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Alex Rosenthal: The World Machine | Think Like A Coder, Ep 10 | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

ethic

n. a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems

synonym : moral code, code of conduct, principles

(1) moral **ethic**, (2) professional **ethic**

Having a strong work **ethic** is important for success in any field.

unearth

v. to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

synonym : discover, uncover, expose

(1) **unearth** burial mound, (2) **unearth** a mystery

The detective **unearthed** a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.

glee

n. a feeling of great happiness, joy, or pleasure, often accompanied by laughter or exuberance; a sense of delighted satisfaction from a positive result or accomplishment

synonym : delight, happiness, joy

(1) jumping for **glee**, (2) **glee** club

The children's faces were filled with **glee** as they ran around

the playground.

courageous

adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

synonym : brave, valiant, fearless

(1) make a **courageous** decision, (2) **courageous** rescue attempt

He was a **courageous** soldier who had served his country with honor.

distracted

adj. having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried

synonym : preoccupied, inattentive, absent-minded

(1) get **distracted** by an urgent matter, (2) **distracted** by a conversation

I was so **distracted** by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.

idealist

n. a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

synonym : dreamer, idealizer, visionary

(1) **idealist** at heart, (2) an **idealist** perspective

As a dedicated **idealist**, she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.

betray

v. to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally

synonym : fail, denounce, display

(1) **betray** a friend, (2) **betray** confidence

He felt **betrayed** when his best friend revealed their secret to the enemy.

nod

v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym : respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

imprison

v. to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement

synonym : incarcerate, detain, confine

(1) **imprison** illegal immigrant, (2) **imprison** myself within the room

He was **imprisoned** for embezzlement.

maze

n. a complex network of winding passages or pathways designed as a puzzle or challenge for people to navigate through

synonym : labyrinth, puzzle, network

(1) puzzle **maze**, (2) labyrinth **maze**

We got lost in the **maze** of streets while exploring the city.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym : braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story

The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

innermost

adj. situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences

synonym : deepest, inner, intimate

(1) **innermost** secrets, (2) **innermost** longings

It took years of therapy before the patient could reveal their **innermost** thoughts and feelings.

stasis

n. a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease

synonym : stillness, inactivity, stagnation

(1) renal **stasis**, (2) **stasis** in development

The patient's **stasis** in the hospital was concerning to the doctors.

jailbreak

n. an escape from prison; the act of removing restrictions or limitations on a device or software, especially a mobile phone or tablet, to access additional features or apps that were previously locked or unavailable

synonym: escape, breakout, evasion

(1) successful **jailbreak**, (2) iPhone **jailbreak**

The convict was sentenced to an additional five years for his involvement in the attempted **jailbreak**.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

limitless

adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

synonym: boundless, infinite, unrestricted

(1) for a **limitless** time, (2) **limitless** potential

The possibilities for scientific discovery are **limitless**.

spool

n. a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials

synonym: bobbin, reel, cylinder

(1) **spool** pin, (2) **spool** of tape

I need a new **spool** of thread for my sewing machine.

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.

plunge

v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall

synonym: dive, drop, thrust

(1) **plunge** into the water, (2) **plunge** a dagger through his heart

The company's profits **plunged** after the recall of their new product.

labyrinth

n. a complicated network of paths or passages, often with twists and turns, making it difficult to find one's way out

synonym: maze, puzzle, network

(1) a **labyrinth** of relationships, (2) **labyrinthine** pathways

It was easy to get lost in the **labyrinth** of narrow alleyways in the old city.

swarm

n. a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

synonym: horde, hive, throng

(1) a **swarm** of mosquitoes, (2) locust **swarm**

A **swarm** of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.

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.

passageway

n. a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions

synonym: corridor, hallway, passage

(1) **passageway** lighting, (2) an enclosed **passageway**

The narrow **passageway** was the only route to the hidden chamber.

backtrack

v. to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items

synonym: retrace, turn back, reverse

(1) **backtrack** statement, (2) **backtrack** on promise

We need to **backtrack** and figure out where we went wrong in our calculations.

sect

n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

synonym: group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

inward

adj. directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking

synonym: internal, introspective, interior

(1) **inward** peace, (2) **inward** cargo

The **inward** motion of the tide was gradually slowing down.

instruct

v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

synonym: train, coach, guide

(1) **instruct** a student, (2) **instruct** a computer

The facility manager **instructed** the security guards to be on high alert.

misguided

adj. having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action

synonym: mistaken, wrong, erring

(1) **misguided** policies, (2) a **misguided** sense of duty

His **misguided** attempt to fix the problem only made it worse.

catastrophe

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
synonym: disaster, calamity, cataclysm

(1) **catastrophe** risk management, (2) avoid climate
catastrophe

The lack of funds has resulted in a **catastrophe** for our university system.

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.

greedy

adj. having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
synonym: avaricious, covetous, grasping

(1) **greedy** person, (2) **greedy** for money

His **greedy** behavior led him to steal from the company.

Session 2: Spelling

1. be___y a friend *v.* to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
2. an enclosed pas_____ay *n.* a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions
3. a sw___m of mosquitoes *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
4. cou_____us rescue attempt *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
5. in_____st longings *adj.* situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences
6. n_d courteously *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
7. renal st___s *n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease
8. id_____st at heart *n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity

ANSWERS: 1. betray, 2. passageway, 3. swarm, 4. courageous, 5. innermost, 6. nod, 7. stasis, 8. idealist

9. g__e club *n.* a feeling of great happiness, joy, or pleasure, often accompanied by laughter or exuberance; a sense of delighted satisfaction from a positive result or accomplishment
10. sp__l pin *n.* a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials
11. ba_____ck statement *v.* to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items
12. an un_____d story *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
13. labyrinth m__e *n.* a complex network of winding passages or pathways designed as a puzzle or challenge for people to navigate through
14. im_____on myself within the room *v.* to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement
15. jumping for g__e *n.* a feeling of great happiness, joy, or pleasure, often accompanied by laughter or exuberance; a sense of delighted satisfaction from a positive result or accomplishment
16. in_____st secrets *adj.* situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences

ANSWERS: 9. glee, 10. spool, 11. backtrack, 12. unheard, 13. maze, 14. imprison, 15. glee, 16. innermost

17. la_____thine pathways *n.* a complicated network of paths or passages, often with twists and turns, making it difficult to find one's way out
18. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
19. n_d at each other *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
20. gr____y person *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
21. puzzle m__e *n.* a complex network of winding passages or pathways designed as a puzzle or challenge for people to navigate through
22. get dis_____ed by an urgent matter *adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
23. an id_____st perspective *n.* a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
24. in_____ct a computer *v.* to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

ANSWERS: 17. labyrinth, 18. overwhelm, 19. nod, 20. greedy, 21. maze, 22. distracted, 23. idealist, 24. instruct

25. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
26. in___d cargo *adj.* directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking
27. gr___y for money *adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food
28. li_____ss potential *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
29. secret s__t *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
30. professional et__c *n.* a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems
31. dis_____ed by a conversation *adj.* having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
32. be___y confidence *v.* to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
33. locust sw__m *n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground

ANSWERS: 25. opportune, 26. inward, 27. greedy, 28. limitless, 29. sect, 30. ethic, 31. distracted, 32. betray, 33. swarm

34. in___d peace *adj.* directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking
35. the tu_____l of the war *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
36. st___s in development *n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease
37. we___e on a loom *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
38. pl___e into the water *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
39. a la_____th of relationships *n.* a complicated network of paths or passages, often with twists and turns, making it difficult to find one's way out
40. un_____h burial mound *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
41. previously un_____d-of economic development *adj.* not heard, listened to, or noticed; not having been brought to public attention
42. s__t beliefs *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

ANSWERS: 34. inward, 35. turmoil, 36. stasis, 37. weave, 38. plunge, 39. labyrinth, 40. unearh, 41. unheard, 42. sect

43. for a li_____ss time *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
44. mi_____ed policies *adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action
45. we__e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
46. successful ja_____ak *n.* an escape from prison; the act of removing restrictions or limitations on a device or software, especially a mobile phone or tablet, to access additional features or apps that were previously locked or unavailable
47. pas_____ay lighting *n.* a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions
48. moral et__c *n.* a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems
49. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
50. iPhone ja_____ak *n.* an escape from prison; the act of removing restrictions or limitations on a device or software, especially a mobile phone or tablet, to access additional features or apps that were previously locked or unavailable

ANSWERS: 43. limitless, 44. misguided, 45. weave, 46. jailbreak, 47. passageway, 48. ethic, 49. opportune, 50. jailbreak

51. cat_____he risk management *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
52. ba_____ck on promise *v.* to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items
53. political tu_____l *n.* a state of great disturbance, confusion, or uncertainty, often marked by intense activity or strong emotions
54. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
55. make a cou_____us decision *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
56. avoid climate cat_____he *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
57. pl_____e a dagger through his heart *v.* to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall
58. a mi_____ed sense of duty *adj.* having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action
59. sp____l of tape *n.* a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials
60. un_____h a mystery *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

ANSWERS: 51. catastrophe, 52. backtrack, 53. turmoil, 54. overwhelm, 55. courageous, 56. catastrophe, 57. plunge, 58. misguided, 59. spool, 60. unearth

61. in_____ct a student

v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

62. im_____on illegal immigrant

v. to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement

ANSWERS: 61. instruct, 62. imprison

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The lack of funds has resulted in a _____ for our university system.
n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

2. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

3. The minority _____ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.
n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

4. It took years of therapy before the patient could reveal their _____ thoughts and feelings.
adj. situated or occurring at the deepest or most central part or point; relating to one's deepest or most private thoughts, feelings, or experiences

5. The children's faces were filled with _____ as they ran around the playground.
n. a feeling of great happiness, joy, or pleasure, often accompanied by laughter or exuberance; a sense of delighted satisfaction from a positive result or accomplishment

6. We need to _____ and figure out where we went wrong in our calculations.
v. to retrace one's steps; to return along a path that one has already traveled, often to correct a mistake or find lost items

7. The company's profits _____ after the recall of their new product.
v. to dive quickly and steeply downward; to thrust or throw into something; (noun) a steep and rapid fall

ANSWERS: 1. catastrophe, 2. nodded, 3. sect, 4. innermost, 5. glee, 6. backtrack, 7. plunged

8. The narrow _____ was the only route to the hidden chamber.
n. a narrow pathway or corridor, especially one that allows movement between different areas or regions
9. The facility manager _____ the security guards to be on high alert.
v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
10. The possibilities for scientific discovery are _____.
adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
11. As a dedicated _____ she always fought for what was right, no matter the cost.
n. a person who is guided by ideals or principles rather than practical considerations or reality; a person who seeks to achieve a particular vision or goal for the betterment of society or humanity
12. I was so _____ by my phone that I nearly walked into a lamppost.
adj. having one's attention diverted or divided; being unable to concentrate because of being preoccupied or worried
13. He was _____ for embezzlement.
v. to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement
14. He felt _____ when his best friend revealed their secret to the enemy.
v. to reveal or deliver to an enemy by treachery or disloyalty; to reveal something unintentionally
15. His _____ attempt to fix the problem only made it worse.
adj. having or showing a wrong or mistaken understanding of a situation or course of action

ANSWERS: 8. passageway, 9. instructed, 10. limitless, 11. idealist, 12. distracted, 13. imprisoned, 14. betrayed, 15. misguided

16. A _____ of angry bees attacked because we had approached the hive.
- n.* a group of many things, such as insects, fishes, etc., in the air or water or on the ground
17. The convict was sentenced to an additional five years for his involvement in the attempted _____.
- n.* an escape from prison; the act of removing restrictions or limitations on a device or software, especially a mobile phone or tablet, to access additional features or apps that were previously locked or unavailable
18. 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
19. He was a _____ soldier who had served his country with honor.
- adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
20. Having a strong work _____ is important for success in any field.
- n.* a set of moral or philosophical principles or values that guide the behavior or actions of an individual, group, or society; the study or inquiry into the nature of morality and moral systems
21. We got lost in the _____ of streets while exploring the city.
- n.* a complex network of winding passages or pathways designed as a puzzle or challenge for people to navigate through
22. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.
- v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

ANSWERS: 16. swarm, 17. jailbreak, 18. turmoil, 19. courageous, 20. ethic, 21. maze, 22. weaves

23. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.

- v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

24. The detective _____ a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.

- v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

25. It was easy to get lost in the _____ of narrow alleyways in the old city.

- n.* a complicated network of paths or passages, often with twists and turns, making it difficult to find one's way out

26. His _____ behavior led him to steal from the company.

- adj.* having or showing an intense or insatiable desire for wealth, status, power, or food

27. I need a new _____ of thread for my sewing machine.

- n.* a cylindrical device with a flange at one or both ends, containing a hollow center and used to wind or store wire, thread, tape, film, or other flexible materials

28. The _____ motion of the tide was gradually slowing down.

- adj.* directed or facing towards the inside; inside or inward-looking

29. The patient's _____ in the hospital was concerning to the doctors.

- n.* a state of stillness or immobility, often used in a medical context to refer to a lack of change or progress in a condition or disease

30. The _____ melody was beautiful and touched everyone's hearts.

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

ANSWERS: 23. overwhelm, 24. unearthed, 25. labyrinth, 26. greedy, 27. spool, 28. inward, 29. stasis, 30. unheard

31. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

ANSWERS: 31. opportune