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Stephanie Honchell Smith: The rise and fall of the Mughal Empire | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sultan

n. a king or ruler of an Islamic country or state, particularly in the Middle East; a title of respect for a Muslim ruler or leader

synonym : emperor, monarch, king

(1) the **sultan's** throne, (2) Ottoman **sultan**

The **sultan's** royal guard is highly skilled and fiercely loyal to him.

quash

v. to suppress or put down forcibly, particularly a rebellion, protest, or opposition; to nullify or reject a decision, judgment, or ruling that is seen as unjust or erroneous; to silence or extinguish a rumor or controversy

synonym : subdue, annul, nullify

(1) **quash** a rumor, (2) **quash** a rebellion

The court decided to **quash** the charges against the accused due to lack of evidence.

cannon

n. a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting

synonym : artillery, gun, ordnance

(1) **cannon** salute, (2) **cannon** ball

The heavy **cannon** fired a loud shot that echoed across the battlefield.

musket

n. a long, smoothbore gun used in warfare from the 16th to 19th centuries, typically fired from the shoulder and loaded through the muzzle

synonym : rifle, firearm, gun

(1) antique **musket**, (2) civil war **musket**

The **musket** ball was made of lead and could cause serious injuries or even death to those hit by it.

startle

v. to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event

synonym : frighten, shock, surprise

(1) **startle** for a moment, (2) **startle** the world

The loud bang outside the window caused him to **startle** and spill his coffee.

trample

v. to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury

synonym : tread, stomp, crush

(1) **trample** down his feelings, (2) **trample** on the rights

The plants in this garden are precious, so you must not **trample** them.

descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

synonym : dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

conquer

v. to bring under control by force or authority

synonym : defeat, overpower, subdue

(1) **conquer** fatal disease, (2) **conquer** the world

You must **conquer** your anxiety about driving.

foothold

n. a secure or reliable position in a particular situation, allowing for further progress or expansion; a firm grip or support on a surface

synonym : toehold, base, foundation

(1) establish a **foothold**, (2) military **foothold**

The company is looking to gain a **foothold** in the emerging market.

descendant

n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal

synonym : child, offspring, heir

(1) **descendant** of a pioneer, (2) third-generation

descendant

Those warriors' **descendants** are still skilled archers.

memoir

n. a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events

synonym : bio, biography

(1) family **memoir**, (2) publish a **memoir**

He wrote his **memoirs** while awaiting trial.

immortalize

v. to prevent someone or something from being forgotten permanently

synonym : eternalize, perpetuate, memorialize

(1) **immortalize** a person in verse, (2) **immortalize** his name

This melody **immortalized** its composer.

grandchild

n. a child of someone's son or daughter

synonym : offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

depict

v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

synonym : illustrate, describe, express

(1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation

His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

slump

- v. to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality

synonym : drop, sink, sag

(1) **slump** against pillows, (2) economic **slump**

Sales of the product **slumped** after the negative reviews were published.

peasant

- n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society

synonym : farmer, laborer, rustic

(1) **peasant** class, (2) exploited **peasant**

Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a **peasant**, but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.

embark

- v. to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something

synonym : enter, undertake, commence

(1) **embark** on a trip, (2) **embark** on a foolish adventure

We **embarked** on a new project.

allegiance

- n. loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty

synonym : loyalty, devotion, faithfulness

(1) loyal **allegiance**, (2) show **allegiance**

The soldiers pledged their **allegiance** to their country.

conquest

- n. the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation

synonym : subjugation, domination, mastery

(1) imperial **conquest**, (2) make a **conquest**

He continued to grow his empire through **conquest**.

incalculable

adj. impossible to calculate or determine accurately; too great or numerous to be measured or counted

synonym: immeasurable, incomputable, infinite

(1) **incalculable** damage, (2) **incalculable** consequences

The **incalculable** amount of stars in the universe is mind-boggling.

cohesion

n. the act or state of keeping or sticking together

synonym: coherence, coherency, cohesiveness

(1) social **cohesion**, (2) the **cohesion** of a team

We gain higher levels of social **cohesion** and stability.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym: sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

peacock

n. a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family

(1) as proud as a **peacock**, (2) male **peacock**

The vibrant feathers of the **peacock** made it stand out in the garden.

emperor

n. the male ruler of an empire

synonym: ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor**

The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

opioid

n. substances that have an effect similar to opium, such as morphine, used in medicines to treat severe pain, but some people take them illegally for pleasure and become addicted

(1) an **opioid** analgesic, (2) **opioid** receptor

Treatment for **opioid** dependence may be a long-term process.

rein

n. a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control

synonym : strap, harness, headstall

(1) tight **rein**, (2) **rein** in costs

The new driver struggled to keep a firm grip on the **rein** as the horse bolted.

traitor

n. a person who betrays someone or something, such as a friend, cause, or principle, to which they had previously been loyal; a person who commits treason against their country or sovereign

synonym : betrayal, turncoat, renegade

(1) political **traitor**, (2) notorious **traitor**

The government branded him a **traitor** after he leaked classified information to the press.

rebellion

n. an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler

synonym : insurrection, uprising, revolt

(1) **rebellion** leader, (2) excite **rebellion**

The antigovernment **rebellion** was put down quickly by the government's military forces.

slay

v. to kill violently, especially with a weapon

synonym : kill, murder, eliminate

(1) **slay** a dragon, (2) **slay** civilians

The singer **slayed** the audience with her powerful voice and amazing performance.

turmoil

n. a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions

synonym: chaos, confusion, disorder

(1) political **turmoil**, (2) the **turmoil** of the war

The company experienced financial **turmoil** after the CEO was arrested.

troop

n. a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

synonym: group, unit, band

(1) the members of a military **troop**, (2) a **troop** of deer

The **troop** of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.

revolt

n. to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

synonym: rebellion, uprising, insurgence

(1) **revolt** against existing ways of thinking, (2) **revolt** against the dictator

The people tried to **revolt** to oust the tyrant.

depose

v. to compel to depart; to remove from office

synonym: displace, oust, expel

(1) **depose** a prime minister, (2) **deposed** dictator

The citizens **deposed** the monarch.

exile

n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons

synonym: banishment, expulsion, deportation

(1) **exile** community, (2) political **exile**

The **exiled** king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. excite re_____on | <i>n.</i> an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler |
| 2. imm_____ze a person in verse | <i>v.</i> to prevent someone or something from being forgotten permanently |
| 3. co_____r fatal disease | <i>v.</i> to bring under control by force or authority |
| 4. dis_____nt the audience | <i>v.</i> to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad |
| 5. military fo_____ld | <i>n.</i> a secure or reliable position in a particular situation, allowing for further progress or expansion; a firm grip or support on a surface |
| 6. de_____d by elevator | <i>v.</i> to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood |
| 7. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship | <i>n.</i> a child of someone's son or daughter |
| 8. em_____k on a trip | <i>v.</i> to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something |
| 9. third-generation des_____nt | <i>n.</i> children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal |
| 10. publish a me_____r | <i>n.</i> a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events |
| 11. civil war mu_____t | <i>n.</i> a long, smoothbore gun used in warfare from the 16th to 19th centuries, typically fired from the shoulder and loaded through the muzzle |

ANSWERS: 1. rebellion, 2. immortalize, 3. conquer, 4. disappoint, 5. foothold, 6. descend, 7. grandchild, 8. embark, 9. descendant, 10. memoir, 11. musket

12. de___t a feeling of isolation v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
13. notorious tr____r n. a person who betrays someone or something, such as a friend, cause, or principle, to which they had previously been loyal; a person who commits treason against their country or sovereign
14. de____d a steep hill v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
15. st____e the world v. to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event
16. qu__h a rumor v. to suppress or put down forcibly, particularly a rebellion, protest, or opposition; to nullify or reject a decision, judgment, or ruling that is seen as unjust or erroneous; to silence or extinguish a rumor or controversy
17. don't dis____nt me v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
18. economic sl__p v. to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality

ANSWERS: 12. depict, 13. traitor, 14. descend, 15. startle, 16. quash, 17. disappoint, 18. slump

19. the co____on of a team *n.* the act or state of keeping or sticking together
20. political tu____l *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
21. political ex__e *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
22. ex__e community *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
23. the tu____l of the war *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
24. pe____t class *n.* a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
25. de____ed dictator *v.* to compel to depart; to remove from office
26. r__n in costs *n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control
27. tr____e down his feelings *v.* to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury

ANSWERS: 19. cohesion, 20. turmoil, 21. exile, 22. exile, 23. turmoil, 24. peasant, 25. depose, 26. rein, 27. trample

28. co_____r the world *v.* to bring under control by force or authority
29. family me____r *n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
30. des_____nt of a pioneer *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
31. as proud as a pe____k *n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
32. former em____r *n.* the male ruler of an empire
33. re_____on leader *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
34. ca____n ball *n.* a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting
35. Ottoman su____n *n.* a king or ruler of an Islamic country or state, particularly in the Middle East; a title of respect for a Muslim ruler or leader
36. re____t against existing ways of thinking *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
37. loyal all_____ce *n.* loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty
38. em____r of Rome *n.* the male ruler of an empire
39. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

ANSWERS: 28. conquer, 29. memoir, 30. descendant, 31. peacock, 32. emperor, 33. rebellion, 34. cannon, 35. sultan, 36. revolt, 37. allegiance, 38. emperor, 39. intellect

40. make a co____st *n.* the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation
41. gra_____ld development *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
42. op____d receptor *n.* substances that have an effect similar to opium, such as morphine, used in medicines to treat severe pain, but some people take them illegally for pleasure and become addicted
43. political tr____r *n.* a person who betrays someone or something, such as a friend, cause, or principle, to which they had previously been loyal; a person who commits treason against their country or sovereign
44. de____e a prime minister *v.* to compel to depart; to remove from office
45. re____t against the dictator *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
46. exploited pe____t *n.* a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
47. antique mu____t *n.* a long, smoothbore gun used in warfare from the 16th to 19th centuries, typically fired from the shoulder and loaded through the muzzle
48. the members of a military tr__p *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.

ANSWERS: 40. conquest, 41. grandchild, 42. opioid, 43. traitor, 44. depose, 45. revolt, 46. peasant, 47. musket, 48. troop

49. an op___d analgesic *n.* substances that have an effect similar to opium, such as morphine, used in medicines to treat severe pain, but some people take them illegally for pleasure and become addicted
50. s___y civilians *v.* to kill violently, especially with a weapon
51. establish a fo_____ld *n.* a secure or reliable position in a particular situation, allowing for further progress or expansion; a firm grip or support on a surface
52. the su___n's throne *n.* a king or ruler of an Islamic country or state, particularly in the Middle East; a title of respect for a Muslim ruler or leader
53. imperial co_____st *n.* the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation
54. em___k on a foolish adventure *v.* to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
55. social co_____on *n.* the act or state of keeping or sticking together
56. tight r___n *n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control

ANSWERS: 49. opioid, 50. slay, 51. foothold, 52. sultan, 53. conquest, 54. embark, 55. cohesion, 56. rein

57. imm_____ze his name *v.* to prevent someone or something from being forgotten permanently
58. inc_____ble damage *adj.* impossible to calculate or determine accurately; too great or numerous to be measured or counted
59. sl__p against pillows *v.* to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality
60. male pe____k *n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family
61. inc_____ble consequences *adj.* impossible to calculate or determine accurately; too great or numerous to be measured or counted
62. show all_____ce *n.* loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty
63. tr____e on the rights *v.* to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury
64. ca____n salute *n.* a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting
65. qu__h a rebellion *v.* to suppress or put down forcibly, particularly a rebellion, protest, or opposition; to nullify or reject a decision, judgment, or ruling that is seen as unjust or erroneous; to silence or extinguish a rumor or controversy

ANSWERS: 57. immortalize, 58. incalculable, 59. slump, 60. peacock, 61. incalculable, 62. allegiance, 63. trample, 64. cannon, 65. quash

66. a tr__p of deer *n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
67. s__y a dragon *v.* to kill violently, especially with a weapon
68. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
69. st_____e for a moment *v.* to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event
70. de___t a scene *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

ANSWERS: 66. troop, 67. slay, 68. intellect, 69. startle, 70. depict

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.
n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons

2. He continued to grow his empire through _____.
n. the act or process of taking control of a country, area, or situation

3. The government branded him a _____ after he leaked classified information to the press.
n. a person who betrays someone or something, such as a friend, cause, or principle, to which they had previously been loyal; a person who commits treason against their country or sovereign

4. His son had accurately _____ the bloom.
v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

5. The people tried to _____ to oust the tyrant.
n. to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

6. The court decided to _____ the charges against the accused due to lack of evidence.
v. to suppress or put down forcibly, particularly a rebellion, protest, or opposition; to nullify or reject a decision, judgment, or ruling that is seen as unjust or erroneous; to silence or extinguish a rumor or controversy

7. Sales of the product _____ after the negative reviews were published.
v. to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality

ANSWERS: 1. exiled, 2. conquest, 3. traitor, 4. depicted, 5. revolt, 6. quash, 7. slumped

8. We gain higher levels of social _____ and stability.
n. the act or state of keeping or sticking together
9. The _____ ball was made of lead and could cause serious injuries or even death to those hit by it.
n. a long, smoothbore gun used in warfare from the 16th to 19th centuries, typically fired from the shoulder and loaded through the muzzle
10. The company is looking to gain a _____ in the emerging market.
n. a secure or reliable position in a particular situation, allowing for further progress or expansion; a firm grip or support on a surface
11. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
n. a child of someone's son or daughter
12. The heavy _____ fired a loud shot that echoed across the battlefield.
n. a large, heavy gun fired from a fixed position or mounted on a vehicle, used in warfare or hunting
13. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
14. The loud bang outside the window caused him to _____ and spill his coffee.
v. to cause a sudden or unexpected reaction of surprise, alarm, or fear in someone, typically by means of a sudden and loud noise, movement, or event
15. This melody _____ its composer.
v. to prevent someone or something from being forgotten permanently

ANSWERS: 8. cohesion, 9. musket, 10. foothold, 11. grandchild, 12. cannon, 13. disappoint, 14. startle, 15. immortalized

16. The company experienced financial _____ after the CEO was arrested.
- n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
17. She was _____ from an old Italian noble family.
- v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
18. The plants in this garden are precious, so you must not _____ them.
- v.* to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury
19. Treatment for _____ dependence may be a long-term process.
- n.* substances that have an effect similar to opium, such as morphine, used in medicines to treat severe pain, but some people take them illegally for pleasure and become addicted
20. We _____ on a new project.
- v.* to go on board a ship or plane; to set out on an enterprise or subject of study; to start something
21. Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a _____ but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.
- n.* a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
22. You must _____ your anxiety about driving.
- v.* to bring under control by force or authority
23. The vibrant feathers of the _____ made it stand out in the garden.
- n.* a large, colorful, and majestic bird of the pheasant family

ANSWERS: 16. turmoil, 17. descended, 18. trample, 19. opioid, 20. embarked, 21. peasant, 22. conquer, 23. peacock

24. The _____ of soldiers marched through the city in a parade.
- n.* a group of soldiers, especially a large one; a group of people, animals, or things considered as a unit.
25. The antigovernment _____ was put down quickly by the government's military forces.
- n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
26. The _____ royal guard is highly skilled and fiercely loyal to him.
- n.* a king or ruler of an Islamic country or state, particularly in the Middle East; a title of respect for a Muslim ruler or leader
27. He wrote his _____ while awaiting trial.
- n.* a historical account or biography written from the writer's knowledge of famous people, places, or events
28. The _____ amount of stars in the universe is mind-boggling.
- adj.* impossible to calculate or determine accurately; too great or numerous to be measured or counted
29. The _____ once lived in the vast palace.
- n.* the male ruler of an empire
30. The new driver struggled to keep a firm grip on the _____ as the horse bolted.
- n.* a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used to control the animal while riding; a means of controlling or limiting something or someone's actions and behavior; (verb) to control or restrain something, especially something that is becoming excessive or out of control
31. Those warriors' _____ are still skilled archers.
- n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal

ANSWERS: 24. troop, 25. rebellion, 26. sultan's, 27. memoirs, 28. incalculable, 29. Emperor, 30. rein, 31. descendants

32. The soldiers pledged their _____ to their country.

- n.* loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty

33. The singer _____ the audience with her powerful voice and amazing performance.

- v.* to kill violently, especially with a weapon

34. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

35. The citizens _____ the monarch.

- v.* to compel to depart; to remove from office

ANSWERS: 32. allegiance, 33. slayed, 34. intellect, 35. deposed