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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Greg Anderson: Why there's no such thing as objective reality | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

physicist

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

timeless

adj. not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion

synonym: dateless, everlasting, imperishable

(1) **timeless** masterpiece, (2) **timeless** topic

There is a **timeless** aspect to his most remarkable work.

pluriverse

n. a concept in philosophy and cosmology that suggests the existence of multiple universes or realms beyond the observable universe we inhabit, which implies that there are multiple ways of understanding and experiencing the world

(1) the **pluriverse** of cultural perspectives, (2) exploring the **pluriverse**

The concept of a **pluriverse** suggests multiple, coexisting universes, each with its characteristics and inhabitants.

unreal

adj. imaginary; not existing in fact

synonym: false, fake, fictitious

(1) have an **unreal** feeling, (2) **unreal** situation

The idea of winning the lottery seemed so **unreal** that he didn't even bother buying a ticket.

nonhuman

adj. not human; belonging to or characteristic of animals or things rather than people

synonym: inhuman, animal, artificial

(1) **nonhuman** species, (2) **nonhuman** intelligence

The experiment was conducted on **nonhuman** primates.

entitle

v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

synonym: allow, permit, enable

(1) **entitle** him to a pension, (2) **entitle** the company to use the logo

The employee was **entitled** to a week of vacation time.

ancestor

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

synonym: forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

nymph

n. (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform

synonym: sprite, fairy, pixie

(1) **nymph** of the woods, (2) water **nymph**

The sea **nymphs** were said to lure sailors with their seductive voices.

childbirth

n. the act or process of giving birth to a baby

synonym: delivery, labor, parturition

(1) natural **childbirth**, (2) assisted **childbirth**

He was present at the **childbirth** of his children.

divinity

n. the state or quality of being divine; the state of being a god or goddess; the study of religious beliefs and practices

synonym : godhead, deity, divineness

(1) an indwelling **divinity**, (2) **divinity** degree

The ancient civilization revered the **divinity** of the god.

dictate

v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

synonym : read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

nurture

v. to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing

synonym : boost, cultivate, enable

(1) **nurture** love, (2) **nurture** his talents

Schools should **nurture** children's mutual interest spirit.

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.

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.

bloodshed

n. the act of shedding blood, often used to describe violence or war; injury or death caused by violence or conflict

synonym : carnage, violence, killing

(1) bloody **bloodshed**, (2) massive **bloodshed**

The negotiations failed, leading to threats of **bloodshed** between the two countries.

expel

v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country

synonym: deport, oust, dislodge

(1) **expel** him from his native country, (2) **expel** air from the lungs

He took a big drag of his cigarette and slowly **expelled** the smoke.

inseparable

adj. incapable of being separated or disjoined; closely welded or joined together; mutually dependent or closely linked

synonym: attached, connected, united

(1) **inseparable** friends, (2) **inseparable** duo

The two friends were **inseparable** and did everything together.

coexist

v. to live or exist together at the same time in the same place

synonym: cohabit, accompany, synchronize

(1) **coexist** with nature, (2) **coexist** with diversity

The different species can **coexist** in the same ecosystem by filling different niches and using different resources.

symbiotic

adj. involving two varieties of animal or plant, each of which supplies the conditions for the other to exist

(1) **symbiotic** economy, (2) **symbiotic** bacteria

We have a mutually **symbiotic** connection with them.

motherland

n. a term used to refer to one's country of birth or origin, especially in a patriotic or emotional context; the land where one's ancestors or family originated

synonym: homeland, fatherland, native land

(1) **motherland** defenders, (2) songs of **motherland**

He always spoke proudly of his **motherland** during the war.

subordinate

adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

synonym : inferior, secondary, subservient

(1) **subordinate** position, (2) **subordinate** role

The CEO's **subordinate** employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

enlightenment

n. education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge

synonym : civilization, awareness, sophistication

(1) spiritual **enlightenment**, (2) **enlightenment** activity

He finally brought his **enlightenment** to perfection.

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.

arrogance

n. excessive self-confidence or self-importance

synonym : hubris, haughtiness, conceit

(1) brazen **arrogance**, (2) **arrogance** of power

He acted with **arrogance** and was not well-liked by his colleagues.

devise

v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

synonym : create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.

intern

- v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

synonym: apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

conspire

- v. to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose

synonym: plot, scheme, collude

(1) **conspire** his ruin, (2) **conspire** to corner the market

The group of friends **conspired** to pull a prank on their teacher.

individuality

- n. the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind

synonym: personality, distinctiveness, eccentricity

(1) your **individuality**, (2) emphasize **individuality**

He has a strong sense of **individuality**.

enlightened

- adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

synonym: educated, informed, aware

(1) **enlightened** age, (2) make an **enlightened** decision

The **enlightened** teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

imperil

- v. to put something or someone in danger or at risk; to threaten the safety or well-being of something or someone

synonym: endanger, jeopardize, threaten

(1) **imperil** wildlife, (2) **imperil** national security

Ongoing pollution and deforestation **imperil** the survival of many species.

servitude

n. the state of being a slave or being subject to someone else's control or domination; a condition of subjugation or subservience

synonym : bondage, slavery, subjugation

(1) **servitude** system, (2) mental **servitude**

The practice of forcing people into **servitude** is now illegal in many countries.

disastrous

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

synonym : catastrophic, destructive, fatal

(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely **disastrous** effect

The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.

catastrophic

adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

synonym : fatal, disastrous, destructive

(1) victim of **catastrophic** injuries, (2) **catastrophic** climate change

The extinction rate of aquatic animals was **catastrophic**.

ancestral

adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past

synonym : hereditary, inherited, patrimonial

(1) an **ancestral** graveyard, (2) **ancestral** roots

The **ancestral** home has been in the family for generations.

modernity

n. the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture

synonym : contemporaneousness, present-day, contemporaneity

(1) spirit of **modernity**, (2) path toward **modernity**

He was fascinated by the contrasts between traditional life and the city's **modernity**.

magnify

v. to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make

something bigger, stronger, or louder

synonym: enlarge, elaborate, intensify

(1) **magnify** the danger, (2) **magnify** the image for display

Terrorists often attempt to **magnify** the economic impact of their acts of destruction.

Session 2: Spelling

1. water ny__h *n.* (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform
2. emphasize ind_____ity *n.* the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind
3. co_____re to corner the market *v.* to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
4. a co_____al success *adj.* extremely large and impressive
5. theoretical ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
6. earliest human an_____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
7. enl_____ent activity *n.* education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge
8. un___l situation *adj.* imaginary; not existing in fact
9. nu_____e his talents *v.* to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing
10. bloody bl_____ed *n.* the act of shedding blood, often used to describe violence or war; injury or death caused by violence or conflict
11. en_____e him to a pension *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

ANSWERS: 1. nymph, 2. individuality, 3. conspire, 4. colossal, 5. physicist, 6. ancestor, 7. enlightenment, 8. unreal, 9. nurture, 10. bloodshed, 11. entitle

12. natural chi_____th *n.* the act or process of giving birth to a baby
13. di_____e a letter to secretary *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
14. po_____e the thread *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
15. en_____e the company to use the logo *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
16. have an un____l feeling *adj.* imaginary; not existing in fact
17. des_____nt of a pioneer *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
18. sub_____te role *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
19. sy_____ic bacteria *adj.* involving two varieties of animal or plant, each of which supplies the conditions for the other to exist
20. an_____al roots *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
21. brazen ar_____ce *n.* excessive self-confidence or self-importance
22. have dis_____us consequences *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

ANSWERS: 12. childbirth, 13. dictate, 14. pollute, 15. entitle, 16. unreal, 17. descendant, 18. subordinate, 19. symbiotic, 20. ancestral, 21. arrogance, 22. disastrous

23. enl_____ed age *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
24. co_____re his ruin *v.* to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
25. co_____t with diversity *v.* to live or exist together at the same time in the same place
26. assisted chi_____th *n.* the act or process of giving birth to a baby
27. make an enl_____ed decision *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
28. de_____e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
29. di_____e to the associate *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
30. talented ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
31. nu_____e love *v.* to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing
32. medical in_____n *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
33. se_____de system *n.* the state of being a slave or being subject to someone else's control or domination; a condition of subjugation or subservience

ANSWERS: 23. enlightened, 24. conspire, 25. coexist, 26. childbirth, 27. enlightened, 28. devise, 29. dictate, 30. physicist, 31. nurture, 32. intern, 33. servitude

34. absolutely dis_____us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
35. mot_____nd defenders *n.* a term used to refer to one's country of birth or origin, especially in a patriotic or emotional context; the land where one's ancestors or family originated
36. path toward mo_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture
37. ex__l him from his native country *v.* to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country
38. an indwelling di_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being divine; the state of being a god or goddess; the study of religious beliefs and practices
39. massive bl_____ed *n.* the act of shedding blood, often used to describe violence or war; injury or death caused by violence or conflict
40. mental se_____de *n.* the state of being a slave or being subject to someone else's control or domination; a condition of subjugation or subservience
41. di_____ty degree *n.* the state or quality of being divine; the state of being a god or goddess; the study of religious beliefs and practices
42. de___e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
43. third-generation des_____nt *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
44. your ind_____ity *n.* the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind

ANSWERS: 34. disastrous, 35. motherland, 36. modernity, 37. expel, 38. divinity, 39. bloodshed, 40. servitude, 41. divinity, 42. devise, 43. descendant, 44. individuality

45. ins_____le duo *adj.* incapable of being separated or disjoined; closely welded or joined together; mutually dependent or closely linked
46. exploring the plu_____se *n.* a concept in philosophy and cosmology that suggests the existence of multiple universes or realms beyond the observable universe we inhabit, which implies that there are multiple ways of understanding and experiencing the world
47. sub_____te position *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
48. songs of mot_____nd *n.* a term used to refer to one's country of birth or origin, especially in a patriotic or emotional context; the land where one's ancestors or family originated
49. co_____al statue *adj.* extremely large and impressive
50. ex__l air from the lungs *v.* to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country
51. ins_____le friends *adj.* incapable of being separated or disjoined; closely welded or joined together; mutually dependent or closely linked
52. in___n civilians *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

ANSWERS: 45. inseparable, 46. pluriverse, 47. subordinate, 48. motherland, 49. colossal, 50. expel, 51. inseparable, 52. intern

53. spiritual enl_____ent *n.* education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge
54. cat_____hic climate change *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
55. co_____t with nature *v.* to live or exist together at the same time in the same place
56. im_____l wildlife *v.* to put something or someone in danger or at risk; to threaten the safety or well-being of something or someone
57. the plu_____se of cultural perspectives *n.* a concept in philosophy and cosmology that suggests the existence of multiple universes or realms beyond the observable universe we inhabit, which implies that there are multiple ways of understanding and experiencing the world
58. no_____an intelligence *adj.* not human; belonging to or characteristic of animals or things rather than people
59. po_____e the air *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
60. an_____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
61. an an_____al graveyard *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
62. ti_____ss masterpiece *adj.* not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion

ANSWERS: 53. enlightenment, 54. catastrophic, 55. coexist, 56. imperil, 57. pluriverse, 58. nonhuman, 59. pollute, 60. ancestor, 61. ancestral, 62. timeless

63. ar_____ce of power *n.* excessive self-confidence or self-importance
64. ma_____y the danger *v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
65. no_____an species *adj.* not human; belonging to or characteristic of animals or things rather than people
66. ti_____ss topic *adj.* not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion
67. ny__h of the woods *n.* (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform
68. ma_____y the image for display *v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
69. spirit of mo_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture
70. sy_____ic economy *adj.* involving two varieties of animal or plant, each of which supplies the conditions for the other to exist
71. im_____l national security *v.* to put something or someone in danger or at risk; to threaten the safety or well-being of something or someone
72. victim of cat_____hic injuries *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

ANSWERS: 63. arrogance, 64. magnify, 65. nonhuman, 66. timeless, 67. nymph, 68. magnify, 69. modernity, 70. symbiotic, 71. imperil, 72. catastrophic

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ancient civilization revered the _____ of the god.
n. the state or quality of being divine; the state of being a god or goddess; the study of religious beliefs and practices

2. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was _____.
adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

3. The new building is truly _____ towering over the surrounding buildings.
adj. extremely large and impressive

4. He has a strong sense of _____.
n. the qualities or characters that distinguish a particular person or thing from others of the same kind

5. The emission of hazardous substances has _____ effects on the ecology of a region.
adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

6. The allies _____ the terms of surrender to the country.
v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

7. The experiment was conducted on _____ primates.
adj. not human; belonging to or characteristic of animals or things rather than people

8. 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

ANSWERS: 1. divinity, 2. catastrophic, 3. colossal, 4. individuality, 5. disastrous, 6. dictated, 7. nonhuman, 8. pollute

9. The _____ home has been in the family for generations.
adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past
10. He acted with _____ and was not well-liked by his colleagues.
n. excessive self-confidence or self-importance
11. Those warriors' _____ are still skilled archers.
n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
12. The employee was _____ to a week of vacation time.
v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
13. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.
n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
14. Ongoing pollution and deforestation _____ the survival of many species.
v. to put something or someone in danger or at risk; to threaten the safety or well-being of something or someone
15. There is a _____ aspect to his most remarkable work.
adj. not seeming to be altered by the passage of time or changes in fashion
16. Schools should _____ children's mutual interest spirit.
v. to take care of, feed, and protect someone or something while they are growing and developing
17. The two friends were _____ and did everything together.
adj. incapable of being separated or disjoined; closely welded or joined together; mutually dependent or closely linked

ANSWERS: 9. ancestral, 10. arrogance, 11. descendants, 12. entitled, 13. physicist, 14. imperil, 15. timeless, 16. nurture, 17. inseparable

18. He always spoke proudly of his _____ during the war.
n. a term used to refer to one's country of birth or origin, especially in a patriotic or emotional context; the land where one's ancestors or family originated
19. They had to _____ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
20. The idea of winning the lottery seemed so _____ that he didn't even bother buying a ticket.
adj. imaginary; not existing in fact
21. The practice of forcing people into _____ is now illegal in many countries.
n. the state of being a slave or being subject to someone else's control or domination; a condition of subjugation or subservience
22. He was fascinated by the contrasts between traditional life and the city's _____.
n. the quality or condition of being modern; the state or era of being up-to-date in technology, science, and culture
23. He was present at the _____ of his children.
n. the act or process of giving birth to a baby
24. The group of friends _____ to pull a prank on their teacher.
v. to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
25. We have a mutually _____ connection with them.
adj. involving two varieties of animal or plant, each of which supplies the conditions for the other to exist

ANSWERS: 18. motherland, 19. devise, 20. unreal, 21. servitude, 22. modernity, 23. childbirth, 24. conspired, 25. symbiotic

26. The CEO's _____ employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.
adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
27. Terrorists often attempt to _____ the economic impact of their acts of destruction.
v. to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
28. The _____ teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.
adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
29. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.
n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
30. He finally brought his _____ to perfection.
n. education that results in understanding and the spread of knowledge
31. The different species can _____ in the same ecosystem by filling different niches and using different resources.
v. to live or exist together at the same time in the same place
32. He took a big drag of his cigarette and slowly _____ the smoke.
v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country
33. The sea _____ were said to lure sailors with their seductive voices.
n. (in Greek and Roman mythology) a minor female nature deity typically associated with a particular location or landform

ANSWERS: 26. subordinate, 27. magnify, 28. enlightened, 29. ancestor, 30. enlightenment, 31. coexist, 32. expelled, 33. nymphs

34. The concept of a _____ suggests multiple, coexisting universes, each with its characteristics and inhabitants.
- n.* a concept in philosophy and cosmology that suggests the existence of multiple universes or realms beyond the observable universe we inhabit, which implies that there are multiple ways of understanding and experiencing the world
35. The negotiations failed, leading to threats of _____ between the two countries.
- n.* the act of shedding blood, often used to describe violence or war; injury or death caused by violence or conflict
36. The navy _____ ships of defeated nations.
- v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

ANSWERS: 34. pluriverse, 35. bloodshed, 36. interned