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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Thomas L. Dawson: What causes dandruff, and how do you get rid of it? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

scalp

n. the skin that covers the top of a person's head, together with the hair growing on it; also, the part of the body that is most vulnerable to an attack

synonym: hair cover, pelt, epidermis

(1) **scalp** massage, (2) **scalp** condition

I have an itchy **scalp** and need to switch to a different shampoo.

dandruff

n. small pieces of dead skin that flake off from the scalp and collect in the hair or on clothing, associated with dryness or other scalp conditions

synonym: flakes, scalp irritation

(1) itchy **dandruff**, (2) **dandruff** flakes

The anti- **dandruff** shampoo cleared up my itchy scalp.

microbe

n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

synonym: germ, microorganism, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microbe**, (2) **microbes** sterilizer

Microbes thrive on the surface of the human skin.

sebaceous

adj. relating to or secreting a fatty or oily substance, particularly in the skin or hair follicles, often associated

with the formation of acne or other skin conditions

synonym : oily, greasy, fatty

(1) **sebaceous** glands, (2) **sebaceous** cyst

Acne is often caused by **sebaceous** oils clogging the pores on the skin.

lubricate

v. to apply a substance, such as oil or grease, to reduce friction or wear on a surface

synonym : grease, oil, make slippery

(1) **lubricate** the economy, (2) **lubricate** the hinges with oil

The mechanic **lubricated** the gears to prevent them from grinding.

follicle

n. a small sac or cavity in the body, especially in the skin or scalp, that contains and nourishes a hair or feather; a small gland or sac that produces and releases a bodily secretion

(1) **follicle** cell, (2) damaged **follicle**

The pigments in your hair **follicles** determine the color of your hair.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym : mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

kink

n. a tight curl, twist or bend in an object, particularly in a piece of wire, hose, or tubing; a peculiar or eccentric liking or habit

synonym : bend, twist, curl

(1) **kink** in the neck, (2) sexual **kink**

The **kink** in the hose was preventing water from flowing

correctly.

irregularly

adv. in a manner that deviates from the normal or expected pattern, often marked by inconsistency or unpredictability

synonym: sporadically, unexpectedly, intermittently

(1) **irregularly** shaped, (2) breathe **irregularly**

He **irregularly** attends school, which reflects his poor grades.

leftover

adj. not consumed or used at the end of something

synonym: extra, residual, unused

(1) **leftover** from a party, (2) **leftover** goods

The chef will make soup with the **leftover** ham bone.

soak

v. to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money

synonym: saturate, steep, douse

(1) **soak** in a hot spring, (2) **soak** away stress

I **soaked** the shirt in the sink before washing it.

pry

v. to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions

synonym: probe, investigate, inquire

(1) **pry** a secret out of a person, (2) **pry** into the affairs

He used a crowbar to **pry** open the locked door.

itch

v. to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it

synonym: scratch, tingle, irritate

(1) **itch** constantly, (2) **itch** to speak

I can't stop **itching** my arm because of the mosquito bite.

proliferate

v. to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner

synonym: multiply, spread, propagate

(1) **proliferate** cells, (2) **proliferate** weeds

The number of COVID cases continued to **proliferate** in many countries worldwide.

epidermis

n. the outermost layer of skin, composed of flat, scale-like cells that provide a protective barrier against external substances and help regulate body temperature

synonym: skin, cuticle, derma

(1) **epidermis** layer, (2) **epidermis** cells

Excessive exposure to UV radiation harms the **epidermis** and increases the risk of skin cancer.

churn

v. to stir or agitate a liquid, substance, or mixture vigorously to produce foam or because of violent movement; to cause a large number of people to move or leave; to produce something, such as money, through continuous activity or turnover

synonym: stir, agitate, whirl

(1) **churn** out manufactured goods, (2) **churn** in my stomach

The cream needs to be **churned** for several minutes before it becomes butter.

clump

n. a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.

synonym: cluster, bunch, bundle

(1) **clump** of bacteria, (2) a **clump** of trees

I heard the **clump** of his boots in the hallway.

flake

n. a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent

synonym: chip, bit, shred

(1) **flakes** of snow, (2) **flake** graphite

She found a paint **flake** on the wall and realized it was time to repaint the room.

voracious

adj. having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or

enthusiastic for something

synonym: ravenous, insatiable, greedy

(1) **voracious** thirst, (2) **voracious** reader

The **voracious** appetite of the teenager was legendary.

colonize

v. to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

synonym: settle, occupy, inhabit

(1) **colonize** planets, (2) **colonize** for cultivation

European powers **colonized** much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

predisposition

n. a tendency or inclination to a particular behavior or condition, often due to genetic or environmental factors

synonym: tendency, inclination, disposition

(1) **predisposition** to anxiety, (2) genetic **predisposition**

Smoking can increase a person's **predisposition** to lung cancer.

permeable

adj. capable of being penetrated, passed through, or absorbed; allowing liquids, gases, or other substances to pass through a surface or material, often with ease

synonym: porous, absorbent, permeative

(1) **permeable** membrane, (2) air- **permeable** fabric

The soil needs to be **permeable** so water can easily drain through it.

oxylipin

n. a type of molecule derived from the oxidation of fatty acids, with a variety of functions in inflammation, immune response, and other physiological processes

synonym: eicosanoid, oxygenated fatty acid, lipid mediator

(1) **oxylipin** metabolism, (2) **oxylipin** signaling

Fish oil is rich in **oxylipins** that have anti-inflammatory effects.

inflame

v. to cause very strong feelings such as anger or excitement in a person or a group of people

synonym: agitate, arouse, enrage

(1) **inflame** skin, (2) **inflame** his passion

Her eyes **inflamed** with crying.

hypothesize

v. to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate

synonym: speculate, theorize, conjecture

(1) **hypothesize** as to outcomes, (2) **hypothesize** what could have happened

Scientists **hypothesize** that the new fish species evolved to survive in deep-sea environments.

embarrass

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project

He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

contagious

adj. able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease

synonym: infectious, transmissible, communicable

(1) **contagious** enthusiasm, (2) **contagious** virus

The disease is highly **contagious** and spreads quickly.

staphylococcus

n. (also staph) a type of bacteria that can cause various types of infections in humans, including skin infections, pneumonia, and food poisoning

synonym: bacteria, microbe, germ

(1) **staphylococcus** aureus, (2) **staphylococcus** bacteria

The patient was diagnosed with a **staphylococcus** infection.

aureus

n. a type of bacteria, particularly the species *Staphylococcus aureus*, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective,

"golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold

synonym: (adjective) golden

(1) **aureus** color, (2) **aureus** infection

Staphylococcus **aureus** is a type of bacteria that can cause skin infections.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ep_____is layer
n. the outermost layer of skin, composed of flat, scale-like cells that provide a protective barrier against external substances and help regulate body temperature
2. fl__e graphite
n. a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent
3. air-pe_____le fabric
adj. capable of being penetrated, passed through, or absorbed; allowing liquids, gases, or other substances to pass through a surface or material, often with ease
4. sta_____cus aureus
n. (also staph) a type of bacteria that can cause various types of infections in humans, including skin infections, pneumonia, and food poisoning
5. s__k away stress
v. to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money
6. le_____er from a party
adj. not consumed or used at the end of something
7. sta_____cus bacteria
n. (also staph) a type of bacteria that can cause various types of infections in humans, including skin infections, pneumonia, and food poisoning

ANSWERS: 1. epidermis, 2. flake, 3. permeable, 4. staphylococcus, 5. soak, 6. leftover, 7. staphylococcus

8. vo_____us thirst *adj.* having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something
9. k__k in the neck *n.* a tight curl, twist or bend in an object, particularly in a piece of wire, hose, or tubing; a peculiar or eccentric liking or habit
10. i__h constantly *v.* to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it
11. ep_____is cells *n.* the outermost layer of skin, composed of flat, scale-like cells that provide a protective barrier against external substances and help regulate body temperature
12. con_____us virus *adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease
13. pro_____te cells *v.* to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner
14. vo_____us reader *adj.* having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something
15. cl__p of bacteria *n.* a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.
16. co_____ze planets *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

ANSWERS: 8. voracious, 9. kink, 10. itch, 11. epidermis, 12. contagious, 13. proliferate, 14. voracious, 15. clump, 16. colonize

17. em_____ss my project *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
18. au___s infection *n.* a type of bacteria, particularly the species *Staphylococcus aureus*, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective, "golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold
19. p_y into the affairs *v.* to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions
20. a cl__p of trees *n.* a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.
21. em_____ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
22. s__k in a hot spring *v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money
23. irr_____ly shaped *adv.* in a manner that deviates from the normal or expected pattern, often marked by inconsistency or unpredictability
24. in_____e his passion *v.* to cause very strong feelings such as anger or excitement in a person or a group of people
25. se_____us glands *adj.* relating to or secreting a fatty or oily substance, particularly in the skin or hair follicles, often associated with the formation of acne or other skin conditions

ANSWERS: 17. embarrass, 18. aureus, 19. pry, 20. clump, 21. embarrass, 22. soak, 23. irregularly, 24. inflame, 25. sebaceous

26. fu___s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
27. sexual k__k *n.* a tight curl, twist or bend in an object, particularly in a piece of wire, hose, or tubing; a peculiar or eccentric liking or habit
28. breathe irr_____ly *adv.* in a manner that deviates from the normal or expected pattern, often marked by inconsistency or unpredictability
29. pre_____ion to anxiety *n.* a tendency or inclination to a particular behavior or condition, often due to genetic or environmental factors
30. ox_____in signaling *n.* a type of molecule derived from the oxidation of fatty acids, with a variety of functions in inflammation, immune response, and other physiological processes
31. con_____us enthusiasm *adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease
32. genetic pre_____ion *n.* a tendency or inclination to a particular behavior or condition, often due to genetic or environmental factors
33. ox_____in metabolism *n.* a type of molecule derived from the oxidation of fatty acids, with a variety of functions in inflammation, immune response, and other physiological processes

ANSWERS: 26. fungus, 27. kink, 28. irregularly, 29. predisposition, 30. oxylipin, 31. contagious, 32. predisposition, 33. oxylipin

34. pe_____le membrane *adj.* capable of being penetrated, passed through, or absorbed; allowing liquids, gases, or other substances to pass through a surface or material, often with ease
35. sc__p massage *n.* the skin that covers the top of a person's head, together with the hair growing on it; also, the part of the body that is most vulnerable to an attack
36. da_____ff flakes *n.* small pieces of dead skin that flake off from the scalp and collect in the hair or on clothing, associated with dryness or other scalp conditions
37. p_y a secret out of a person *v.* to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions
38. itchy da_____ff *n.* small pieces of dead skin that flake off from the scalp and collect in the hair or on clothing, associated with dryness or other scalp conditions
39. fo_____le cell *n.* a small sac or cavity in the body, especially in the skin or scalp, that contains and nourishes a hair or feather; a small gland or sac that produces and releases a bodily secretion
40. mi_____es sterilizer *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
41. co_____ze for cultivation *v.* to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

ANSWERS: 34. permeable, 35. scalp, 36. dandruff, 37. pry, 38. dandruff, 39. follicle, 40. microbe, 41. colonize

50. lu_____te the economy
- v. to apply a substance, such as oil or grease, to reduce friction or wear on a surface
51. hyp_____ze what could have happened
- v. to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate
52. fl__es of snow
- n. a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent
53. sc__p condition
- n. the skin that covers the top of a person's head, together with the hair growing on it; also, the part of the body that is most vulnerable to an attack
54. pro_____te weeds
- v. to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner
55. ch__n in my stomach
- v. to stir or agitate a liquid, substance, or mixture vigorously to produce foam or because of violent movement; to cause a large number of people to move or leave; to produce something, such as money, through continuous activity or turnover
56. se_____us cyst
- adj. relating to or secreting a fatty or oily substance, particularly in the skin or hair follicles, often associated with the formation of acne or other skin conditions
57. au___s color
- n. a type of bacteria, particularly the species *Staphylococcus aureus*, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective, "golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold

ANSWERS: 50. lubricate, 51. hypothesize, 52. flake, 53. scalp, 54. proliferate, 55. churn, 56. sebaceous, 57. aureus

58. i__h to speak

v. to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it

ANSWERS: 58. itch

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The cream needs to be _____ for several minutes before it becomes butter.
 - v. to stir or agitate a liquid, substance, or mixture vigorously to produce foam or because of violent movement; to cause a large number of people to move or leave; to produce something, such as money, through continuous activity or turnover

2. The patient was diagnosed with a _____ infection.
 - n. (also staph) a type of bacteria that can cause various types of infections in humans, including skin infections, pneumonia, and food poisoning

3. He used a crowbar to ____ open the locked door.
 - v. to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions

4. Scientists _____ that the new fish species evolved to survive in deep-sea environments.
 - v. to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate

5. I heard the _____ of his boots in the hallway.
 - n. a small group of bushes, trees, flowers, people, etc.

6. Acne is often caused by _____ oils clogging the pores on the skin.
 - adj. relating to or secreting a fatty or oily substance, particularly in the skin or hair follicles, often associated with the formation of acne or other skin conditions

7. The disease is highly _____ and spreads quickly.
 - adj. able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease

ANSWERS: 1. churned, 2. staphylococcus, 3. pry, 4. hypothesize, 5. clump, 6. sebaceous, 7. contagious

8. The chef will make soup with the _____ ham bone.

adj. not consumed or used at the end of something

9. European powers _____ much of the Americas in the 16th and 17th centuries.

v. to establish a colony in or on a specific place; to settle or occupy in large numbers

10. _____ thrive on the surface of the human skin.

n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

11. The mechanic _____ the gears to prevent them from grinding.

v. to apply a substance, such as oil or grease, to reduce friction or wear on a surface

12. The anti-_____ shampoo cleared up my itchy scalp.

n. small pieces of dead skin that flake off from the scalp and collect in the hair or on clothing, associated with dryness or other scalp conditions

13. She found a paint _____ on the wall and realized it was time to repaint the room.

n. a small, thin piece or layer of something, often with a flat or irregular shape; a person who is unreliable or inconsistent

14. Fish oil is rich in _____ that have anti-inflammatory effects.

n. a type of molecule derived from the oxidation of fatty acids, with a variety of functions in inflammation, immune response, and other physiological processes

15. Smoking can increase a person's _____ to lung cancer.

n. a tendency or inclination to a particular behavior or condition, often due to genetic or environmental factors

ANSWERS: 8. leftover, 9. colonized, 10. Microbes, 11. lubricated, 12. dandruff, 13. flake, 14. oxylipins, 15. predisposition

16. I _____ the shirt in the sink before washing it.

- v.* to allow liquid to be absorbed, typically by immersing in it; to leave as a guarantee in return for money

17. Staphylococcus _____ is a type of bacteria that can cause skin infections.

- n.* a type of bacteria, particularly the species Staphylococcus aureus, that can cause a range of infections in humans and animals, often resistant to antibiotics and can be difficult to treat; (adjective, "golden" or "of gold" in Latin) relating to something that is gold-colored or has properties similar to gold

18. He _____ attends school, which reflects his poor grades.

- adv.* in a manner that deviates from the normal or expected pattern, often marked by inconsistency or unpredictability

19. Excessive exposure to UV radiation harms the _____ and increases the risk of skin cancer.

- n.* the outermost layer of skin, composed of flat, scale-like cells that provide a protective barrier against external substances and help regulate body temperature

20. I have an itchy _____ and need to switch to a different shampoo.

- n.* the skin that covers the top of a person's head, together with the hair growing on it; also, the part of the body that is most vulnerable to an attack

21. I can't stop _____ my arm because of the mosquito bite.

- v.* to have an uncomfortable feeling on the skin that makes you want to scratch it

22. The _____ in the hose was preventing water from flowing correctly.

- n.* a tight curl, twist or bend in an object, particularly in a piece of wire, hose, or tubing; a peculiar or eccentric liking or habit

ANSWERS: 16. soaked, 17. aureus, 18. irregularly, 19. epidermis, 20. scalp, 21. itching, 22. kink

23. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

- n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

24. The pigments in your hair _____ determine the color of your hair.

- n.* a small sac or cavity in the body, especially in the skin or scalp, that contains and nourishes a hair or feather; a small gland or sac that produces and releases a bodily secretion

25. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.

- v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

26. The soil needs to be _____ so water can easily drain through it.

- adj.* capable of being penetrated, passed through, or absorbed; allowing liquids, gases, or other substances to pass through a surface or material, often with ease

27. Her eyes _____ with crying.

- v.* to cause very strong feelings such as anger or excitement in a person or a group of people

28. The _____ appetite of the teenager was legendary.

- adj.* having a very strong appetite or desire for something, especially for food or activity; extremely eager or enthusiastic for something

29. The number of COVID cases continued to _____ in many countries worldwide.

- v.* to grow or increase rapidly in number; to reproduce or spread rapidly, especially in an uncontrolled manner

ANSWERS: 23. fungus, 24. follicles, 25. embarrass, 26. permeable, 27. inflamed, 28. voracious, 29. proliferate

ANSWERS: