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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dan Katz and Alex Rosenthal: Can you solve the sorting hat riddle? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

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.

wand

n. a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority

synonym : rod, stick, staff

(1) magic **wand**, (2) security **wand**

The magician waved his **wand**, and a rabbit appeared from the hat.

enchant

v. to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone

synonym : charm, captivate, bewitch

(1) **enchant** the audience, (2) **enchant** the crowd

The fairy's spell **enchanted** the prince, making him fall asleep for 100 years.

artifact

n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

synonym: antique, relic, heirloom

(1) paleolithic **artifacts**, (2) Peruvian **artifacts**

The museum has a vast collection of Greek **artifacts**.

inherit

v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

synonym: obtain, gain, acquire

(1) **inherit** estate, (2) **inherit** ancestral property

After his death, his sons **inherited** his business.

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.

motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

stun

v. to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly

synonym: shock, amaze, astound

(1) **stun** fish, (2) **stun** an audience

This sprinter **stunned** the world with his speed.

grind

v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

synonym : mill, crush, grate

(1) **grind** away at my work, (2) **grind** your teeth

She had to **grind** the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. the mo__o for safe traffic | <i>n.</i> a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal |
| 2. company mo__o | <i>n.</i> a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal |
| 3. en____t the audience | <i>v.</i> to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone |
| 4. security w__d | <i>n.</i> a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority |
| 5. Peruvian ar____cts | <i>n.</i> a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest |
| 6. al_____ss on the par-5 hole | <i>n.</i> 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 |
| 7. s__n an audience | <i>v.</i> to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly |
| 8. national ob_____on | <i>n.</i> the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person |

ANSWERS: 1. motto, 2. motto, 3. enchant, 4. wand, 5. artifact, 6. albatross, 7. stun, 8. obsession

9. en____t the crowd v. to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
10. magic w__d n. a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
11. gr__d away at my work v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
12. in____t ancestral property v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
13. in____t estate v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
14. paleolithic ar____cts n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
15. gr__d your teeth v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
16. 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
17. s__n fish v. to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly

ANSWERS: 9. enchant, 10. wand, 11. grind, 12. inherit, 13. inherit, 14. artifact, 15. grind, 16. albatross, 17. stun

18. ob_____on with character

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

ANSWERS: 18. obsession

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. After his death, his sons _____ his business.
v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
2. She had to _____ the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.
v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
3. The fairy's spell _____ the prince, making him fall asleep for 100 years.
v. to cast a spell on; to fascinate or charm someone
4. This sprinter _____ the world with his speed.
v. to make a person or an animal unconscious or dizzy, especially by hitting them on the head; to make someone surprised or shocked greatly
5. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
6. 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
7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. inherited, 2. grind, 3. enchanted, 4. stunned, 5. motto, 6. obsession, 7. albatross

8. The museum has a vast collection of Greek _____.
- n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
9. The magician waved his _____ and a rabbit appeared from the hat.
- n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority

ANSWERS: 8. artifacts, 9. wand,