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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mark Lytle: How one scientist took on the chemical industry | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

songbird

n. a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush
synonym : songster

(1) migratory **songbird**, (2) tropical **songbird**

Federal law protects the majority of **songbirds**.

exterminate

v. to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds

synonym : eradicate, eliminate, wipe out

(1) **exterminate** pests, (2) **exterminate** communism

The government **exterminated** the invasive species to protect native plants and animals.

marsh

n. a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog

synonym : bog, swamp, fen

(1) **marsh** bird, (2) river-delta **marsh**

Environmentalists are concerned about the harm to the **marsh**.

conservationist

n. a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

synonym : environmentalist

(1) wildlife **conservationist**, (2) dedicated **conservationist**

The extinction of this species has been a significant concern for **conservationists**.

rampant

adj. (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled

synonym : prevalent, dense, uncontrolled

(1) **rampant** growth of weeds, (2) **rampant** corruption

In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be **rampant**.

applause

n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

synonym : clapping, cheering, acclaim

(1) round of **applause**, (2) earn **applause**

The **applause** burst from the audience.

impassioned

adj. having or showing strong feelings, enthusiasm, or dedication or making a strong emotional appeal

synonym : enthusiastic, fervent, ardent

(1) give an **impassioned** defense, (2) **impassioned** plea

He spoke with **impassioned** conviction about the need for change.

dissent

n. possessing or expressing views that differ from those that are officially accepted

synonym : discord, conflict, disagreement

(1) **dissent** opinion, (2) with no **dissent**

The dictatorship crushes all **dissent** severely.

mannered

adj. behaving artificially or exaggeratedly, often to appear more sophisticated or cultured than one is; marked by artificiality or affected behavior

synonym : affected, artificial, pretentious

(1) **mannered** conversation, (2) **mannered** tone

Her overly **mannered** behavior made her seem insincere and artificial.

ignite

v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning

synonym: light, set fire to, ignite

(1) **ignite** a boom, (2) **ignite** passion

He **ignited** the fireworks with a single spark.

hardworking

adj. tending to work with a lot of effort and care

synonym: diligent, dedicated, conscientious

(1) **hardworking** student, (2) retire from **hardworking** life

They sought candidates with **hardworking** and good-natured.

ailment

n. a slight but often persistent illness

synonym: illness, disorder, infection

(1) heart **ailment**, (2) age-related **ailment**

He got timely treatment for his physical **ailment** of severe back pain.

resonate

v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

synonym: echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

swath

n. a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something

synonym: strip, band, fodder

(1) a large **swath** of territory, (2) a **swath** of green grass

The charity organization has helped to provide education to a vast **swath** of the population.

foresee

v. to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future

synonym: predict, anticipate, forecast

(1) **foresee** the consequences, (2) **foresee** challenges

I **foresee** a problem arising if we don't address this issue now.

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.

indiscriminately

adv. done without any distinction or selection; randomly or without careful consideration

synonym: haphazardly, randomly, willy-nilly

(1) act **indiscriminately**, (2) lay off employees

indiscriminately

The soldiers fired their weapons **indiscriminately** during the battle.

mishap

n. an unfortunate or unlucky accident or incident, often resulting in injury or damage

synonym: accident, misfortune, incident

(1) avoidable **mishap**, (2) unfortunate **mishap**

The small **mishap** caused a delay in the construction schedule.

extol

v. to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes

synonym: praise, admire, acclaim

(1) **extol** the beauty, (2) **extol** the benefits

The teacher **extolled** the virtues of hard work and dedication to her students.

overused

adj. used too often or too much, to the point of becoming clichéd; lacking originality

synonym: overworked, overutilized, exhausted

(1) **overused** common, (2) **overused** cliché

The concept of time travel has become **overused** in science fiction and fantasy, with many movies and books exploring the idea.

dissolve

v. to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss

synonym : disband, disappear, liquefy

(1) **dissolve** the sugar, (2) officially **dissolved** the marriage

The political party **dissolved** after much internal fighting.

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**.

spinster

n. an unmarried woman, especially an older woman who is considered past the age of marrying

synonym : maidenhood, celibacy

(1) bitter **spinster**, (2) lonely **spinster**

The independent **spinster** dedicated her life to her career and personal pursuits.

allude

v. to suggest or make reference to something indirectly

synonym : imply, indicate, hint

(1) **allude** to his low origin, (2) **allude** to the planning

He **alluded** to the problem but did not mention it directly.

sinister

adj. giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen

synonym : ominous, foreboding, evil

(1) **sinister** look, (2) in **sinister** terms

The dark clouds in the sky gave off a **sinister** feeling.

cultivate

v. to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants

synonym : boost, foster, nurture

(1) **cultivate** a field, (2) **cultivate** relationships

University is a great place to **cultivate** our minds and expertise.

mastery

n. complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity

synonym : proficiency, aptitude, domination

(1) **mastery** of mathematics, (2) strive for **mastery**

The country finally gained **mastery** over the whole land of its neighbors.

galvanize

v. to stimulate or shock someone into taking action; to cover metal containing zinc to protect it from rust

synonym : energize, invigorate, motivate

(1) **galvanize** steel, (2) **galvanize** the country

The motivational speech **galvanized** the team and gave them the drive to succeed.

environmentalist

n. a person who is concerned with and advocates for the protection of the natural environment

synonym : conservationist

(1) dedicated **environmentalist**, (2) an **environmentalist** political party

The **environmentalist** lobby changed the mindset of many conservative politicians.

lingering

adj. continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave

synonym : prolonged, persistent, enduring

(1) **lingering** illness, (2) **lingering** doubts

The **lingering** smell of smoke clung to his clothes even after he left the campfire.

Session 2: Spelling

1. al___e to his low origin *v.* to suggest or make reference to something indirectly
2. ga_____ze the country *v.* to stimulate or shock someone into taking action; to cover metal containing zinc to protect it from rust
3. victim of cat_____hic injuries *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
4. ext_____te pests *v.* to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds
5. give an imp_____ed defense *adj.* having or showing strong feelings, enthusiasm, or dedication or making a strong emotional appeal
6. lay off employees
ind_____ely *adv.* done without any distinction or selection; randomly or without careful consideration
7. ma_____y of mathematics *n.* complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity
8. wildlife con_____ist *n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife
9. er_____te the deficit *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
10. ig___e a boom *v.* to set on fire; to cause to start burning
11. er_____te racial discrimination *v.* to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad

ANSWERS: 1. allude, 2. galvanize, 3. catastrophic, 4. exterminate, 5. impassioned, 6. indiscriminately, 7. mastery, 8. conservationist, 9. eradicate, 10. ignite, 11. eradicate

12. age-related ai_____t *n.* a slight but often persistent illness
13. cu_____te a field *v.* to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants
14. ext_____te communism *v.* to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds
15. migratory so_____rd *n.* a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush
16. lonely sp_____er *n.* an unmarried woman, especially an older woman who is considered past the age of marrying
17. heart ai_____t *n.* a slight but often persistent illness
18. har_____ng student *adj.* tending to work with a lot of effort and care
19. ex__l the benefits *v.* to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes
20. bitter sp_____er *n.* an unmarried woman, especially an older woman who is considered past the age of marrying
21. fo_____e challenges *v.* to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future
22. an env_____ist political party *n.* a person who is concerned with and advocates for the protection of the natural environment
23. imp_____ed plea *adj.* having or showing strong feelings, enthusiasm, or dedication or making a strong emotional appeal

ANSWERS: 12. ailment, 13. cultivate, 14. exterminate, 15. songbird, 16. spinster, 17. ailment, 18. hardworking, 19. extol, 20. spinster, 21. foresee, 22. environmentalist, 23. impassioned

24. cat_____hic climate change *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
25. ma__h bird *n.* a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
26. with no di_____t *n.* possessing or expressing views that differ from those that are officially accepted
27. re_____te in the same frequency *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
28. a sw__h of green grass *n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something
29. ex__l the beauty *v.* to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes
30. fo_____e the consequences *v.* to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future
31. avoidable mi____p *n.* an unfortunate or unlucky accident or incident, often resulting in injury or damage
32. di_____t opinion *n.* possessing or expressing views that differ from those that are officially accepted
33. si_____er look *adj.* giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
34. ga_____ze steel *v.* to stimulate or shock someone into taking action; to cover metal containing zinc to protect it from rust

ANSWERS: 24. catastrophic, 25. marsh, 26. dissent, 27. resonate, 28. swath, 29. extol, 30. foresee, 31. mishap, 32. dissent, 33. sinister, 34. galvanize

35. retire from har_____ng life *adj.* tending to work with a lot of effort and care
36. earn ap_____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
37. cu_____te relationships *v.* to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants
38. round of ap_____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
39. a large sw__h of territory *n.* a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something
40. act ind_____ely *adv.* done without any distinction or selection; randomly or without careful consideration
41. unfortunate mi____p *n.* an unfortunate or unlucky accident or incident, often resulting in injury or damage
42. di_____ve the sugar *v.* to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss
43. ov_____ed common *adj.* used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality
44. deeply re_____te with the consumers *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
45. ov_____ed clich□ *adj.* used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality
46. li_____ng illness *adj.* continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave

ANSWERS: 35. hardworking, 36. applause, 37. cultivate, 38. applause, 39. swath, 40. indiscriminately, 41. mishap, 42. dissolve, 43. overused, 44. resonate, 45. overused, 46. lingering

47. river-delta ma__h *n.* a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
48. ig___e passion *v.* to set on fire; to cause to start burning
49. ma_____ed tone *adj.* behaving artificially or exaggeratedly, often to appear more sophisticated or cultured than one is; marked by artificiality or affected behavior
50. ra_____t growth of weeds *adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
51. in si_____er terms *adj.* giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
52. officially di_____ved the marriage *v.* to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss
53. ra_____t corruption *adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
54. strive for ma_____y *n.* complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity
55. dedicated env_____ist *n.* a person who is concerned with and advocates for the protection of the natural environment
56. tropical so_____rd *n.* a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush

ANSWERS: 47. marsh, 48. ignite, 49. mannered, 50. rampant, 51. sinister, 52. dissolve, 53. rampant, 54. mastery, 55. environmentalist, 56. songbird

57. li_____ng doubts *adj.* continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave
58. ma_____ed conversation *adj.* behaving artificially or exaggeratedly, often to appear more sophisticated or cultured than one is; marked by artificiality or affected behavior
59. al___e to the planning *v.* to suggest or make reference to something indirectly
60. dedicated con_____ist *n.* a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife

ANSWERS: 57. lingering, 58. mannered, 59. allude, 60. conservationist

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The charity organization has helped to provide education to a vast _____ of the population.
n. a strip of land, especially a long, narrow one; a large amount or quantity of something
2. The government _____ the invasive species to protect native plants and animals.
v. to destroy completely, often referring to the eradication of pests or weeds
3. They sought candidates with _____ and good-natured.
adj. tending to work with a lot of effort and care
4. In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be _____.
adj. (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
5. We are trying to _____ this disease from the world.
v. to get rid of or destroy something completely, especially something bad
6. He got timely treatment for his physical _____ of severe back pain.
n. a slight but often persistent illness
7. Her overly _____ behavior made her seem insincere and artificial.
adj. behaving artificially or exaggeratedly, often to appear more sophisticated or cultured than one is; marked by artificiality or affected behavior
8. He _____ the fireworks with a single spark.
v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning

ANSWERS: 1. swath, 2. exterminated, 3. hardworking, 4. rampant, 5. eradicate, 6. ailment, 7. mannered, 8. ignited

9. The dark clouds in the sky gave off a _____ feeling.
adj. giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
10. University is a great place to _____ our minds and expertise.
v. to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants
11. The _____ smell of smoke clung to his clothes even after he left the campfire.
adj. continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave
12. The _____ burst from the audience.
n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
13. The teacher _____ the virtues of hard work and dedication to her students.
v. to praise or laud highly; to exalt or elevate someone or something by highlighting their positive qualities or attributes
14. The motivational speech _____ the team and gave them the drive to succeed.
v. to stimulate or shock someone into taking action; to cover metal containing zinc to protect it from rust
15. Environmentalists are concerned about the harm to the _____.
n. a type of land that is always wet and has soft soil; swamp or bog
16. The _____ lobby changed the mindset of many conservative politicians.
n. a person who is concerned with and advocates for the protection of the natural environment

ANSWERS: 9. sinister, 10. cultivate, 11. lingering, 12. applause, 13. extolled, 14. galvanized, 15. marsh, 16. environmentalist

17. The soldiers fired their weapons _____ during the battle.
adv. done without any distinction or selection; randomly or without careful consideration
18. The political party _____ after much internal fighting.
v. to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss
19. The country finally gained _____ over the whole land of its neighbors.
n. complete control or power of something to dominate or defeat; great skill or knowledge in a particular subject or activity
20. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was _____.
adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
21. The small _____ caused a delay in the construction schedule.
n. an unfortunate or unlucky accident or incident, often resulting in injury or damage
22. The dictatorship crushes all _____ severely.
n. possessing or expressing views that differ from those that are officially accepted
23. The extinction of this species has been a significant concern for _____.
n. a person who advocates or acts to protect and preserve the environment and wildlife
24. The independent _____ dedicated her life to her career and personal pursuits.
n. an unmarried woman, especially an older woman who is considered past the age of marrying

ANSWERS: 17. indiscriminately, 18. dissolved, 19. mastery, 20. catastrophic, 21. mishap, 22. dissent, 23. conservationists, 24. spinster

25. The sound _____ well in this theater.

v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

26. Federal law protects the majority of _____.

n. a bird with a musical call, such as a blackbird or thrush

27. The concept of time travel has become _____ in science fiction and fantasy, with many movies and books exploring the idea.

adj. used too often or too much, to the point of becoming cliched; lacking originality

28. He spoke with _____ conviction about the need for change.

adj. having or showing strong feelings, enthusiasm, or dedication or making a strong emotional appeal

29. He _____ to the problem but did not mention it directly.

v. to suggest or make reference to something indirectly

30. I _____ a problem arising if we don't address this issue now.

v. to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future

ANSWERS: 25. resonates, 26. songbirds, 27. overused, 28. impassioned, 29. alluded, 30. foresee