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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mona Chalabi: How accurate is the weather forecast?

| TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

relate

v. to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something

synonym : connect, link, associate

(1) **relate** a story, (2) **relate** a message

He tried to **relate** his experience to the group, but they couldn't understand.

arguably

adv. used when expressing an opinion or idea that you believe can be proven true

synonym : probably, possibly

(1) she is **arguably** the best singer, (2) **arguably** the greatest discovery

He is **arguably** regarded as the finest actor of his generation.

backlash

n. a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact

synonym : reaction, retaliation, counteraction

(1) political **backlash**, (2) the **backlash** from the community

The company faced a **backlash** from customers after the recall.

regularly

adv. at regular intervals or times

synonym : repeatedly, routinely, usually

(1) **regularly** arranged, (2) post **regularly** to a blog

This site **regularly** shares high-quality academic materials.

annoy

v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

synonym : aggravate, irritate, unsettle

(1) **annoy** at the time, (2) **annoy** everyone else

Her constant chatter was starting to **annoy** the neighbors.

forecast

n. a prediction or statement about how something, such as the weather, will develop or what will happen in the future; (verb) to predict the future in advance

synonym : prediction, outlook, (verb) guess

(1) a weather **forecast**, (2) **forecast** an epidemic

Their team specializes in demand **forecasts** for our products.

provincial

adj. of or relating to a local government; having characteristics or views that are narrow in scope or limited by a narrow outlook

synonym : rural, narrow-minded, unsophisticated

(1) **provincial** town, (2) **provincial** accent

His **provincial** upbringing left him with a limited view of the world beyond his hometown

bureau

n. an office or agency that specializes in a particular type of work, often related to collecting or compiling data or information

synonym : agency, department, office

(1) **bureau** of statistics, (2) travel **bureau**

I went to the **bureau** of motor vehicles to renew my driver's license.

indict

v. to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them

synonym: accuse, charge, prosecute

(1) **indict** a suspect, (2) **indict** him of injuries

The FBI worked tirelessly to gather enough evidence to **indict** the corrupt politician.

typhoon

n. a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean

synonym: cyclone, hurricane, storm

(1) super **typhoon**, (2) **typhoon** season

Many families were forced to evacuate their homes due to the **typhoon's** severity.

decide

v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

synonym: choose, determine, settle

(1) **decide** a question, (2) **decide** on a course of action

She couldn't **decide** whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

accurate

adj. correct and exact in all details

synonym: exact, precise, proper

(1) provide **accurate** information, (2) **accurate** measurements

The official transcript contains **accurate** academic records.

temperature

n. the degree of hotness or coldness of a thing or place

synonym: climate, warmth, degree

(1) extreme **temperatures**, (2) the atmospheric **temperature**

Cities around the world set records for highest **temperatures** this summer.

instance

n. a particular example or single occurrence of something

synonym: example, sample, illustration

(1) for **instance**, (2) notable **instance**

These articles cite five **instances** of climate change.

nation

n. a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture

synonym : country, state, sovereign entity

(1) **nation-state**, (2) a seafaring **nation**

The **nation** of Japan is known for its unique culture and advanced technology.

advance

v. to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way

synonym : progress, boost, come along

(1) **advance** the technology, (2) **advance** a cooperative relationship

Scientific knowledge will **advance** significantly with the power of AI.

predict

v. to state beforehand that something will happen in the future, mainly based on knowledge or experience

synonym : forecast, anticipate, foresee

(1) **predict** the future, (2) **predict** when she will arrive

It's notoriously challenging to **predict** birth rates.

accuracy

n. the state or degree of being exact or correct; the ability to perform something with proficiency and without mistake

synonym : precision, exactness, truthfulness

(1) degree of **accuracy**, (2) the **accuracy** of his compass

To assure **accuracy**, I recommend investing in high-quality test kits.

tredecillion

n. a number equivalent to 1 followed by 42 zeros, or 10 to the power of 42

synonym : one quattuordecillion, ten duotrigintillion

(1) **tredecillion** atoms, (2) approximately 43 **tredecillion**

The estimated number of stars in the universe is approximately one **tredecillion**.

molecule

n. a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds

synonym : particle, element, atom

(1) small **molecules**, (2) **molecule** behavior

The shape of the DNA **molecule** is a double helix.

atmosphere

n. the mass of air that surrounds the Earth; the pervading tone or mood of a place, situation, or creative work

synonym : air, ambiance, circumstances

(1) carbon dioxide in the **atmosphere**, (2) a convivial **atmosphere**

The spaceship began to burn up as it approached the Earth's **atmosphere**.

absolute

adj. perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible

synonym : complete, infrangible, indisputable

(1) **absolute** loyalty, (2) an **absolute** must

Gandhi had an **absolute** zeal for nonviolence.

certainty

n. the state of being certain

synonym : inevitability, confidence, assurance

(1) scientific **certainty**, (2) reach **certainty** about the theory

Through investigation, his suspicions hardened into **certainty**.

movement

n. a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively

synonym : motion, progression, action

(1) a circular **movement**, (2) **movement** of troops

The **movement** of the dancers on stage was graceful and elegant.

particle

n. a small piece of something; a word or piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance

synonym : atom, grain, bit

(1) charged **particle**, (2) **particle** energy

We can calculate the position of the **particles** statistically.

elect

v. to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something

synonym: select, choose, prefer

(1) **elect** the school board, (2) **elect** death

Every five years, the provincial governors are **elected**.

poll

n. an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election

synonym: survey, ballot, voting

(1) a pre-election **poll**, (2) public opinion **polls**

Several **polls** show a decline in the president's approval rating.

terribly

adv. very badly; to a great extent or very much

synonym: awfully, abominably, badly

(1) suffer **terribly**, (2) I am **terribly** sorry

His arm was swollen and **terribly** red.

prediction

n. the act of predicting the future by reasoning; a statement made about the future

synonym: forecast, anticipation, foretelling

(1) make my **predictions**, (2) gloomy **predictions**

These results muddied the **prediction**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. re_____ly arranged *adv.* at regular intervals or times
2. she is ar_____ly the best singer *adv.* used when expressing an opinion or idea that you believe can be proven true
3. de___e a question *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
4. notable in_____ce *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
5. pr_____t when she will arrive *v.* to state beforehand that something will happen in the future, mainly based on knowledge or experience
6. post re_____ly to a blog *adv.* at regular intervals or times
7. ty_____n season *n.* a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean
8. de___e on a course of action *v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
9. mo_____le behavior *n.* a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds
10. small mo_____les *n.* a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds
11. ar_____ly the greatest discovery *adv.* used when expressing an opinion or idea that you believe can be proven true

ANSWERS: 1. regularly, 2. arguably, 3. decide, 4. instance, 5. predict, 6. regularly, 7. typhoon, 8. decide, 9. molecule, 10. molecule, 11. arguably

12. make my pre_____ons *n.* the act of predicting the future by reasoning; a statement made about the future
13. an__y at the time *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
14. travel bu____u *n.* an office or agency that specializes in a particular type of work, often related to collecting or compiling data or information
15. for in_____ce *n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
16. the atmospheric tem_____re *n.* the degree of hotness or coldness of a thing or place
17. I am te_____ly sorry *adv.* very badly; to a great extent or very much
18. pr_____t the future *v.* to state beforehand that something will happen in the future, mainly based on knowledge or experience
19. charged pa_____le *n.* a small piece of something; a word or piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance
20. na____n-state *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
21. approximately 43 tre _____ion *n.* a number equivalent to 1 followed by 42 zeros, or 10 to the power of 42
22. fo_____st an epidemic *n.* a prediction or statement about how something, such as the weather, will develop or what will happen in the future; (verb) to predict the future in advance

ANSWERS: 12. prediction, 13. annoy, 14. bureau, 15. instance, 16. temperature, 17. terribly, 18. predict, 19. particle, 20. nation, 21. tredecillion, 22. forecast

23. a convivial atm_____re *n.* the mass of air that surrounds the Earth; the pervading tone or mood of a place, situation, or creative work
24. pa_____le energy *n.* a small piece of something; a word or piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance
25. a seafaring na_____n *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
26. ab_____te loyalty *adj.* perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
27. degree of ac_____cy *n.* the state or degree of being exact or correct; the ability to perform something with proficiency and without mistake
28. pro_____al town *adj.* of or relating to a local government; having characteristics or views that are narrow in scope or limited by a narrow outlook
29. public opinion p___ls *n.* an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election
30. scientific ce_____ty *n.* the state of being certain
31. in___t a suspect *v.* to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them
32. ad_____e a cooperative relationship *v.* to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way

ANSWERS: 23. atmosphere, 24. particle, 25. nation, 26. absolute, 27. accuracy, 28. provincial, 29. poll, 30. certainty, 31. indict, 32. advance

33. a circular mo____nt *n.* a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively
34. carbon dioxide in the atm_____re *n.* the mass of air that surrounds the Earth; the pervading tone or mood of a place, situation, or creative work
35. tre_____ion atoms *n.* a number equivalent to 1 followed by 42 zeros, or 10 to the power of 42
36. mo____nt of troops *n.* a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively
37. ad_____e the technology *v.* to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way
38. extreme tem_____res *n.* the degree of hotness or coldness of a thing or place
39. pro_____al accent *adj.* of or relating to a local government; having characteristics or views that are narrow in scope or limited by a narrow outlook
40. an ab_____te must *adj.* perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
41. a weather fo_____st *n.* a prediction or statement about how something, such as the weather, will develop or what will happen in the future; (verb) to predict the future in advance

ANSWERS: 33. movement, 34. atmosphere, 35. tredecillion, 36. movement, 37. advance, 38. temperature, 39. provincial, 40. absolute, 41. forecast

42. bu___u of statistics *n.* an office or agency that specializes in a particular type of work, often related to collecting or compiling data or information
43. political ba_____sh *n.* a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact
44. the ac_____cy of his compass *n.* the state or degree of being exact or correct; the ability to perform something with proficiency and without mistake
45. re___e a story *v.* to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something
46. in___t him of injuries *v.* to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them
47. suffer te_____ly *adv.* very badly; to a great extent or very much
48. provide ac_____te information *adj.* correct and exact in all details
49. gloomy pre_____ons *n.* the act of predicting the future by reasoning; a statement made about the future
50. ac_____te measurements *adj.* correct and exact in all details
51. reach ce_____ty about the theory *n.* the state of being certain
52. an__y everyone else *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

ANSWERS: 42. bureau, 43. backlash, 44. accuracy, 45. relate, 46. indict, 47. terribly, 48. accurate, 49. prediction, 50. accurate, 51. certainty, 52. annoy

53. super ty_____n *n.* a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean
54. a pre-election p__l *n.* an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election
55. el__t death *v.* to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something
56. re___e a message *v.* to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something
57. the ba_____sh from the community *n.* a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact
58. el__t the school board *v.* to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something

ANSWERS: 53. typhoon, 54. poll, 55. elect, 56. relate, 57. backlash, 58. elect

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Cities around the world set records for highest _____ this summer.
n. the degree of hotness or coldness of a thing or place
2. This site _____ shares high-quality academic materials.
adv. at regular intervals or times
3. Her constant chatter was starting to _____ the neighbors.
v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
4. Scientific knowledge will _____ significantly with the power of AI.
v. to go or move forward; to develop in a positive way
5. We can calculate the position of the _____ statistically.
n. a small piece of something; a word or piece of a term with grammatical function but little or no significance
6. These results muddied the _____.
n. the act of predicting the future by reasoning; a statement made about the future
7. Through investigation, his suspicions hardened into _____.
n. the state of being certain
8. His _____ upbringing left him with a limited view of the world beyond his hometown
adj. of or relating to a local government; having characteristics or views that are narrow in scope or limited by a narrow outlook

ANSWERS: 1. temperatures, 2. regularly, 3. annoy, 4. advance, 5. particles, 6. prediction, 7. certainty, 8. provincial

9. The estimated number of stars in the universe is approximately one _____.
- n.* a number equivalent to 1 followed by 42 zeros, or 10 to the power of 42
10. To assure _____ I recommend investing in high-quality test kits.
- n.* the state or degree of being exact or correct; the ability to perform something with proficiency and without mistake
11. It's notoriously challenging to _____ birth rates.
- v.* to state beforehand that something will happen in the future, mainly based on knowledge or experience
12. Several _____ show a decline in the president's approval rating.
- n.* an inquiry into public opinion conducted by interviewing a random sample of people; the process of voting at an election
13. She couldn't _____ whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.
- v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
14. I went to the _____ of motor vehicles to renew my driver's license.
- n.* an office or agency that specializes in a particular type of work, often related to collecting or compiling data or information
15. The shape of the DNA _____ is a double helix.
- n.* a group of two or more atoms held together by attractive forces known as chemical bonds
16. The official transcript contains _____ academic records.
- adj.* correct and exact in all details

ANSWERS: 9. tredecillion, 10. accuracy, 11. predict, 12. polls, 13. decide, 14. bureau, 15. molecule, 16. accurate

17. Their team specializes in demand _____ for our products.
- n.* a prediction or statement about how something, such as the weather, will develop or what will happen in the future; (verb) to predict the future in advance
18. These articles cite five _____ of climate change.
- n.* a particular example or single occurrence of something
19. He tried to _____ his experience to the group, but they couldn't understand.
- v.* to establish a connection or association between two or more things; to narrate or tell about an event, experience, or relationship; to empathize or feel sympathy with someone or something
20. The FBI worked tirelessly to gather enough evidence to _____ the corrupt politician.
- v.* to formally charge or accuse someone of a crime, based on the decision of a grand jury or other legal authority; to bring a legal case against someone, typically to prosecute and punish them
21. Many families were forced to evacuate their homes due to the _____ severity.
- n.* a tropical storm with strong winds and heavy rain, typically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean
22. The _____ of the dancers on stage was graceful and elegant.
- n.* a group of people working together to achieve a shared goal, especially a political, social, or artistic one; the process of moving or being moved, physically or figuratively
23. He is _____ regarded as the finest actor of his generation.
- adv.* used when expressing an opinion or idea that you believe can be proven true

ANSWERS: 17. forecasts, 18. instances, 19. relate, 20. indict, 21. typhoon's, 22. movement, 23. arguably

24. The company faced a _____ from customers after the recall.
n. a strong negative reaction to something; a movement back from an impact
25. The spaceship began to burn up as it approached the Earth's _____.
n. the mass of air that surrounds the Earth; the pervading tone or mood of a place, situation, or creative work
26. His arm was swollen and _____ red.
adv. very badly; to a great extent or very much
27. Every five years, the provincial governors are _____.
v. to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something
28. Gandhi had an _____ zeal for nonviolence.
adj. perfect or complete or to the most considerable degree possible
29. The _____ of Japan is known for its unique culture and advanced technology.
n. a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture

ANSWERS: 24. backlash, 25. atmosphere, 26. terribly, 27. elected, 28. absolute, 29. nation