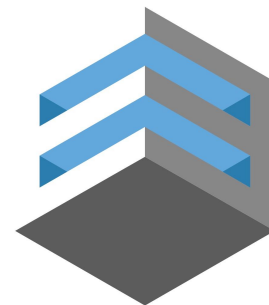


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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Melanie E. Peffer: The artist who won a Nobel Prize... in medicine | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

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.

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.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym: demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

reticular

adj. characterized by a network-like structure or arrangement resembling or related to a net; relating to a reticulum or mesh-like structure in biology or anatomy

synonym: mesh-like, netted, webbed

(1) **reticular** layer, (2) **reticular** fibers

The **reticular** formation in the brain plays a vital role in regulating sleep and attention.

captivate

v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of

synonym: enchant, charm, fascinate

(1) **captivate** public sentiment, (2) **captivate** the mind

The magician **captivated** the audience with his illusions.

conjecture

n. an opinion or conclusion formed based on incomplete information; a theory or speculation that is unsupported by firm evidence or proof

synonym: theory, guess, speculation

(1) **conjecture** theory, (2) scientific **conjecture**

There was much **conjecture** about the cause of the fire, but the investigation is still ongoing.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

chromate

n. a compound or salt containing the chromate ion (CrO_4) used in a variety of industrial applications, including pigments, plating, and corrosion inhibitors

synonym: chromium salt

(1) **chromate** mineral, (2) **chromate** treatment

The yellow color of the paint is due to the use of **chromate** pigments.

deform

v. to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted

synonym: distort, contort, mangle

(1) **deform** the shape, (2) **deform** his way of life

The heat from the fire **deformed** the plastic parts of the appliance.

douse

v. to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner

synonym: drench, soak, saturate

(1) **douse** his anger, (2) **douse** the lights

The firefighters had to **douse** the flames to put out the fire in the building.

nit

n. the egg of a louse (= that is a tiny insect that lives in human hair) or some other insect; a foolish person

(1) **nit** in the dog's fur, (2) she is a little **nit**

Careful brushing can remove **nit**.

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

synonym: nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

hazy

adj. not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something

synonym: blurred, clouded, foggy

(1) **hazy** dream, (2) **hazy** atmosphere

My memories of the holiday were **hazy**.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

aspiring

adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life

synonym: hopeful, ambitious, eager

(1) **aspiring** prime minister, (2) have **aspiring** eyes

He was extremely generous to the **aspiring** young artist.

microscopic

adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

synonym: infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis

Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

upend

v. to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order

synonym: overturn, upset, invert

(1) **upend** a table, (2) **upend** a tradition

The sudden news **upended** their plans for the weekend.

unheard

adj. not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention

synonym: unknown, obscure

(1) an **unheard** story, (2) previously **unheard-of** economic development

The **unheard** melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

Session 2: Spelling

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|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. r_v up the crowd | <i>n.</i> a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute |
| 2. environmental det_____nt | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 3. on the ve__e of tears | <i>n.</i> 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 |
| 4. ve__e of bankruptcy | <i>n.</i> 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 |
| 5. scientific con_____re | <i>n.</i> an opinion or conclusion formed based on incomplete information; a theory or speculation that is unsupported by firm evidence or proof |
| 6. as_____ng prime minister | <i>adj.</i> desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life |
| 7. up__d a tradition | <i>v.</i> to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order |

ANSWERS: 1. rev, 2. determinant, 3. verge, 4. verge, 5. conjecture, 6. aspiring, 7. upend

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|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8. a det_____nt of crop yields | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 9. up__d a table | <i>v.</i> to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order |
| 10. ca_____te the mind | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention or interest of |
| 11. n_t in the dog's fur | <i>n.</i> the egg of a louse (= that is a tiny insect that lives in human hair) or some other insect; a foolish person |
| 12. previously un_____d-of economic development | <i>adj.</i> not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention |
| 13. un_____r a potential problem | <i>v.</i> to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden |
| 14. re_____ar layer | <i>adj.</i> characterized by a network-like structure or arrangement resembling or related to a net; relating to a reticulum or mesh-like structure in biology or anatomy |
| 15. an un_____d story | <i>adj.</i> not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention |
| 16. the branch of neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 17. excite the ne___ns | <i>n.</i> a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body |

ANSWERS: 8. determinant, 9. upend, 10. captivate, 11. nit, 12. unheard, 13. uncover, 14. reticular, 15. unheard, 16. neuroscience, 17. neuron

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|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 18. mic_____ic inquiry | <i>adj.</i> tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy |
| 19. de_____e environmental quality | <i>v.</i> to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others |
| 20. she is a little n_t | <i>n.</i> the egg of a louse (= that is a tiny insect that lives in human hair) or some other insect; a foolish person |
| 21. mic_____ic analysis | <i>adj.</i> tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy |
| 22. ca_____te public sentiment | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention or interest of |
| 23. h__y dream | <i>adj.</i> not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something |
| 24. ch_____te treatment | <i>n.</i> a compound or salt containing the chromate ion (CrO ₄) used in a variety of industrial applications, including pigments, plating, and corrosion inhibitors |
| 25. re_____ar fibers | <i>adj.</i> characterized by a network-like structure or arrangement resembling or related to a net; relating to a reticulum or mesh-like structure in biology or anatomy |
| 26. have as_____ng eyes | <i>adj.</i> desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life |

ANSWERS: 18. microscopic, 19. degrade, 20. nit, 21. microscopic, 22. captivate, 23. hazy, 24. chromate, 25. reticular, 26. aspiring

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|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 27. ch____te mineral | <i>n.</i> a compound or salt containing the chromate ion (CrO ₄) used in a variety of industrial applications, including pigments, plating, and corrosion inhibitors |
| 28. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 29. do__e his anger | <i>v.</i> to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner |
| 30. low-r_v engine | <i>n.</i> a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute |
| 31. con_____re theory | <i>n.</i> an opinion or conclusion formed based on incomplete information; a theory or speculation that is unsupported by firm evidence or proof |
| 32. un_____r the truth | <i>v.</i> to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden |
| 33. de_____e his public image | <i>v.</i> to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others |

ANSWERS: 27. chromate, 28. neuroscience, 29. douse, 30. rev, 31. conjecture, 32. uncover, 33. degrade

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|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 34. de___m his way of life | <i>v.</i> to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted |
| 35. ne___n cell body | <i>n.</i> a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body |
| 36. h___y atmosphere | <i>adj.</i> not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something |
| 37. de___m the shape | <i>v.</i> to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted |
| 38. do___e the lights | <i>v.</i> to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner |

ANSWERS: 34. deform, 35. neuron, 36. hazy, 37. deform, 38. douse

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The yellow color of the paint is due to the use of _____ pigments.
n. a compound or salt containing the chromate ion (CrO_4) used in a variety of industrial applications, including pigments, plating, and corrosion inhibitors
2. Inspectors noticed _____ cracks in the submarine's hull.
adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
3. He continued his investigation and soon _____ another crime.
v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden
4. The _____ melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.
adj. not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
5. He was extremely generous to the _____ young artist.
adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
6. The _____ formation in the brain plays a vital role in regulating sleep and attention.
adj. characterized by a network-like structure or arrangement resembling or related to a net; relating to a reticulum or mesh-like structure in biology or anatomy
7. The firefighters had to _____ the flames to put out the fire in the building.
v. to extinguish or soak something completely with a liquid, typically water; to pour the liquid over something or someone in a sudden and heavy manner

ANSWERS: 1. chromate, 2. microscopic, 3. uncovered, 4. unheard, 5. aspiring, 6. reticular, 7. douse

8. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
9. The heat from the fire _____ the plastic parts of the appliance.
v. to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted
10. Careful brushing can remove _____.
n. the egg of a louse (= that is a tiny insect that lives in human hair) or some other insect; a foolish person
11. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
12. The magician _____ the audience with his illusions.
v. to attract and hold the attention or interest of
13. The sudden news _____ their plans for the weekend.
v. to turn or flip over; to overthrow or upset the established order
14. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
15. My memories of the holiday were _____.
adj. not clear due to a lack of recollection, comprehension, or detail; unsure or perplexed about something

ANSWERS: 8. neuron, 9. deformed, 10. nit, 11. neuroscience, 12. captivated, 13. upended, 14. determinant, 15. hazy

16. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.

- v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

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. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.

- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

19. There was much _____ about the cause of the fire, but the investigation is still ongoing.

- n.* an opinion or conclusion formed based on incomplete information; a theory or speculation that is unsupported by firm evidence or proof

ANSWERS: 16. degrade, 17. verge, 18. rev, 19. conjecture