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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ann-Helén Bay: Why is it so hard to escape poverty?

| TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

paycheck

n. a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check

synonym : salary, earnings, income

(1) electronic **paycheck**, (2) monthly **paycheck**

I received a bonus on top of my regular **paycheck** this month.

disqualify

v. to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something

synonym : disbar, invalidate, exclude

(1) **disqualify** a candidate, (2) **disqualify** from the election

The athlete's lousy behavior was enough to **disqualify** him from the competition.

moralize

v. to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior

synonym : preach, lecture, sermonize

(1) **moralize** a situation, (2) **moralize** about politics

I don't like it when people try to **moralize** me about my personal choices.

perpetuate

v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time
synonym: eternalize, preserve, maintain

(1) **perpetuate** a myth, (2) **perpetuate** chronic pain

That work **perpetuates** his fame.

corruptible

adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

synonym: bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

advantageous

adj. providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial

synonym: beneficial, favorable, profitable

(1) **advantageous** conditions, (2) **advantageous** interest rate

The new job opportunity offered by the company is highly **advantageous**.

incentivize

v. to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward

synonym: encourage, motivate

(1) **incentivize** carpooling, (2) **incentivize** the right behavior

Governments **incentivize** their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.

societal

adj. relating to society or social relationships

synonym: social, communal, cultural

(1) **societal** norms, (2) **societal** expectations

The **societal** pressure to conform is strong in this community.

cusp

n. a pointed end, especially the pointed end of a crescent moon or the part of a curve that is most curved

synonym: point, apex, tip

(1) **cusp** of change, (2) a single **cusp**

The project was on the **cusp** of success and needed a little

more funding.

circumvent

v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

synonym: evade, bypass, outsmart

(1) **circumvent** rules, (2) **circumvent** authority

I took a back road to work on time to **circumvent** the traffic jam.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

synonym: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

Session 2: Spelling

1. cir_____nt authority *v.* to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle
2. cor_____le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
3. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
4. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
5. adv_____ous interest rate *adj.* providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
6. a single c__p *n.* a pointed end, especially the pointed end of a crescent moon or the part of a curve that is most curved
7. dis_____fy from the election *v.* to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something
8. inc_____ze carpooling *v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
9. so_____al expectations *adj.* relating to society or social relationships
10. inc_____ze the right behavior *v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
11. per_____te chronic pain *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time

ANSWERS: 1. circumvent, 2. corruptible, 3. empower, 4. empower, 5. advantageous, 6. cusp, 7. disqualify, 8. incentivize, 9. societal, 10. incentivize, 11. perpetuate

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|------------------------------|---|
| 12. adv_____ous conditions | <i>adj.</i> providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial |
| 13. so_____al norms | <i>adj.</i> relating to society or social relationships |
| 14. electronic pa_____ck | <i>n.</i> a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check |
| 15. dis_____fy a candidate | <i>v.</i> to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something |
| 16. cir_____nt rules | <i>v.</i> to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle |
| 17. c__p of change | <i>n.</i> a pointed end, especially the pointed end of a crescent moon or the part of a curve that is most curved |
| 18. monthly pa_____ck | <i>n.</i> a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check |
| 19. mo_____ze a situation | <i>v.</i> to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior |
| 20. mo_____ze about politics | <i>v.</i> to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior |

ANSWERS: 12. advantageous, 13. societal, 14. paycheck, 15. disqualify, 16. circumvent, 17. cusp, 18. paycheck, 19. moralize, 20. moralize

21. per_____te a myth

v. to make something continue or prevail
for a long time

22. cor_____le judges

adj. capable of being made to do something
dishonest or immoral

ANSWERS: 21. perpetuate, 22. corruptible

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. That work _____ his fame.
v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time
2. I received a bonus on top of my regular _____ this month.
n. a check issued to an employee as payment for work or services rendered; the amount of money received in this check
3. The athlete's lousy behavior was enough to _____ him from the competition.
v. to declare someone or something ineligible or unfit for a particular role or activity; to exclude or bar someone from participation in something
4. Bureaucracies are more _____ than other systems or organizations.
adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
5. The new job opportunity offered by the company is highly _____.
adj. providing a benefit or advantage; favorable or beneficial
6. I took a back road to work on time to _____ the traffic jam.
v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle
7. Governments _____ their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.
v. to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
8. The project was on the _____ of success and needed a little more funding.
n. a pointed end, especially the pointed end of a crescent moon or the part of a curve that is most curved

ANSWERS: 1. perpetuates, 2. paycheck, 3. disqualify, 4. corruptible, 5. advantageous, 6. circumvent, 7. incentivize, 8. cusp

9. The _____ pressure to conform is strong in this community.

adj. relating to society or social relationships

10. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

11. I don't like it when people try to _____ me about my personal choices.

v. to express or teach a moral lesson or principle, often in a self-righteous or didactic way; to reflect on the ethical or moral aspects of a situation or behavior

ANSWERS: 9. societal, 10. empowered, 11. moralize