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Susan Graham: A new way to restore Earth's biodiversity -- from the air | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

hectare

n. a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters

(1) **hectare** land, (2) housing per **hectare**

The farm spans over 100 **hectares** of land.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym: demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

restoration

n. the act or process of restoring or returning something to its original or former state; a renewal or revitalization of something that has been damaged or lost

synonym: renewal, revitalization, refurbishment

(1) teeth **restoration**, (2) ecological **restoration**

The **restoration** of the historic building took years, but the result was worth it.

enormous

adj. extremely large or great

synonym : huge, giant, gigantic

(1) **enormous** amount, (2) **enormous** potential

Shakespeare's output of poetry was **enormous**.

complexity

n. the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand

synonym : intricacy, sophistication, elaboration

(1) cognitive **complexity**, (2) **complexity** theory

The project's **complexity** made it difficult for the team to complete it on time.

native

adj. connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place

synonym : endemic, domestic, aboriginal

(1) **native** to Africa, (2) **native** language

The vegetation here is almost wholly **native**.

ecosystem

n. all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment

(1) marine **ecosystem**, (2) change the **ecosystem**

Human conservation efforts often fail unexpectedly because they disturb the balance of the **ecosystem**.

ecology

n. the study of the relationships between living organisms, including humans, and their physical environment

(1) science of **ecology**, (2) the **ecology** of the island

Many companies are now enthusiastically embracing the knowledge of **ecology** for sustainable development.

facsimile

n. an exact copy or replica of a document, artwork, or other objects, often produced through photographic or digital means

synonym : copy, reproduction, replica

(1) **facsimile** machine, (2) **facsimile** signature

I received a **facsimile** of the contract in my email to sign it

digitally.

vast

adj. enormous in size, number, amount, or quantity

synonym: expansive, extended, boundless

(1) **vast** majority, (2) **vast** desert

A **vast** audience viewed the broadcast.

drone

n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

synonym: hum, whirr, idler

(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**

He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.

vegetation

n. plants in general, particularly those indigenous to a particular region or spot

synonym: flora, leafage, foliage

(1) tropical **vegetation**, (2) dense **vegetation**

The **vegetation** in the area is quite diverse.

machine-learning

n. the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data

(1) **machine-learning** method, (2) **machine-learning** processor

Many software engineers are developing applications to build **machine-learning** algorithms more quickly.

analyze

v. to think about in-depth and evaluate to discover essential features or meaning

synonym: explore, examine, investigate

(1) **analyze** a chemical compound, (2) **analyze** your real motives

The teacher attempted to **analyze** the root cause of our mistake.

monitor

v. to observe, check, and track the progress or quality of something over a period of time

synonym : proctor, check, observe

(1) **monitor** an exam, (2) **monitor** the data carefully

They used a special receiver to **monitor** police radio channels.

AI

n. (abbreviation for artificial intelligence) the theory and development of computer systems capable of doing activities that would ordinarily need human intelligence, such as object recognition, speech recognition, decision-making, and language translation

synonym : robot, machine learning, neural network

(1) **AI** expert, (2) apply **AI** technology to art

The evolution of processors has dramatically improved the performance of **AI**.

coal

n. a combustible black or brownish-black sedimentary rock that is found below the ground and burnt to produce heat

synonym : ember

(1) a **coal-fired** ship, (2) construction of new **coal** plants

We combust **coal** and other fossil fuels to generate electricity.

biodiversity

n. the number and variety of plants and animals that exist in a particular area or the world and make a balanced environment

(1) **biodiversity** conservation, (2) loss of **biodiversity**

The country was instrumental in promoting the **biodiversity** treaty.

decimate

v. to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

synonym : devastate, destroy, annihilate

(1) **decimate** population, (2) **decimate** economy

The hurricane **decimated** the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.

catastrophic

adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

synonym : fatal, disastrous, destructive

(1) victim of **catastrophic** injuries, (2) **catastrophic** climate change

The extinction rate of aquatic animals was **catastrophic**.

bushfire

n. a large outdoor fire that burns out of control, typically in a wildland area, and is often caused by drought, heat, lightning, or human activities

synonym : wildfire, forest fire

(1) **bushfire** season, (2) **bushfire** emergency

The hot and dry weather conditions are making it difficult to fight the **bushfire**.

agriculture

n. the practice or science of cultivating the land or raising stock

synonym : farming, husbandry, agribusiness

(1) organic **agriculture**, (2) intensive **agriculture**

Agriculture is the foundation of our economy.

diminish

v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.

synonym : decline, dwindle, lessen

(1) **diminish** a reputation, (2) **diminish** swelling

As people get old, their energies may **diminish**.

koala

n. a small, tree-dwelling marsupial native to Australia with thick, grayish fur, large furry ears, and no tail, which feeds almost exclusively on eucalyptus leaves

(1) **koala** sanctuary, (2) injured **koala**

The population of **koalas** has declined due to habitat loss, disease, and climate change.

accelerate

v. to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly

synonym: speed up, quicken, rev

(1) **accelerate** a chemical reaction, (2) **accelerate** the car

The government tried to **accelerate** the commercialization of this development.

combine

v. to join or merge to form a single thing or group

synonym: coalesce, cohere, blend

(1) **combine** chemically with another substance,

(2) **combine** augmented reality

Hydrogen and oxygen **combine** to form water.

continent

n. one of the earth's large landmasses; (adjective) abstaining from your feelings, especially your desire to have sex

synonym: landmass, (adjective) chaste, (adjective) pure

(1) the inland of a **continent**, (2) **continent** urinary diversion

Flight across the **continent** was a daring adventure in its day.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

synonym: renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

lord

n. a person who has general authority, control, or power over others; a man of noble rank or high office

synonym: master, noble, peer

(1) a young **lord**, (2) **lord** of castle

The feudal **lord** had ruled the land for many years.

birthplace

n. the house, town, etc., where someone was born

synonym: hometown, native place, origin

(1) ancestral **birthplaces**, (2) **birthplace** of modern soccer
The **birthplace** of civilization is a topic of much debate among historians.

insect

n. any small creature that has six legs and a body divided into three sections

(1) **insect** antenna, (2) **insect** biology

These **insects** are more prevalent above a certain latitude.

unique

adj. being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else
synonym: one-of-a-kind, unparalleled, incomparable

(1) a **unique** teacher, (2) **unique** design

The painting is **unique**, and there is no other like it.

plague

n. any epidemic disease with a high death rate; (also called pest) a serious, sometimes fatal, infection spread by rats that causes fever and swellings on the body

synonym: epidemic, pandemic, pest

(1) catch the **plague**, (2) deadly **plague**

Our farm experienced a **plague** of locusts this year.

eradicate

v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

synonym: destroy, eliminate, exterminate

(1) **eradicate** the deficit, (2) **eradicate** racial discrimination

We are trying to **eradicate** this disease from the world.

undesirable

adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance

synonym: objectionable, distasteful, unwanted

(1) **undesirable** outcome, (2) **undesirable** behavior

The smell of the garbage was very **undesirable**.

endemic

adj. (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area

synonym: prevalent, widespread, native

(1) **endemic** disease, (2) cholera- **endemic** area
Malaria is **endemic** in many tropical countries.

thrive

v. to grow vigorously; to make steady progress
synonym: bloom, flourish, prosper

(1) **thrive** in a society, (2) **thrive** on pressure
Without investment, a business cannot **thrive**.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. co_____nt urinary diversion | <i>n.</i> one of the earth's large landmasses; (adjective) abstaining from your feelings, especially your desire to have sex |
| 2. ancestral bir_____ces | <i>n.</i> the house, town, etc., where someone was born |
| 3. mac_____ing processor | <i>n.</i> the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data |
| 4. a young l__d | <i>n.</i> a person who has general authority, control, or power over others; a man of noble rank or high office |
| 5. und_____le outcome | <i>adj.</i> not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance |
| 6. the speaker's dr__e | <i>n.</i> a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control |
| 7. dr__e flight | <i>n.</i> a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control |
| 8. en_____c disease | <i>adj.</i> (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area |

ANSWERS: 1. continent, 2. birthplace, 3. machine-learning, 4. lord, 5. undesirable, 6. drone, 7. drone, 8. endemic

9. dense veg_____on *n.* plants in general, particularly those indigenous to a particular region or spot
10. an_____e a chemical compound *v.* to think about in-depth and evaluate to discover essential features or meaning
11. tropical veg_____on *n.* plants in general, particularly those indigenous to a particular region or spot
12. re_____te a single country *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
13. de_____te population *v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number
14. intensive agr_____re *n.* the practice or science of cultivating the land or raising stock
15. he_____e land *n.* a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters
16. change the ec_____em *n.* all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment
17. un_____e design *adj.* being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else
18. teeth res_____on *n.* the act or process of restoring or returning something to its original or former state; a renewal or revitalization of something that has been damaged or lost
19. in____t biology *n.* any small creature that has six legs and a body divided into three sections

ANSWERS: 9. vegetation, 10. analyze, 11. vegetation, 12. recreate, 13. decimate, 14. agriculture, 15. hectare, 16. ecosystem, 17. unique, 18. restoration, 19. insect

29. mo_____r the data carefully *v.* to observe, check, and track the progress or quality of something over a period of time
30. fa_____le machine *n.* an exact copy or replica of a document, artwork, or other objects, often produced through photographic or digital means
31. fa_____le signature *n.* an exact copy or replica of a document, artwork, or other objects, often produced through photographic or digital means
32. organic agr_____re *n.* the practice or science of cultivating the land or raising stock
33. di_____sh swelling *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
34. an_____e your real motives *v.* to think about in-depth and evaluate to discover essential features or meaning
35. bu_____re season *n.* a large outdoor fire that burns out of control, typically in a wildland area, and is often caused by drought, heat, lightning, or human activities
36. in____t antenna *n.* any small creature that has six legs and a body divided into three sections
37. er_____te racial discrimination *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
38. construction of new c__l plants *n.* a combustible black or brownish-black sedimentary rock that is found below the ground and burnt to produce heat

ANSWERS: 29. monitor, 30. facsimile, 31. facsimile, 32. agriculture, 33. diminish, 34. analyze, 35. bushfire, 36. insect, 37. eradicate, 38. coal

39. a un___e teacher *adj.* being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else
40. l__d of castle *n.* a person who has general authority, control, or power over others; a man of noble rank or high office
41. acc_____te the car *v.* to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly
42. cat_____hic climate change *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
43. deadly pl___e *n.* any epidemic disease with a high death rate; (also called pest) a serious, sometimes fatal, infection spread by rats that causes fever and swellings on the body
44. acc_____te a chemical reaction *v.* to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly
45. marine ec_____em *n.* all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment
46. en_____us potential *adj.* extremely large or great
47. bu_____re emergency *n.* a large outdoor fire that burns out of control, typically in a wildland area, and is often caused by drought, heat, lightning, or human activities
48. loss of bio_____ity *n.* the number and variety of plants and animals that exist in a particular area or the world and make a balanced environment

ANSWERS: 39. unique, 40. lord, 41. accelerate, 42. catastrophic, 43. plague, 44. accelerate, 45. ecosystem, 46. enormous, 47. bushfire, 48. biodiversity

49. co____e chemically with another substance *v.* to join or merge to form a single thing or group
50. di____sh a reputation *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
51. bir_____ce of modern soccer *n.* the house, town, etc., where someone was born
52. co____e augmented reality *v.* to join or merge to form a single thing or group
53. v__t desert *adj.* enormous in size, number, amount, or quantity
54. de____e his public image *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
55. a c__l-fired ship *n.* a combustible black or brownish-black sedimentary rock that is found below the ground and burnt to produce heat
56. science of ec_____y *n.* the study of the relationships between living organisms, including humans, and their physical environment
57. mac_____ing method *n.* the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data
58. bio_____ity conservation *n.* the number and variety of plants and animals that exist in a particular area or the world and make a balanced environment

ANSWERS: 49. combine, 50. diminish, 51. birthplace, 52. combine, 53. vast, 54. degrade, 55. coal, 56. ecology, 57. machine-learning, 58. biodiversity

59. housing per he_____e *n.* a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters
60. th___e on pressure *v.* to grow vigorously; to make steady progress
61. the ec_____y of the island *n.* the study of the relationships between living organisms, including humans, and their physical environment
62. en_____us amount *adj.* extremely large or great
63. AI expert *n.* (abbreviation for artificial intelligence) the theory and development of computer systems capable of doing activities that would ordinarily need human intelligence, such as object recognition, speech recognition, decision-making, and language translation
64. apply AI technology to art *n.* (abbreviation for artificial intelligence) the theory and development of computer systems capable of doing activities that would ordinarily need human intelligence, such as object recognition, speech recognition, decision-making, and language translation
65. victim of cat_____hic injuries *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
66. the inland of a co_____nt *n.* one of the earth's large landmasses; (adjective) abstaining from your feelings, especially your desire to have sex

ANSWERS: 59. hectare, 60. thrive, 61. ecology, 62. enormous, 63. AI, 64. AI, 65. catastrophic, 66. continent

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The government tried to _____ the commercialization of this development.
 - v. to make something faster or earlier; to cause to develop or progress more quickly

2. The country was instrumental in promoting the _____ treaty.
 - n. the number and variety of plants and animals that exist in a particular area or the world and make a balanced environment

3. The _____ of the historic building took years, but the result was worth it.
 - n. the act or process of restoring or returning something to its original or former state; a renewal or revitalization of something that has been damaged or lost

4. They used a special receiver to _____ police radio channels.
 - v. to observe, check, and track the progress or quality of something over a period of time

5. Many companies are now enthusiastically embracing the knowledge of _____ for sustainable development.
 - n. the study of the relationships between living organisms, including humans, and their physical environment

6. The feudal _____ had ruled the land for many years.
 - n. a person who has general authority, control, or power over others; a man of noble rank or high office

7. Without investment, a business cannot _____.
 - v. to grow vigorously; to make steady progress

ANSWERS: 1. accelerate, 2. biodiversity, 3. restoration, 4. monitor, 5. ecology, 6. lord, 7. thrive

8. The population of _____ has declined due to habitat loss, disease, and climate change.
- n.* a small, tree-dwelling marsupial native to Australia with thick, grayish fur, large furry ears, and no tail, which feeds almost exclusively on eucalyptus leaves
9. The hot and dry weather conditions are making it difficult to fight the _____.
- n.* a large outdoor fire that burns out of control, typically in a wildland area, and is often caused by drought, heat, lightning, or human activities
10. The _____ in the area is quite diverse.
- n.* plants in general, particularly those indigenous to a particular region or spot
11. The vegetation here is almost wholly _____.
- adj.* connecting with or describing someone's birth country or place of birth, or someone born in a specific country or place
12. The farm spans over 100 _____ of land.
- n.* a unit of area equal to 10,000 square meters
13. She _____ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
- v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
14. The painting is _____ and there is no other like it.
- adj.* being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else
15. Human conservation efforts often fail unexpectedly because they disturb the balance of the _____.
- n.* all the plants and living creatures in an area and the way they affect each other and the environment

ANSWERS: 8. koalas, 9. bushfire, 10. vegetation, 11. native, 12. hectares, 13. recreated, 14. unique, 15. ecosystem

16. _____ is the foundation of our economy.
n. the practice or science of cultivating the land or raising stock
17. We are trying to _____ this disease from the world.
v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
18. As people get old, their energies may _____.
v. to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
19. The _____ of civilization is a topic of much debate among historians.
n. the house, town, etc., where someone was born
20. Malaria is _____ in many tropical countries.
adj. (of a disease or other problem) regularly found among particular people or in a certain area
21. Shakespeare's output of poetry was _____.
adj. extremely large or great
22. Our farm experienced a _____ of locusts this year.
n. any epidemic disease with a high death rate; (also called pest) a serious, sometimes fatal, infection spread by rats that causes fever and swellings on the body
23. He heard a _____ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

ANSWERS: 16. Agriculture, 17. eradicate, 18. diminish, 19. birthplace, 20. endemic, 21. enormous, 22. plague, 23. drone

24. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.

- v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

25. A ____ audience viewed the broadcast.

- adj.* enormous in size, number, amount, or quantity

26. Hydrogen and oxygen _____ to form water.

- v.* to join or merge to form a single thing or group

27. Flight across the _____ was a daring adventure in its day.

- n.* one of the earth's large landmasses; (adjective) abstaining from your feelings, especially your desire to have sex

28. The smell of the garbage was very _____.

- adj.* not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance

29. The hurricane _____ the small town, leaving behind destruction and devastation.

- v.* to destroy a significant portion of something or reduce by ten percent; to cause extensive destruction or severe damage; to drastically reduce in size or number

30. The project's _____ made it difficult for the team to complete it on time.

- n.* the state or quality of being complicated or intricate and difficult to understand

31. The teacher attempted to _____ the root cause of our mistake.

- v.* to think about in-depth and evaluate to discover essential features or meaning

ANSWERS: 24. degrade, 25. vast, 26. combine, 27. continent, 28. undesirable, 29. decimated, 30. complexity, 31. analyze

32. These _____ are more prevalent above a certain latitude.
- n.* any small creature that has six legs and a body divided into three sections
33. The evolution of processors has dramatically improved the performance of ____.
- n.* (abbreviation for artificial intelligence) the theory and development of computer systems capable of doing activities that would ordinarily need human intelligence, such as object recognition, speech recognition, decision-making, and language translation
34. I received a _____ of the contract in my email to sign it digitally.
- n.* an exact copy or replica of a document, artwork, or other objects, often produced through photographic or digital means
35. We combust _____ and other fossil fuels to generate electricity.
- n.* a combustible black or brownish-black sedimentary rock that is found below the ground and burnt to produce heat
36. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was _____.
- adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
37. Many software engineers are developing applications to build _____ algorithms more quickly.
- n.* the process through which computers change the way they perform jobs without following explicit instructions by using algorithms and statistical models to analyze and draw inferences from patterns in data

ANSWERS: 32. insects, 33. AI, 34. facsimile, 35. coal, 36. catastrophic, 37. machine-learning