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Tracy Edwards: Stop being a bystander in your own life | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

indescribable

adj. not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language

synonym: uncommunicable, indefinable, unutterable

(1) **indescribable** horror, (2) **indescribable** experience

The beauty of the sunset was **indescribable**, leaving me in awe of its splendor.

obsession

n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person

synonym: compulsion, fixation, enthusiasm

(1) **obsession** with character, (2) national **obsession**

Gambling became an **obsession** for him, and he eventually lost everything.

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.

headmaster

n. the chief administrator or principal of a school or educational institution, typically in charge of its daily operation and management

synonym: principal, headmistress, director

(1) **headmaster** position, (2) former **headmaster**

The school's **headmaster** announced the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather.

transatlantic

adj. relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America

synonym: intercontinental, across-the-pond

(1) **transatlantic** cable, (2) **transatlantic** partnership

Transatlantic cooperation is important for global security and stability.

bystander

n. a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene

synonym: spectator, observer, witness

(1) innocent **bystander**, (2) shocked **bystander**

The **bystander** effect is a phenomenon where people are less likely to intervene in an emergency if others are present.

hieroglyph

n. a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egypt

synonym: character, cipher, figure

(1) Egyptian **hieroglyph**, (2) the **hieroglyph** of the bird

Each beautiful **hieroglyph** represents either an idea or a sound.

louse

n. a small, wingless insect that lives on the bodies of mammals and birds, often considered a parasite; a contemptible or despicable person

synonym: bug, insect, parasite

(1) pubic **louse**, (2) **louse** egg

The child was sent home from school because of a lice infestation caused by one **louse**.

wreck

n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

synonym: collapse, destruction, devastation

(1) the house was a **wreck**, (2) a worthless **wreck**

The divers accidentally discovered a **wreck** on the ocean floor.

pedigree

n. the recorded ancestry or genealogical background of a person or animal; a list of ancestors, especially of purebred animals, that documents the genetic lineage of a particular animal or line of animals

synonym: lineage, ancestry, genealogy

(1) family **pedigree**, (2) **pedigree** chart

The dog's **pedigree** proved that it came from a long line of champion show dogs.

horrify

v. to shock or disgust greatly

synonym: shock, dismay, terrify

(1) **horrify** audience, (2) **horrify** victims

The series of terrorist attacks **horrify** the entire nation.

shipyard

n. a place where ships are built, repaired, or stored; a facility or area where shipbuilding or ship maintenance activities take place

synonym: boatyard, dockyard

(1) state-owned **shipyard**, (2) old **shipyard**

The **shipyard** workers are building a massive container ship for international trade.

gawk

v. to stare in a rude, awkward, or uncomplimentary way; to gape or stare open-mouthed at something

synonym: stare, gaze, gape

(1) **gawk** at the scenery, (2) **gawk** in disbelief

The tourists couldn't help but **gawk** at the magnificent architecture of the old cathedral.

preconceived

adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness

(1) a **preconceived** notion, (2) **preconceived** opinions

We should start a discussion from scratch with no **preconceived** ideas.

annoy

v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

synonym: aggravate, irritate, unsettle

(1) **annoy** at the time, (2) **annoy** everyone else

Her constant chatter was starting to **annoy** the neighbors.

chant

n. a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation

synonym: hymn, mantra, (verb) recite

(1) **chant** melodies, (2) **chant** in the chapel

The soccer game crowd broke into a **chant** of "Go, team, go!"

yomp

v. to walk or hike vigorously and energetically, especially over rough terrain; to move with a fast-paced gait for an extended period of time

synonym: march, tramp, hike

(1) **yomp** uphill for several hours, (2) **yomp** through the hills

We had to **yomp** across the muddy field to reach the finish line.

jolly

adj. happy and lively

synonym: cheerful, happy, merry

(1) a **jolly** laugh, (2) **jolly** evening

He was in a **jolly** mood and sang a happy tune.

heave

- v.* to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea

synonym: lift, hoist, tug

- (1) **heave** a sigh, (2) **heave** a boulder

The workers had to **heave** the heavy equipment up the staircase to the top floor.

whitecap

- n.* a mass of foaming water caused by wind, wave action, or turbulence, often seen on the surface of a rough sea or in rapids and waterfalls

synonym: foam, froth, spume

- (1) **whitecap** waves, (2) **whitecap** sailing conditions

The sight of the **whitecaps** crashing against the rocks was an awe-inspiring view.

deprivation

- n.* a state of not having something, such as food or money, that you need for a pleasant life

synonym: poverty, destitution, forfeiture

- (1) chronic sleep **deprivation**, (2) **deprivation** of liberty

Losing him is great **deprivation** to our team.

albatross

- n.* a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par

synonym: seabird, gull, petrel

- (1) **albatross** on the par-5 hole, (2) **albatross** migration

The researcher spotted a majestic **albatross** gliding effortlessly over the ocean.

swirl

v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern

synonym: spin, whirl, turn

(1) **swirl** the wine, (2) **swirl** up dirt and dust

The chef expertly **swirled** the sauce onto the plate.

Session 2: Spelling

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| 1. the hieroglyph of the bird | <i>n.</i> a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egypt |
| 2. a preconceived notion | <i>adj.</i> (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness |
| 3. horrify victims | <i>v.</i> to shock or disgust greatly |
| 4. national obsession | <i>n.</i> the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person |
| 5. jolly evening | <i>adj.</i> happy and lively |
| 6. chronic sleep deprivation | <i>n.</i> a state of not having something, such as food or money, that you need for a pleasant life |
| 7. transatlantic partnership | <i>adj.</i> relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America |
| 8. the house was a wreck | <i>n.</i> a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident |
| 9. whitecap sailing conditions | <i>n.</i> a mass of foaming water caused by wind, wave action, or turbulence, often seen on the surface of a rough sea or in rapids and waterfalls |
| 10. preconceived opinions | <i>adj.</i> (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness |

ANSWERS: 1. hieroglyph, 2. preconceived, 3. horrify, 4. obsession, 5. jolly, 6. deprivation, 7. transatlantic, 8. wreck, 9. whitecap, 10. preconceived

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| 11. old sh____rd | <i>n.</i> a place where ships are built, repaired, or stored; a facility or area where shipbuilding or ship maintenance activities take place |
| 12. ex__l him from his native country | <i>v.</i> to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country |
| 13. hea_____er position | <i>n.</i> the chief administrator or principal of a school or educational institution, typically in charge of its daily operation and management |
| 14. former hea_____er | <i>n.</i> the chief administrator or principal of a school or educational institution, typically in charge of its daily operation and management |
| 15. an__y at the time | <i>v.</i> to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly |
| 16. ho____y audience | <i>v.</i> to shock or disgust greatly |
| 17. ind_____ble horror | <i>adj.</i> not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language |
| 18. a worthless wr__k | <i>n.</i> a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident |
| 19. state-owned sh____rd | <i>n.</i> a place where ships are built, repaired, or stored; a facility or area where shipbuilding or ship maintenance activities take place |
| 20. innocent by_____er | <i>n.</i> a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene |

ANSWERS: 11. shipyard, 12. expel, 13. headmaster, 14. headmaster, 15. annoy, 16. horrify, 17. indescribable, 18. wreck, 19. shipyard, 20. bystander

21. g__k at the scenery
v. to stare in a rude, awkward, or uncomplimentary way; to gape or stare open-mouthed at something
22. an op_____ne remark
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
23. shocked by_____er
n. a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene
24. lo__e egg
n. a small, wingless insect that lives on the bodies of mammals and birds, often considered a parasite; a contemptible or despicable person
25. g__k in disbelief
v. to stare in a rude, awkward, or uncomplimentary way; to gape or stare open-mouthed at something
26. op_____ne occasion
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
27. ch__t melodies
n. a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation
28. family pe_____ee
n. the recorded ancestry or genealogical background of a person or animal; a list of ancestors, especially of purebred animals, that documents the genetic lineage of a particular animal or line of animals
29. al_____ss on the par-5 hole
n. a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par

ANSWERS: 21. gawk, 22. opportune, 23. bystander, 24. louse, 25. gawk, 26. opportune, 27. chant, 28. pedigree, 29. albatross

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| 30. Egyptian hie_____ph | <i>n.</i> a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egypt |
| 31. y__p through the hills | <i>v.</i> to walk or hike vigorously and energetically, especially over rough terrain; to move with a fast-paced gait for an extended period of time |
| 32. pubic lo__e | <i>n.</i> a small, wingless insect that lives on the bodies of mammals and birds, often considered a parasite; a contemptible or despicable person |
| 33. he__e a boulder | <i>v.</i> to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea |
| 34. ch__t in the chapel | <i>n.</i> a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation |
| 35. pe_____ee chart | <i>n.</i> the recorded ancestry or genealogical background of a person or animal; a list of ancestors, especially of purebred animals, that documents the genetic lineage of a particular animal or line of animals |
| 36. tra_____tic cable | <i>adj.</i> relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America |
| 37. ob_____on with character | <i>n.</i> the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person |

ANSWERS: 30. hieroglyph, 31. yomp, 32. louse, 33. heave, 34. chant, 35. pedigree, 36. transatlantic, 37. obsession

38. sw__l up dirt and dust *v.* to move in a circular or spiral pattern
39. al_____ss migration *n.* a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par
40. ind_____ble experience *adj.* not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language
41. wh_____ap waves *n.* a mass of foaming water caused by wind, wave action, or turbulence, often seen on the surface of a rough sea or in rapids and waterfalls
42. y__p uphill for several hours *v.* to walk or hike vigorously and energetically, especially over rough terrain; to move with a fast-paced gait for an extended period of time
43. a jo__y laugh *adj.* happy and lively
44. he__e a sigh *v.* to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea
45. dep_____on of liberty *n.* a state of not having something, such as food or money, that you need for a pleasant life

ANSWERS: 38. swirl, 39. albatross, 40. indescribable, 41. whitecap, 42. yomp, 43. jolly, 44. heave, 45. deprivation

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| 46. sw__l the wine | v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern |
| 47. ex__l air from the lungs | v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country |
| 48. an__y everyone else | v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly |

ANSWERS: 46. swirl, 47. expel, 48. annoy

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The school's _____ announced the cancellation of classes due to inclement weather.
 - n. the chief administrator or principal of a school or educational institution, typically in charge of its daily operation and management
2. Gambling became an _____ for him, and he eventually lost everything.
 - n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
3. The researcher spotted a majestic _____ gliding effortlessly over the ocean.
 - n. a large, oceanic sea bird with long wings and webbed feet, known for its impressive ability to fly long distances (including circumnavigating the globe) and for its association in popular culture with bad luck or misfortune; (of golf) a specific scoring achievement that is rarer than a birdie or an eagle, used when a player completes a hole in three strokes under par
4. The series of terrorist attacks _____ the entire nation.
 - v. to shock or disgust greatly
5. The tourists couldn't help but _____ at the magnificent architecture of the old cathedral.
 - v. to stare in a rude, awkward, or uncomplimentary way; to gape or stare open-mouthed at something
6. The divers accidentally discovered a _____ on the ocean floor.
 - n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

ANSWERS: 1. headmaster, 2. obsession, 3. albatross, 4. horrify, 5. gawk, 6. wreck

7. The beauty of the sunset was _____ leaving me in awe of its splendor.
adj. not able to be described, named, or classified in words or language; too extreme or intense to be fully conveyed through language
8. Her constant chatter was starting to _____ the neighbors.
v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
9. The _____ effect is a phenomenon where people are less likely to intervene in an emergency if others are present.
n. a person who witnesses an event or situation but does not actively participate or intervene
10. Each beautiful _____ represents either an idea or a sound.
n. a writing system using picture symbols, such as the one used in ancient Egypt
11. The sight of the _____ crashing against the rocks was an awe-inspiring view.
n. a mass of foaming water caused by wind, wave action, or turbulence, often seen on the surface of a rough sea or in rapids and waterfalls
12. We should start a discussion from scratch with no _____ ideas.
adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
13. The chef expertly _____ the sauce onto the plate.
v. to move in a circular or spiral pattern
14. The dog's _____ proved that it came from a long line of champion show dogs.
n. the recorded ancestry or genealogical background of a person or animal; a list of ancestors, especially of purebred animals, that documents the genetic lineage of a particular animal or line of animals

ANSWERS: 7. indescribable, 8. annoy, 9. bystander, 10. hieroglyph, 11. whitecaps, 12. preconceived, 13. swirled, 14. pedigree

15. The soccer game crowd broke into a _____ of "Go, team, go!"

- n.* a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation

16. He was in a _____ mood and sang a happy tune.

- adj.* happy and lively

17. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

18. Losing him is great _____ to our team.

- n.* a state of not having something, such as food or money, that you need for a pleasant life

19. The child was sent home from school because of a lice infestation caused by one _____.

- n.* a small, wingless insect that lives on the bodies of mammals and birds, often considered a parasite; a contemptible or despicable person

20. We had to _____ across the muddy field to reach the finish line.

- v.* to walk or hike vigorously and energetically, especially over rough terrain; to move with a fast-paced gait for an extended period of time

21. The _____ workers are building a massive container ship for international trade.

- n.* a place where ships are built, repaired, or stored; a facility or area where shipbuilding or ship maintenance activities take place

22. _____ cooperation is important for global security and stability.

- adj.* relating to or situated on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean, especially about travel communication or cultural exchange between Europe and North America

ANSWERS: 15. chant, 16. jolly, 17. opportune, 18. deprivation, 19. louse, 20. yomp, 21. shipyard, 22. Transatlantic

23. The workers had to _____ the heavy equipment up the staircase to the top floor.
- v. to lift or hoist something heavy with effort; to throw or hurl something, often with force; to rise or fall with a rhythmic motion, as in the heaving of the sea
24. He took a big drag of his cigarette and slowly _____ the smoke.
- v. to officially force someone to leave a school, organization, or country

ANSWERS: 23. heave, 24. expelled