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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mona Chalabi: What we miss when we focus on the average | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

tempting

adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

synonym : alluring, attractive, inviting

(1) **tempting** offer, (2) sound very **tempting**

The chocolate cake was too **tempting** for me to resist.

plummet

v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply

synonym : drop, plunge, fall

(1) **plummeting** sales, (2) **plummet** against other major currencies

The stock prices have **plummeted** in the last hour, causing concern for investors.

sizable

adj. large in size or amount

synonym : large, significant, considerable

(1) **sizable** portion, (2) **sizable** audience

He has a **sizable** fortune and is one of the wealthiest people in the city.

scatter

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions

synonym : disperse, spread, bestrew

(1) **scatter** seeds, (2) **scatter** around the internet
The hunter's approach **scattered** the geese.

undervalue

v. to assign too low a value to something
synonym: underrate, underestimate, devalue

(1) **undervalue** his contribution, (2) **undervalue** the potential

He **undervalued** the importance of teamwork and struggled to succeed.

deviate

v. to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach

synonym: stray, diverge, veer

(1) **deviate** from the norm, (2) **deviate** from the plan

It's important not to **deviate** from the established safety procedures.

astray

adv. away from the right path or direction

synonym: off course, misdirected, wayward

(1) led **astray** by superstition, (2) gone **astray**

He wandered **astray** from the path and got lost in the forest.

puppet

n. a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else

synonym: marionette, dummy, mannequin

(1) **puppet** theater, (2) corporate **puppet**

The politician was merely a **puppet** for the wealthy elite.

hijab

n. a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck

synonym: veil, headscarf, cover

(1) woman's **hijab**, (2) **hijab** garment

Many Muslim women wear a **hijab** as a symbol of their religious beliefs.

underestimate

v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

synonym: underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

avid

adj. characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity

synonym: enthusiastic, eager, fervent

(1) **avid** baseball fan, (2) have **avid** eyes

She was an **avid** reader and spent hours every day lost in a book.

grandchild

n. a child of someone's son or daughter

synonym: offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

Session 2: Spelling

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|---|---|
| 1. sc_____r seeds | <i>v.</i> to cause to separate and go in different directions |
| 2. te_____ng offer | <i>adj.</i> likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe |
| 3. hi__b garment | <i>n.</i> a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck |
| 4. und_____ate the probability | <i>v.</i> to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is |
| 5. sound very te_____ng | <i>adj.</i> likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe |
| 6. und_____ue his contribution | <i>v.</i> to assign too low a value to something |
| 7. si_____e portion | <i>adj.</i> large in size or amount |
| 8. gone as____y | <i>adv.</i> away from the right path or direction |
| 9. pu____t theater | <i>n.</i> a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else |
| 10. si_____e audience | <i>adj.</i> large in size or amount |
| 11. pl_____t against other major currencies | <i>v.</i> to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply |
| 12. und_____ue the potential | <i>v.</i> to assign too low a value to something |

ANSWERS: 1. scatter, 2. tempting, 3. hijab, 4. underestimate, 5. tempting, 6. undervalue, 7. sizable, 8. astray, 9. puppet, 10. sizable, 11. plummet, 12. undervalue

13. de____e from the plan *v.* to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach
14. de____e from the norm *v.* to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach
15. led as____y by superstition *adv.* away from the right path or direction
16. woman's hi__b *n.* a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck
17. und_____ate an enemy *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
18. corporate pu____t *n.* a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else
19. have a__d eyes *adj.* characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity
20. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
21. gra_____ld development *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
22. sc____r around the internet *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
23. pl____ting sales *v.* to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
24. a__d baseball fan *adj.* characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity

ANSWERS: 13. deviate, 14. deviate, 15. astray, 16. hijab, 17. underestimate, 18. puppet, 19. avid, 20. grandchild, 21. grandchild, 22. scatter, 23. plummet, 24. avid

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She was an _____ reader and spent hours every day lost in a book.
adj. characterized by enthusiasm and vigorous pursuit, especially of an interest or activity
2. They frequently _____ their abilities and felt inferior.
v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
3. He has a _____ fortune and is one of the wealthiest people in the city.
adj. large in size or amount
4. He wandered _____ from the path and got lost in the forest.
adv. away from the right path or direction
5. The chocolate cake was too _____ for me to resist.
adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
6. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.
v. to cause to separate and go in different directions
7. The stock prices have _____ in the last hour, causing concern for investors.
v. to fall or drop suddenly and steeply; to decline rapidly or sharply
8. The politician was merely a _____ for the wealthy elite.
n. a doll or figure that is manipulated by strings, wires, or hands to represent a person or animal; a person who is controlled or manipulated by someone else

ANSWERS: 1. avid, 2. underestimated, 3. sizable, 4. astray, 5. tempting, 6. scattered, 7. plummeted, 8. puppet

9. Many Muslim women wear a _____ as a symbol of their religious beliefs.
n. a headscarf traditionally worn by Muslim women to cover their hair and neck
10. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
n. a child of someone's son or daughter
11. He _____ the importance of teamwork and struggled to succeed.
v. to assign too low a value to something
12. It's important not to _____ from the established safety procedures.
v. to depart from an established course or plan; to change direction or take a different route or approach

ANSWERS: 9. hijab, 10. grandchild, 11. undervalued, 12. deviate