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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Monica Araya: The billion-dollar campaign to electrify transport | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

countdown

n. a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline

synonym : timer

(1) **countdown** clock, (2) wedding **countdown**

The **countdown** to launch began as the astronauts prepared for their mission.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

synonym : contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread

We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

inject

v. to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)

synonym: shoot, infiltrate, insinuate

(1) **inject** under the skin, (2) **inject** a personal opinion into a debate

Let's try to **inject** a bit of enthusiasm into your performance.

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.

automaker

n. a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles

synonym: carmaker, vehicle maker, automobilist

(1) Japanese **automaker**, (2) luxury **automaker**

The **automaker's** sales have increased by 10% this quarter, thanks to strong consumer demand.

circulate

v. to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system

synonym: flow, disperse, rotate

(1) **circulate** a rumor, (2) **circulate** an agenda before the meeting

The fan **circulates** the air in the room quickly.

unthinkable

adj. too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept

synonym: impossible, inconceivable, outlandish

(1) an **unthinkable** coincidence, (2) in **unthinkable** trouble

That accident was something **unthinkable** with my long experience.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

creditor

n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money

(1) the **creditor's** claims, (2) bankrupt **creditor**

I asked the lawyer to initiate **creditor** negotiations for voluntary liquidation.

gigaton

n. a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons

(1) **gigaton-class** bomb, (2) half a **gigaton** of CO₂

The earthquake that hit the Pacific Ocean last night is said to have released about 30 **gigatons** of energy.

philanthropy

n. the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money

synonym: altruism, benevolence, generosity

(1) **philanthropy** organization, (2) private **philanthropy**

Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on **philanthropy**.

visionary

adj. having or showing exceptional foresight and imagination; not practical or realizable; speculative

synonym: prophetic, far-sighted, imaginative

(1) **visionary** business, (2) **visionary** ideas

The **visionary** leader had a clear plan for the company's future.

audacious

adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring;

marked by originality, creativity, or boldness

synonym : bold, daring, fearless

(1) **audacious** stunt, (2) **audacious** decision

The young entrepreneur had an **audacious** plan to start his own company.

unstoppable

adj. impossible to stop or prevent

synonym : unshakable, unyielding, relentless

(1) **unstoppable** force, (2) **unstoppable** momentum

The team's winning streak was **unstoppable**.

fossilized

adj. transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible

synonym : petrified, ossified, preserved

(1) obsolete **fossilized** ways, (2) a **fossilized** grove

The dinosaur bones were so old that they had been wholly **fossilized**, turning to stone over millions of years.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
2. uns_____le momentum *adj.* impossible to stop or prevent
3. vi_____ry business *adj.* having or showing exceptional foresight and imagination; not practical or realizable; speculative
4. wedding co_____wn *n.* a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline
5. gi_____n-class bomb *n.* a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
6. vi_____ry ideas *adj.* having or showing exceptional foresight and imagination; not practical or realizable; speculative
7. the cr_____or's claims *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
8. au_____us stunt *adj.* showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
9. luxury au_____er *n.* a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles

ANSWERS: 1. industrious, 2. unstoppable, 3. visionary, 4. countdown, 5. gigaton, 6. visionary, 7. creditor, 8. audacious, 9. automaker

10. obsolete fos_____ed ways *adj.* transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible
11. private phi_____opy *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
12. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
13. au_____us decision *adj.* showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
14. uns_____le force *adj.* impossible to stop or prevent
15. co_____wn clock *n.* a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline
16. ci_____te an agenda before the meeting *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
17. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
18. half a gi_____n of CO2 *n.* a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
19. in____t under the skin *v.* to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)

ANSWERS: 10. fossilized, 11. philanthropy, 12. empower, 13. audacious, 14. unstoppable, 15. countdown, 16. circulate, 17. industrious, 18. gigaton, 19. inject

20. po_____e the thread *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
21. bankrupt cr_____or *n.* a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
22. phi_____opy organization *n.* the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
23. in unt_____le trouble *adj.* too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept
24. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
25. Japanese au_____er *n.* a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles
26. po_____e the air *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
27. an unt_____le coincidence *adj.* too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept
28. ci_____te a rumor *v.* to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
29. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 20. pollute, 21. creditor, 22. philanthropy, 23. unthinkable, 24. electrify, 25. automaker, 26. pollute, 27. unthinkable, 28. circulate, 29. electrify

30. a fos_____ed grove *adj.* transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible
31. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
32. in____t a personal opinion into a debate *v.* to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)

ANSWERS: 30. fossilized, 31. empower, 32. inject

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The earthquake that hit the Pacific Ocean last night is said to have released about 30 _____ of energy.
n. a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
2. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
3. The _____ to launch began as the astronauts prepared for their mission.
n. a counting sequence leading up to an event, often marked by a series of signals or cues, also used as a term to describe the final stages leading up to a major event or deadline
4. Let's try to _____ a bit of enthusiasm into your performance.
v. to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)
5. The young entrepreneur had an _____ plan to start his own company.
adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
6. The team's winning streak was _____.
adj. impossible to stop or prevent
7. The _____ leader had a clear plan for the company's future.
adj. having or showing exceptional foresight and imagination; not practical or realizable; speculative

ANSWERS: 1. gigatons, 2. industrious, 3. countdown, 4. inject, 5. audacious, 6. unstoppable, 7. visionary

8. That accident was something _____ with my long experience.
adj. too unlikely or shocking to imagine or accept
9. The _____ sales have increased by 10% this quarter, thanks to strong consumer demand.
n. a company or manufacturer that produces automobiles, cars, and other motor vehicles
10. I asked the lawyer to initiate _____ negotiations for voluntary liquidation.
n. a person, company, etc. to whom a debtor owes money
11. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.
v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
12. Tech billionaires often spend the majority of their time on _____.
n. the practice of voluntarily helping the poor, especially by giving money
13. The fan _____ the air in the room quickly.
v. to move continuously or freely around a place or closed system
14. 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
15. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 8. unthinkable, 9. automaker's, 10. creditor, 11. pollute, 12. philanthropy, 13. circulates, 14. empowered, 15. electrify

16. The dinosaur bones were so old that they had been wholly _____ turning to stone over millions of years.

adj. transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible

ANSWERS: 16. fossilized,