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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

John Marshall: 3 strategies for effectively talking about climate change | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/john_marshall_3_strategies_for_effectively_talking_about_climate_change

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

irreversible

adj. impossible to change or return to a previous condition

synonym: irrevocable, unrecoverable, permanent

(1) avoid **irreversible** damage, (2) an **irreversible** change

The development of agricultural technology has had an **irreversible** impact on humanity.

methane

n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

(1) atmospheric **methane**, (2) reduce **methane** emissions

The ignition of **methane** gas in the plant killed five employees.

anthropogenic

adj. relating to or resulting from human activity or influence on the environment or climate

synonym: human-caused, manufactured, artificial

(1) **anthropogenic** impact, (2) **anthropogenic** pollution

Anthropogenic climate change is a significant concern for the future of our planet.

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.

decarbonize

v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy

synonym: decoke, decarburise, decarburize

(1) **decarbonize** their manufacturing process,

(2) **decarbonize** its energy system

We have to seek methods to **decarbonize** its fossil fuel economy.

aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

synonym: ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

hopeless

adj. having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

synonym: despairing, helpless, futile

(1) **hopeless** situation, (2) **hopeless** at everything

After months of job searching, he felt **hopeless** and unsure of his future.

depletion

n. the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level

synonym: exhaustion, deficiency, reduction

(1) **depletion** of bodily fluids, (2) **depletion** of ozone

The **depletion** of natural resources is a major concern for environmentalists.

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.

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.

overheat

v. to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot

synonym: become too hot, heat up too much

(1) **overheat** while charging, (2) starts to **overheat**

The car engine **overheated** and had to be repaired.

arcane

adj. mysterious or known only by a select few

synonym: mysterious, obscure, hidden

(1) **arcane** knowledge, (2) **arcane** subject

The **arcane** rituals of the secret society were known only to a select few.

rudder

n. a flat, vertical blade at the rear of a vessel that can be turned horizontally to steer the vessel by changing its direction of movement; a device used in aircraft to control its yaw (side-to-side movement)

synonym: helm, tiller, steering gear

(1) **rudder** control, (2) **rudder** movement

The small boat's **rudder** was damaged in the storm, making it difficult to steer.

epiphany

n. a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

synonym: revelation, enlightenment, insight

(1) **epiphany** about life, (2) Feast of **Epiphany**

She had an **epiphany** while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.

awaken

v. to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping

synonym: rouse, arouse, revive

(1) **awaken** at daybreak, (2) **awaken** a child

The friend's death **awakens** them.

elevate

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

synonym: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

arctic

adj. of or relating to the region around the North Pole or the Arctic Ocean; very cold

synonym: cold, frozen, polar

(1) **arctic** ice, (2) high **arctic**

Cold temperatures and long, dark winters characterize the **arctic** climate.

wildfire

n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

synonym: blaze, bonfire, flame

(1) **wildfire** spread, (2) arson-caused **wildfire**

The **wildfire** destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.

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.

alligator

n. a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China

synonym : crocodile, caiman, gator

(1) **alligator** habitat, (2) **alligator** watch strap

Alligator skin is used to make purses, boots, and other luxury goods.

inhabitant

n. a person or an animal that lives in a particular place

synonym : dweller, occupant, resident

(1) the early **inhabitants** of Europe, (2) **inhabitant** tax

His family is the oldest **inhabitant** of the island.

colossal

adj. extremely large and impressive

synonym : gigantic, huge, enormous

(1) **colossal** statue, (2) a **colossal** success

The new building is truly **colossal**, towering over the surrounding buildings.

Session 2: Spelling

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|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. hu____g sound | <i>adj.</i> producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee |
| 2. el____e a close relationship | <i>v.</i> to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position |
| 3. de____te a few hours | <i>v.</i> to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use |
| 4. hu____g bird | <i>adj.</i> producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee |
| 5. ho____ss at everything | <i>adj.</i> having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success |
| 6. starts to ov____at | <i>v.</i> to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot |
| 7. inh____nt tax | <i>n.</i> a person or an animal that lives in a particular place |
| 8. an env____ist political party | <i>n.</i> a person who is concerned with and advocates for the protection of the natural environment |
| 9. co____e the listener | <i>v.</i> to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand |
| 10. po____e the air | <i>v.</i> 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 |

ANSWERS: 1. humming, 2. elevate, 3. dedicate, 4. humming, 5. hopeless, 6. overheat, 7. inhabitant, 8. environmentalist, 9. confuse, 10. pollute

11. ar___e subject	<i>adj.</i> mysterious or known only by a select few
12. wi_____re spread	<i>n.</i> a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
13. asp_____on into the lungs	<i>n.</i> a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
14. dedicated env_____ist	<i>n.</i> a person who is concerned with and advocates for the protection of the natural environment
15. dec_____ze its energy system	<i>v.</i> to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
16. co_____al statue	<i>adj.</i> extremely large and impressive
17. arson-caused wi_____re	<i>n.</i> a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
18. de_____on of ozone	<i>n.</i> the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
19. ho_____ss situation	<i>adj.</i> having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success
20. high ar_____c	<i>adj.</i> of or relating to the region around the North Pole or the Arctic Ocean; very cold
21. no asp_____on for fame	<i>n.</i> a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
22. ant_____nic pollution	<i>adj.</i> relating to or resulting from human activity or influence on the environment or climate

ANSWERS: 11. arcane, 12. wildfire, 13. aspiration, 14. environmentalist, 15. decarbonize, 16. colossal, 17. wildfire, 18. depletion, 19. hopeless, 20. arctic, 21. aspiration, 22. anthropogenic

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| 23. Feast of Ep_____ny | <i>n.</i> a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus |
| 24. dec_____ze their manufacturing process | <i>v.</i> to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy |
| 25. po_____e the thread | <i>v.</i> 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 |
| 26. ru____r control | <i>n.</i> a flat, vertical blade at the rear of a vessel that can be turned horizontally to steer the vessel by changing its direction of movement; a device used in aircraft to control its yaw (side-to-side movement) |
| 27. ov_____at while charging | <i>v.</i> to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot |
| 28. el_____e educational standards | <i>v.</i> to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position |
| 29. de_____te a chapter to the subject | <i>v.</i> to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use |
| 30. avoid irr_____ble damage | <i>adj.</i> impossible to change or return to a previous condition |

ANSWERS: 23. epiphany, 24. decarbonize, 25. pollute, 26. rudder, 27. overheat, 28. elevate, 29. dedicate, 30. irreversible

31. reduce me____e emissions	<i>n.</i> a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH ₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
32. de_____on of bodily fluids	<i>n.</i> the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
33. co____e fantasy with reality	<i>v.</i> to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
34. aw____n at daybreak	<i>v.</i> to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
35. ar____e knowledge	<i>adj.</i> mysterious or known only by a select few
36. ar____c ice	<i>adj.</i> of or relating to the region around the North Pole or the Arctic Ocean; very cold
37. an irr_____ble change	<i>adj.</i> impossible to change or return to a previous condition
38. the early inh_____nts of Europe	<i>n.</i> a person or an animal that lives in a particular place
39. aw____n a child	<i>v.</i> to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
40. ep_____ny about life	<i>n.</i> a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
41. a co____al success	<i>adj.</i> extremely large and impressive
42. ant_____nic impact	<i>adj.</i> relating to or resulting from human activity or influence on the environment or climate

ANSWERS: 31. methane, 32. depletion, 33. confuse, 34. awaken, 35. arcane, 36. arctic, 37. irreversible, 38. inhabitant, 39. awaken, 40. epiphany, 41. colossal, 42. anthropogenic

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|--------------------------|--|
| 43. atmospheric me____e | <i>n.</i> a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH ₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel |
| 44. ru____r movement | <i>n.</i> a flat, vertical blade at the rear of a vessel that can be turned horizontally to steer the vessel by changing its direction of movement; a device used in aircraft to control its yaw (side-to-side movement) |
| 45. al____or habitat | <i>n.</i> a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China |
| 46. al____or watch strap | <i>n.</i> a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China |

ANSWERS: 43. methane, 44. rudder, 45. alligator, 46. alligator

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
2. The _____ of natural resources is a major concern for environmentalists.
n. the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
3. _____ climate change is a significant concern for the future of our planet.
adj. relating to or resulting from human activity or influence on the environment or climate
4. 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
5. He _____ his life to helping others.
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
6. The small boat's _____ was damaged in the storm, making it difficult to steer.
n. a flat, vertical blade at the rear of a vessel that can be turned horizontally to steer the vessel by changing its direction of movement; a device used in aircraft to control its yaw (side-to-side movement)
7. Eating food in a hurry _____ blood glucose levels.
v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

ANSWERS: 1. aspiration, 2. depletion, 3. Anthropogenic, 4. humming, 5. dedicated, 6. rudder, 7. elevates

8. After months of job searching, he felt _____ and unsure of his future.

adj. having no hope; despairing; having no chance of success

9. 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

10. We have to seek methods to _____ its fossil fuel economy.

v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy

11. Cold temperatures and long, dark winters characterize the _____ climate.

adj. of or relating to the region around the North Pole or the Arctic Ocean; very cold

12. The car engine _____ and had to be repaired.

v. to become too hot, or to cause something to become too hot

13. 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

14. His family is the oldest _____ of the island.

n. a person or an animal that lives in a particular place

15. Her remarks _____ the debate.

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

16. _____ skin is used to make purses, boots, and other luxury goods.

n. a large semiaquatic reptile with a long tail, powerful jaws, and rough skin, native to the Americas and China

ANSWERS: 8. hopeless, 9. pollute, 10. decarbonize, 11. arctic, 12. overheated, 13. environmentalist, 14. inhabitant, 15. confused, 16. Alligator

17. The friend's death _____ them.

v. to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping

18. The _____ rituals of the secret society were known only to a select few.

adj. mysterious or known only by a select few

19. The ignition of _____ gas in the plant killed five employees.

n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

20. The new building is truly _____ towering over the surrounding buildings.

adj. extremely large and impressive

21. The _____ destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.

n. a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

22. The development of agricultural technology has had an _____ impact on humanity.

adj. impossible to change or return to a previous condition

23. She had an _____ while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.

n. a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

ANSWERS: 17. awakens, 18. arcane, 19. methane, 20. colossal, 21. wildfire, 22. irreversible, 23. epiphany