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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Vishaan Chakrabarti: A vision of sustainable housing for all of humanity | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sequester

v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

synonym : isolate, set apart, segregate

- (1) **sequester** ten percent of the annual carbon emissions,
- (2) **sequester** myself from the world

He approved their requests to **sequester** the jury.

geothermal

adj. relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth

synonym : underground, thermal, subterranean

- (1) **geothermal** activity, (2) **geothermal** drilling

The town is exploring using **geothermal** energy to power its homes and buildings.

occupant

n. a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there

synonym : denizen, dweller, resident

- (1) illegal **occupant**, (2) rear seat **occupants**

He found graffiti left by a previous **occupant** of the house.

panacea

n. a remedy or solution that is believed to be a cure for all illnesses or problems; something that is seen as a

universal cure-all

synonym : cure-all, elixir, miracle cure

(1) **panacea** solution, (2) no **panacea** for economic woes

Many people believe that exercise is the **panacea** for all health problems.

sprawl

v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out

synonym : drape, spread out

(1) **sprawl** out luxuriously on the sofa, (2) **sprawl** for acres

The lush vegetation **sprawls** across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.

skyscraper

n. a very tall building, typically one in a city

synonym : high-rise, tower

(1) **skyscraper** apartment house, (2) steel-framed

skyscraper

The 50-floor **skyscraper** loomed over the city, dwarfing the other buildings.

dent

v. to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface

synonym : indent, depress, mark

(1) **dent** removal, (2) **dent** his pride

He acci **dentally** dented his car when he bumped into a tree.

embody

v. to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea

synonym : represent, exemplify, personify

(1) **embody** my goal, (2) **embody** a spirit of charity

The company's new products **embody** the values of innovation and sustainability.

retardant

n. a substance used to slow or prevent the spread of fire; a chemical added to a material to make it less flammable; (adjective) of or relating to something that slows down or

inhibits a process or action

synonym : inhibitor, suppressant, stopper

(1) age **retardant**, (2) fire- **retardant** equipment

The engineer added a corrosion **retardant** to the metal structure to extend its lifespan

nascent

adj. in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed

synonym : emerging, developing, budding

(1) **nascent** industry, (2) **nascent** idea

The company was still **nascent** and had much growing to do.

paradox

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

synonym : incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap

There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

banal

adj. lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar

synonym : trite, mundane, dull

(1) **banal** conversation, (2) **banal** plot

The restaurant's menu had a **banal** selection of generic dishes with no unique or exciting options.

compost

n. a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil

synonym : fertilizer, humus, manure

(1) organic **compost**, (2) **compost** pile

You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your **compost** to improve the pH balance.

stormwater

n. water that accumulates during and after rainfall or snowmelt, usually flowing into waterways, sewers, or drainage systems

synonym : rainwater, runoff, drainage

(1) **stormwater** management, (2) **stormwater** runoff

The **stormwater** drainage system must be improved to prevent flooding in the neighborhood.

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**.

outskirt

n. the part of a town or city away from the center, typically the suburbs; the fringe or border of something.

synonym : suburb, periphery, edge

(1) the **outskirt** of the forest, (2) on the western **outskirts**

The **outskirt** of the city was quieter and more peaceful than the busy downtown area.

landmass

n. a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota

synonym : continent, mainland, landform

(1) large **landmass**, (2) continental **landmass**

Australia is the world's smallest continent by **landmass**.

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.

voracious

adj. having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something

synonym : ravenous, insatiable, greedy

(1) **voracious** thirst, (2) **voracious** reader

The **voracious** appetite of the teenager was legendary.

staggering

adj. so shocking as to stun or overwhelm

synonym : astounding, astonishing, stunning

(1) **staggering** number, (2) a **staggering** defeat

The amount of money required was **staggering**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. vo_____us reader *adj.* having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something
2. on the western ou_____rts *n.* the part of a town or city away from the center, typically the suburbs; the fringe or border of something.
3. fo_____nts in the snow *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
4. na_____t industry *adj.* in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed
5. em____y my goal *v.* to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea
6. steel-framed sky_____er *n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city
7. sto_____er management *n.* water that accumulates during and after rainfall or snowmelt, usually flowing into waterways, sewers, or drainage systems
8. large la_____ss *n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota
9. d__t his pride *v.* to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface

ANSWERS: 1. voracious, 2. outskirts, 3. footprint, 4. nascent, 5. embody, 6. skyscraper, 7. stormwater, 8. landmass, 9. dent

10. se_____er ten percent of the annual carbon emissions *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
11. no pa_____a for economic woes *n.* a remedy or solution that is believed to be a cure for all illnesses or problems; something that is seen as a universal cure-all
12. ba__l conversation *adj.* lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar
13. fire-re_____nt equipment *n.* a substance used to slow or prevent the spread of fire; a chemical added to a material to make it less flammable; (adjective) of or relating to something that slows down or inhibits a process or action
14. d__t removal *v.* to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface
15. sky_____er apartment house *n.* a very tall building, typically one in a city
16. the ou_____rt of the forest *n.* the part of a town or city away from the center, typically the suburbs; the fringe or border of something.
17. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
18. pa_____a solution *n.* a remedy or solution that is believed to be a cure for all illnesses or problems; something that is seen as a universal cure-all

ANSWERS: 10. sequester, 11. panacea, 12. banal, 13. retardant, 14. dent, 15. skyscraper, 16. outskirts, 17. invade, 18. panacea

19. se_____er myself from the world *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
20. sp___l for acres *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
21. illegal oc_____nt *n.* a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there
22. na_____t idea *adj.* in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed
23. vo_____us thirst *adj.* having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something
24. sta_____ng number *adj.* so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
25. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
26. sp___l out luxuriously on the sofa *v.* to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
27. the pa_____x of the heap *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
28. ba__l plot *adj.* lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar
29. em___y a spirit of charity *v.* to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea

ANSWERS: 19. sequester, 20. sprawl, 21. occupant, 22. nascent, 23. voracious, 24. staggering, 25. footprint, 26. sprawl, 27. paradox, 28. banal, 29. embody

30. in___e other tissues
v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
31. geo_____al activity
adj. relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
32. sto_____er runoff
n. water that accumulates during and after rainfall or snowmelt, usually flowing into waterways, sewers, or drainage systems
33. geo_____al drilling
adj. relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
34. co_____t pile
n. a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
35. French pa_____x
n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
36. a sta_____ng defeat
adj. so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
37. rear seat oc_____nts
n. a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there
38. age re_____nt
n. a substance used to slow or prevent the spread of fire; a chemical added to a material to make it less flammable; (adjective) of or relating to something that slows down or inhibits a process or action

ANSWERS: 30. invade, 31. geothermal, 32. stormwater, 33. geothermal, 34. compost, 35. paradox, 36. staggering, 37. occupant, 38. retardant

39. continental la____ss

n. a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota

40. organic co____t

n. a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil

ANSWERS: 39. landmass, 40. compost

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
2. The company was still _____ and had much growing to do.
adj. in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed
3. The _____ drainage system must be improved to prevent flooding in the neighborhood.
n. water that accumulates during and after rainfall or snowmelt, usually flowing into waterways, sewers, or drainage systems
4. There are many theories to explain this _____.
n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
5. The 50-floor _____ loomed over the city, dwarfing the other buildings.
n. a very tall building, typically one in a city
6. The amount of money required was _____.
adj. so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
7. The restaurant's menu had a _____ selection of generic dishes with no unique or exciting options.
adj. lacking originality, creativity, or freshness; uninteresting or dull due to being overused or overly familiar

ANSWERS: 1. invade, 2. nascent, 3. stormwater, 4. paradox, 5. skyscraper, 6. staggering, 7. banal

8. Many people believe that exercise is the _____ for all health problems.
n. a remedy or solution that is believed to be a cure for all illnesses or problems; something that is seen as a universal cure-all
9. You can add coffee grounds and crushed eggshells to your _____ to improve the pH balance.
n. a mixture of organic matter, such as food scraps, yard waste, and manure, that is allowed to decompose and is used as fertilizer for plants and garden soil
10. The lush vegetation _____ across the wonderfully landscaped gardens.
v. to sit, lie, or fall with one's arms and legs spread out
11. The _____ appetite of the teenager was legendary.
adj. having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something
12. The engineer added a corrosion _____ to the metal structure to extend its lifespan
n. a substance used to slow or prevent the spread of fire; a chemical added to a material to make it less flammable; (adjective) of or relating to something that slows down or inhibits a process or action
13. The town is exploring using _____ energy to power its homes and buildings.
adj. relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
14. He found graffiti left by a previous _____ of the house.
n. a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there

ANSWERS: 8. panacea, 9. compost, 10. sprawls, 11. voracious, 12. retardant, 13. geothermal, 14. occupant

15. Australia is the world's smallest continent by _____.
- n.* a large area of land, especially one that is distinct from surrounding areas by its topography, geology, or biota
16. The _____ of the city was quieter and more peaceful than the busy downtown area.
- n.* the part of a town or city away from the center, typically the suburbs; the fringe or border of something.
17. He acci_____dented his car when he bumped into a tree.
- v.* to make a depression or indentation in the surface of something; (noun) a depression scratched or carved into a surface
18. The company's new products _____ the values of innovation and sustainability.
- v.* to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea
19. He approved their requests to _____ the jury.
- v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
20. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.
- n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

ANSWERS: 15. landmass, 16. outskirts, 17. dentally, 18. embody, 19. sequester, 20. footprint