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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

LeeAnn Renninger: The secret to giving great feedback | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

carpenter

n. a woodworker whose job is to make or repair wooden objects

synonym : woodworker, artisan

(1) a short **carpenter** nail, (2) an apprentice **carpenter**
Carpenter bees are boring holes into the wall.

toolbox

n. a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment

synonym : tool chest, tool kit, tool bag

(1) design **toolbox**, (2) **toolbox** storage

You should always keep a basic **toolbox** in your car in case of an emergency.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym : buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

Confucian

adj. relating to the teachings and beliefs of the Chinese philosopher Confucius and his followers

synonym: Confucianist, Confucianism

(1) **Confucian** rites, (2) **Confucian** ethics

Confucian values such as filial piety and respect for elders still strongly influence many Asian cultures.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

dismal

adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair

synonym: gloomy, depressing, dreary

(1) **dismal** failure, (2) **dismal** performance

The weather was so **dismal** that we decided to stay indoors all day.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

amygdala

n. one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell

(1) the decline in **amygdala** activity, (2) **amygdala** damage

The **amygdala** has been associated with memories of past emotional events.

wonk

n. a person who is very interested in or knowledgeable about a particular subject, especially one regarded as dry or nerdy

synonym : nerd, geek, enthusiast

(1) book **wonk**, (2) tech **wonk**

The political **wonk** analyzed every detail of the debate.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

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**.

crave

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

synonym : desire, yearn, long for

(1) **crave** chocolate, (2) **crave** advice from others

She **craves** success and is always pushing herself to do better.

monologue

n. a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory

synonym : soliloquy, speech, address

(1) inner **monologue**, (2) deliver a **monologue**

The actor's **monologue** was so powerful that the audience was moved to tears.

Session 2: Spelling

1. book w__k *n.* a person who is very interested in or knowledgeable about a particular subject, especially one regarded as dry or nerdy
2. b__r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
3. an apprentice ca_____er *n.* a woodworker whose job is to make or repair wooden objects
4. hu_____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
5. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
6. Co_____an ethics *adj.* relating to the teachings and beliefs of the Chinese philosopher Confucius and his followers
7. a short ca_____er nail *n.* a woodworker whose job is to make or repair wooden objects
8. di_____sh swelling *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
9. cr__e chocolate *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
10. Co_____an rites *adj.* relating to the teachings and beliefs of the Chinese philosopher Confucius and his followers

ANSWERS: 1. wonk, 2. blur, 3. carpenter, 4. humming, 5. confuse, 6. Confucian, 7. carpenter, 8. diminish, 9. crave, 10. Confucian

11. am____la damage *n.* one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell
12. tech w__k *n.* a person who is very interested in or knowledgeable about a particular subject, especially one regarded as dry or nerdy
13. hu____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
14. di___l failure *adj.* depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
15. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
16. co____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
17. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
18. the decline in am____la activity *n.* one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell
19. di___l performance *adj.* depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
20. to____x storage *n.* a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment

ANSWERS: 11. amygdala, 12. wonk, 13. humming, 14. dismal, 15. improvisation, 16. confuse, 17. blur, 18. amygdala, 19. dismal, 20. toolbox

21. deliver a mo_____ue *n.* a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory
22. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
23. design to_____x *n.* a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment
24. di_____sh a reputation *v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
25. inner mo_____ue *n.* a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory
26. cr__e advice from others *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

ANSWERS: 21. monologue, 22. improvisation, 23. toolbox, 24. diminish, 25. monologue, 26. crave

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ has been associated with memories of past emotional events.
n. one of two parts of the almond-shaped neural structure that are linked to emotions, especially fear and pleasure, memory, and the sense of smell

2. _____ values such as filial piety and respect for elders still strongly influence many Asian cultures.
adj. relating to the teachings and beliefs of the Chinese philosopher Confucius and his followers

3. You should always keep a basic _____ in your car in case of an emergency.
n. a container or storage unit for tools, typically characterized by a handle and one or more compartments for organizing and storing various tools and equipment

4. The actor's _____ was so powerful that the audience was moved to tears.
n. a solo speech or performance given by one person, typically in a theatrical or storytelling context, and often used to reveal aspects of the speaker's thoughts, feelings, or backstory

5. Her remarks _____ the debate.
v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

6. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

7. The weather was so _____ that we decided to stay indoors all day.
adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair

ANSWERS: 1. amygdala, 2. Confucian, 3. toolbox, 4. monologue, 5. confused, 6. humming, 7. dismal

8. As people get old, their energies may _____.
- v.* to reduce or be reduced in size, extent, or importance; to make something smaller, weaker, etc.
9. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
- n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
10. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
11. _____ bees are boring holes into the wall.
- n.* a woodworker whose job is to make or repair wooden objects
12. The political _____ analyzed every detail of the debate.
- n.* a person who is very interested in or knowledgeable about a particular subject, especially one regarded as dry or nerdy
13. She _____ success and is always pushing herself to do better.
- v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

ANSWERS: 8. diminish, 9. blur, 10. improvisation, 11. Carpenter, 12. wonk, 13. craves