudent; likely to cause harm or negative consequences; lacking in good judgment or common sense
16. The doctor specializes in _____ and treats patients with digestive disorders.
- n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the structure, function, diagnosis, and treatment of the digestive system and its diseases
17. The small _____ is responsible for absorbing most of the nutrients from food.
- n.* a long, tube-like organ in the digestive system that is responsible for absorbing nutrients from food and eliminating waste products
18. The presence of certain substances triggered the _____ response.
- adj.* relating to a condition in which the body's immune system attacks and destroys healthy body tissue, mistaking it for harmful foreign substances
19. Pardon me for leaving some of your questions _____.
- adj.* not responded to or explained
20. The gut _____ is a major producer of serotonin, which is necessary for human mental stability.
- n.* the community of microorganisms (= living things too small to be seen) that can usually be found living together in any given environment or the human body

ANSWERS: 14. feces, 15. unwise, 16. gastroenterology, 17. intestine, 18. autoimmune, 19. unanswered, 20. microbiome

21. _____ 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
22. The study of _____ is important for understanding the origins of life on Earth
- n.* a group of single-celled microorganisms distinguished from bacteria by their unique cell wall structure and biochemical characteristics, which are found in extreme environments such as hot springs and salt flats
23. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
- n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
24. The pharmaceutical company unveiled its latest breakthrough drug for the _____ market.
- n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies
25. Bacteria and some algae also produce _____ as a means of survival and dispersal, and they are often found in soil, water, and other environments.
- n.* a reproductive cell that is capable of developing into a new individual without fertilization, especially one produced by certain bacteria, fungi, and algae
26. This _____ is a producer of respiratory disease.
- n.* a very small living thing that may exist in its single-celled form or as a colony of cells and is too small to be seen without a microscope
27. The construction of the new dam will _____ hundreds of families living downstream.
- v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

ANSWERS: 21. Microbes, 22. archaea, 23. fungus, 24. oncology, 25. spores, 26. microorganism, 27. displace

28. She _____ fresh herbs into the soup for added flavor.

v. to fill something with a particular quality, feeling, or influence; to imbue

29. Tourists frequently _____ the island's delicate natural balance.

v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.

30. The _____ rain made it difficult to plan a picnic.

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

31. Weeds _____ throughout the garden.

v. to grow or thrive over so as to cover with herbage

ANSWERS: 28. infused, 29. disturb, 30. intermittent, 31. overgrow