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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jacob Soboroff: Why do Americans vote on Tuesdays? | TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

uncover

v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden

synonym: disclose, reveal, unveil

(1) **uncover** a potential problem, (2) **uncover** the truth

He continued his investigation and soon **uncovered** another crime.

vestige

n. a trace, mark, or evidence of something that once existed but has now disappeared or diminished

synonym: trace, remnant, relic

(1) a **vestige** of a castle wall, (2) a **vestige** of the virus

The abandoned building was a **vestige** of the city's past, with nothing left but memories.

president

n. the leader of a republic, for example, the US; the person in charge of the organization such as a company, university, club, etc.

synonym: leader, CEO, chairperson

(1) **president** emeritus, (2) vice- **president** for finance

The club **president** does not have absolute power.

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**.

contest

n. a competition in which people compete for supremacy in a sport or other activity; a struggle between rivals

synonym : battle, competition, match

(1) a speech **contest**, (2) a close **contest**

There was a vast **contest** between the two tribes.

voter

n. a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election

synonym : elector, citizen

(1) an eligible **voter**, (2) **voter** apathy

The election administration nullified the election results because of **voter** fraud.

turnout

n. the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election

synonym : attendance, number, crowd

(1) the voter **turnout**, (2) an enormous **turnout** of people

The gig attracted a large **turnout**.

rank

n. a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others

synonym : position, status, standing

(1) **rank** amateur, (2) high **rank**

He was promoted to the **rank** of captain in the military.

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.

democracy

n. a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so

synonym : self-government, republic, commonwealth

(1) **democracy** advocate, (2) principles of **democracy**
Democracy often entails inclusive capitalism as well.

absolutely

adv. without restriction or limitation; completely or utterly

synonym : completely, utterly, definitely

(1) **absolutely** against, (2) **absolutely** obsessed with the girl

I am **absolutely** opposed to his idea because of morality.

whatsoever

adv. not at all; no matter what

synonym : in any way, at all, in any respect

(1) **whatsoever** it be, (2) without impact **whatsoever**

He refused to do anything **whatsoever** to help her.

declaration

n. a formal or explicit statement or announcement

synonym : statement, announcement, proclamation

(1) **declaration** of independence, (2) unilateral **declaration**

The President made the **declaration** of war.

independence

n. freedom from another's or others' control or influence

synonym : freedom, liberty, autonomy

(1) financial **independence**, (2) **independence** ceremony

There is nothing more valuable than **independence** and freedom.

constitution

n. the set of fundamental principles or established precedents that a state, a country, or an organization is governed by; the act of forming or establishing something

synonym : fundamental law, establishment, formation

(1) the national **constitution**, (2) the national **constitution**

When the **constitution** is amended, it often creates a great

deal of controversy throughout the country

buggy

n. a small, lightweight car, usually with no roof, especially drawn by a single horse; (adjective) infested with bugs

synonym: carriage, cart, wagon

(1) baby **buggy**, (2) **buggy** update

This Middle Eastern resort offers dune **buggy** tours through the desert.

evident

adj. apparent to the mind, senses, or judgment

synonym: apparent, noticeable, obvious

(1) **evident** to all, (2) plainly **evident**

With **evident** joy, he signed his name.

county

n. an administrative division of a country or state, typically one of several comprising a larger division

synonym: district, region, territory

(1) **county** seat, (2) throughout the **county**

The **county's** population has been increasing rapidly in recent years.

sabbatical

n. a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions

synonym: leave, vacation, break

(1) **sabbatical** leave, (2) **sabbatical** year

After ten years of teaching, she took a **sabbatical** to travel the world.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym: captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

prominent

adj. important, well-known, or noticeable

synonym: notable, distinguished, prominent

(1) **prominent** figure, (2) play a **prominent** role

The media frequently interviewed **prominent** scientists.

stump

v. to cause to be perplexed or confused; (noun) the base part of a tree that remains standing after the tree has been felled

synonym: mix up

(1) the riddle **stumped** everybody, (2) we are **stumped** with the problem

He is **stumped** with the question.

origin

n. the first existence or beginning of something

synonym: root, source, ancestor

(1) **origin** of information, (2) racial **origin**

There are various hypotheses concerning the **origin** of life.

congress

n. a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups

synonym: legislature, parliament, assembly

(1) an international **congress**, (2) peace **congress**

Congress must consider this proposal in an unusual situation.

statistics

n. the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data

(1) **statistics** for cancer, (2) official **statistics**

The **statistics** demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.

verge

n. the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border

synonym: brink, edge, margin

(1) **verge** of bankruptcy, (2) on the **verge** of tears

He stood on the **verge** of a major discovery.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 1. plainly ev_____t | <i>adj.</i> apparent to the mind, senses, or judgment |
| 2. principles of de_____cy | <i>n.</i> a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so |
| 3. an enormous tu_____t of people | <i>n.</i> the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election |
| 4. the national con_____ion | <i>n.</i> the set of fundamental principles or established precedents that a state, a country, or an organization is governed by; the act of forming or establishing something |
| 5. na___n-state | <i>n.</i> a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture |
| 6. sab_____al leave | <i>n.</i> a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions |
| 7. sab_____al year | <i>n.</i> a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions |
| 8. fa_____te the public | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly |
| 9. un_____r a potential problem | <i>v.</i> to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden |

ANSWERS: 1. evident, 2. democracy, 3. turnout, 4. constitution, 5. nation, 6. sabbatical, 7. sabbatical, 8. fascinate, 9. uncover

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 10. an eligible vo__r | <i>n.</i> a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election |
| 11. pr_____nt figure | <i>adj.</i> important, well-known, or noticeable |
| 12. peace co_____ss | <i>n.</i> a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups |
| 13. a ve_____e of the virus | <i>n.</i> a trace, mark, or evidence of something that once existed but has now disappeared or diminished |
| 14. official sta_____cs | <i>n.</i> the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data |
| 15. el__t death | <i>v.</i> to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something |
| 16. fa_____te the young | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly |
| 17. without impact wha_____er | <i>adv.</i> not at all; no matter what |
| 18. play a pr_____nt role | <i>adj.</i> important, well-known, or noticeable |
| 19. ev_____t to all | <i>adj.</i> apparent to the mind, senses, or judgment |
| 20. racial or___n | <i>n.</i> the first existence or beginning of something |
| 21. throughout the co___y | <i>n.</i> an administrative division of a country or state, typically one of several comprising a larger division |

ANSWERS: 10. voter, 11. prominent, 12. congress, 13. vestige, 14. statistics, 15. elect, 16. fascinate, 17. whatsoever, 18. prominent, 19. evident, 20. origin, 21. county

22. co___y seat *n.* an administrative division of a country or state, typically one of several comprising a larger division
23. dec_____on of independence *n.* a formal or explicit statement or announcement
24. wha_____er it be *adv.* not at all; no matter what
25. or___n of information *n.* the first existence or beginning of something
26. a ve_____e of a castle wall *n.* a trace, mark, or evidence of something that once existed but has now disappeared or diminished
27. the riddle st__ped everybody *v.* to cause to be perplexed or confused; (noun) the base part of a tree that remains standing after the tree has been felled
28. an international co_____ss *n.* a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups
29. bu__y update *n.* a small, lightweight car, usually with no roof, especially drawn by a single horse; (adjective) infested with bugs
30. de_____cy advocate *n.* a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so
31. vice-pr_____nt for finance *n.* the leader of a republic, for example, the US; the person in charge of the organization such as a company, university, club, etc.

ANSWERS: 22. county, 23. declaration, 24. whatsoever, 25. origin, 26. vestige, 27. stump, 28. congress, 29. buggy, 30. democracy, 31. president

32. vo__r apathy *n.* a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election
33. abs_____ly obsessed with the girl *adv.* without restriction or limitation; completely or utterly
34. el__t the school board *v.* to choose someone for a specific position by voting for them; to decide or choose to do something
35. un_____r the truth *v.* to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden
36. we are st__ped with the problem *v.* to cause to be perplexed or confused; (noun) the base part of a tree that remains standing after the tree has been felled
37. ind_____nce ceremony *n.* freedom from another's or others' control or influence
38. high r__k *n.* a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others
39. baby bu__y *n.* a small, lightweight car, usually with no roof, especially drawn by a single horse; (adjective) infested with bugs
40. a speech co_____t *n.* a competition in which people compete for supremacy in a sport or other activity; a struggle between rivals
41. financial ind_____nce *n.* freedom from another's or others' control or influence
42. the voter tu_____t *n.* the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election

ANSWERS: 32. voter, 33. absolutely, 34. elect, 35. uncover, 36. stump, 37. independence, 38. rank, 39. buggy, 40. contest, 41. independence, 42. turnout

43. abs_____ly against *adv.* without restriction or limitation; completely or utterly
44. r__k amateur *n.* a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others
45. ve__e of bankruptcy *n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
46. a seafaring na____n *n.* a large organized community of people living in a particular country or region and having a particular culture
47. pr_____nt emeritus *n.* the leader of a republic, for example, the US; the person in charge of the organization such as a company, university, club, etc.
48. sta_____cs for cancer *n.* the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
49. unilateral dec_____on *n.* a formal or explicit statement or announcement
50. on the ve__e of tears *n.* the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
51. a close co_____t *n.* a competition in which people compete for supremacy in a sport or other activity; a struggle between rivals

ANSWERS: 43. absolutely, 44. rank, 45. verge, 46. nation, 47. president, 48. statistics, 49. declaration, 50. verge, 51. contest

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I am _____ opposed to his idea because of morality.
adv. without restriction or limitation; completely or utterly
2. The _____ demonstrate that poverty and unemployment are genuine problems.
n. the discipline that concerns the collection, organization, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data
3. 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
4. He was promoted to the _____ of captain in the military.
n. a position in a hierarchy of status or authority; (verb) to take or have a position relative to others
5. He refused to do anything _____ to help her.
adv. not at all; no matter what
6. The election administration nullified the election results because of _____ fraud.
n. a person who votes or has a legal right to vote in a political election
7. _____ must consider this proposal in an unusual situation.
n. a formal meeting of the representatives of different countries, constituent states, organizations, trade unions, political parties, or other groups
8. The club _____ does not have absolute power.
n. the leader of a republic, for example, the US; the person in charge of the organization such as a company, university, club, etc.

ANSWERS: 1. absolutely, 2. statistics, 3. nation, 4. rank, 5. whatsoever, 6. voter, 7. Congress, 8. president

9. This Middle Eastern resort offers dune _____ tours through the desert.
n. a small, lightweight car, usually with no roof, especially drawn by a single horse; (adjective) infested with bugs
10. _____ often entails inclusive capitalism as well.
n. a form of government in which the people have the authority to deliberate and decide legislation, or to choose governing officials to do so
11. The abandoned building was a _____ of the city's past, with nothing left but memories.
n. a trace, mark, or evidence of something that once existed but has now disappeared or diminished
12. There are various hypotheses concerning the _____ of life.
n. the first existence or beginning of something
13. The gig attracted a large _____.
n. the number of people who are present at an event or vote at an election
14. The magic tricks _____ the children.
v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
15. The President made the _____ of war.
n. a formal or explicit statement or announcement
16. He is _____ with the question.
v. to cause to be perplexed or confused; (noun) the base part of a tree that remains standing after the tree has been felled

ANSWERS: 9. buggy, 10. Democracy, 11. vestige, 12. origin, 13. turnout, 14. fascinated, 15. declaration, 16. stumped

17. He stood on the _____ of a major discovery.
n. the point at which something is about to happen or where something begins; the edge or margin of something, particularly a physical boundary or border
18. The _____ population has been increasing rapidly in recent years.
n. an administrative division of a country or state, typically one of several comprising a larger division
19. There is nothing more valuable than _____ and freedom.
n. freedom from another's or others' control or influence
20. There was a vast _____ between the two tribes.
n. a competition in which people compete for supremacy in a sport or other activity; a struggle between rivals
21. After ten years of teaching, she took a _____ to travel the world.
n. a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions
22. With _____ joy, he signed his name.
adj. apparent to the mind, senses, or judgment
23. He continued his investigation and soon _____ another crime.
v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden
24. When the _____ is amended, it often creates a great deal of controversy throughout the country
n. the set of fundamental principles or established precedents that a state, a country, or an organization is governed by; the act of forming or establishing something

ANSWERS: 17. verge, 18. county's, 19. independence, 20. contest, 21. sabbatical, 22. evident, 23. uncovered, 24. constitution

25. 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

26. The media frequently interviewed _____ scientists.

adj. important, well-known, or noticeable

ANSWERS: 25. elected, 26. prominent