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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alex Gendler: How the world's longest underwater tunnel was built | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

flank

n. the side of an animal, especially the side between the last rib and the hip; the side of military or naval formation; (verb) to be located on either side of something

synonym: side, edge, rim

(1) **flank** pain, (2) attack the left **flank**

The **flank** of the mountain was difficult to climb.

stormy

adj. marked by strong winds, heavy rain, thunder, and lightning; characterized by tumultuous or rough emotions, particularly in a relationship or situation

synonym: tempestuous, turbulent, choppy

(1) **stormy** relationship, (2) **stormy** weather

The city council meeting was **stormy**, as people argued about a controversial new policy.

submerge

v. to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely

synonym: deluge, drench, dunk

(1) **submerge** in a liquid, (2) **submerge** my head completely

The ship was **submerged** in the ocean for many years before it was finally discovered.

chalk

n. a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards

synonym : white rock, limestone, gypsum

(1) a piece of **chalk**, (2) **chalk** on a blackboard

The kids used colored **chalk** to create a mural on the pavement.

marl

n. a crumbly, earthy deposit composed of clay and calcium carbonate, often used as a fertilizer or soil amendment

synonym : clay, loam, soil

(1) **marl** layer, (2) agricultural **marl**

Marl deposits are often found near bodies of water, such as lakes and rivers.

seabed

n. the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms

synonym : ocean floor, sea bottom

(1) **seabed** mining, (2) **seabed** habitat

The dense coral reefs on the **seabed** provide a home for various marine life.

excavation

n. the act or process of removing soil, rock, or other material to reveal or extract something, such as an archaeological site or underground structure, or the hole or area created by this process

synonym : digging, mining, unearthing

(1) fossil **excavation**, (2) **excavation** work

The archaeological **excavation** of the site revealed many artifacts from the ancient civilization.

crossover

n. a work or artist that blends elements of different genres, styles, or cultures; a type of vehicle that combines the features of an SUV (sport utility vehicle) and a car; (of music) a work that successfully appeals to multiple audiences

synonym :

fusion, blend, mixture

(1) **crossover** artist, (2) a **crossover** between a sedan and an SUV

The **crossover** between country and pop music is becoming increasingly popular.

excavate

v. to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something

synonym: dig, unearth, extract

(1) **excavate** a deep hole, (2) **excavate** soil

The archaeologists **excavated** the ruins of an ancient city buried under the desert sands.

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**.

seep

v. to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually

synonym: leak, ooze, trickle

(1) **seep** cool and moist air, (2) **seep** into paper

The rain began to **seep** through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.

borer

n. a tool or machine used for making a hole in wood or other materials; an insect or other organism that bores into and feeds on wood, plants, or other materials

synonym: drill, auger, gimlet

(1) root **borer**, (2) cork **borer**

The apple **borer** destroys crops by burrowing into the fruit.

undetected

adj. not perceived or discovered

synonym: undiscovered, hidden, concealed

(1) **undetected** cancer, (2) leave the house **undetected**
Doctors made mistakes, and diseases remained **undetected**.

fissure

n. a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization

synonym: crack, crevice, gap

(1) pulmonary **fissure**, (2) **fissure** in the relationship
The **fissure** in the rock was too narrow to squeeze through.

grout

v. to fill the gaps between tiles, stones, or other building materials with a mixture of cement, sand, and water; to reinforce or seal the joints or cracks between building materials with a similar mixture

synonym: fill, seal, cement

(1) **grout** the gaps, (2) **grout** around the edges
I need to **grout** the tiles in the bathroom to prevent moisture from damaging the walls.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym: brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels
The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

puncture

n. a small hole or wound made by piercing, such as with a needle, nail, or pointed object

synonym: piercing, prick, hole

(1) bicycle **puncture**, (2) needle **puncture**
The tire had a **puncture** and needed to be replaced.

surveyor

n. an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land

synonym: assessor, cartographer

(1) land **surveyor**, (2) geographical **surveyor**

The **surveyors** asked various related questions about the land.

centimeter

n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

(1) **centimeter** measurement, (2) thirty **centimeters** tall

The room was only one **centimeter** wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.

trajectory

n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space

synonym: course, curve, orbit

(1) career **trajectory**, (2) a **trajectory** missile

The company has shown an excellent growth **trajectory** over the years.

paleontology

n. the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth

synonym: fossilology, prehistoric biology

(1) vertebrate **paleontology**, (2) **paleontology** museum

My interest in **paleontology** research began when I visited a natural history museum and saw a display of fossils from the Jurassic period.

Session 2: Spelling

1. a tra_____ry missile *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
2. se___d mining *n.* the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms
3. cen_____er measurement *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
4. cr_____er artist *n.* a work or artist that blends elements of different genres, styles, or cultures; a type of vehicle that combines the features of an SUV (sport utility vehicle) and a car; (of music) a work that successfully appeals to multiple audiences
5. fl__k pain *n.* the side of an animal, especially the side between the last rib and the hip; the side of military or naval formation; (verb) to be located on either side of something
6. root bo__r *n.* a tool or machine used for making a hole in wood or other materials; an insect or other organism that bores into and feeds on wood, plants, or other materials
7. ch__k on a blackboard *n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards

ANSWERS: 1. trajectory, 2. seabed, 3. centimeter, 4. crossover, 5. flank, 6. borer, 7. chalk

8. attack the left fl__k *n.* the side of an animal, especially the side between the last rib and the hip; the side of military or naval formation; (verb) to be located on either side of something
9. m__l layer *n.* a crumbly, earthy deposit composed of clay and calcium carbonate, often used as a fertilizer or soil amendment
10. fi____e in the relationship *n.* a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization
11. ex____te a deep hole *v.* to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something
12. cork bo__r *n.* a tool or machine used for making a hole in wood or other materials; an insect or other organism that bores into and feeds on wood, plants, or other materials
13. ex____te soil *v.* to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something
14. land su____or *n.* an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land
15. pulmonary fi____e *n.* a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization
16. fossil exc____on *n.* the act or process of removing soil, rock, or other material to reveal or extract something, such as an archaeological site or underground structure, or the hole or area created by this process

ANSWERS: 8. flank, 9. marl, 10. fissure, 11. excavate, 12. borer, 13. excavate, 14. surveyor, 15. fissure, 16. excavation

17. st_____ze blood sugar levels *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
18. se____d habitat *n.* the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms
19. thirty cen_____ers tall *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
20. pal_____ogy museum *n.* the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
21. agricultural m___l *n.* a crumbly, earthy deposit composed of clay and calcium carbonate, often used as a fertilizer or soil amendment
22. su_____ge my head completely *v.* to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
23. gr__t the gaps *v.* to fill the gaps between tiles, stones, or other building materials with a mixture of cement, sand, and water; to reinforce or seal the joints or cracks between building materials with a similar mixture
24. geographical su_____or *n.* an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land
25. gr__t around the edges *v.* to fill the gaps between tiles, stones, or other building materials with a mixture of cement, sand, and water; to reinforce or seal the joints or cracks between building materials with a similar mixture

ANSWERS: 17. stabilize, 18. seabed, 19. centimeter, 20. paleontology, 21. marl, 22. submerge, 23. grout, 24. surveyor, 25. grout

26. career tra_____ry *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
27. su_____ge in a liquid *v.* to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
28. vertebrate pal_____ogy *n.* the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
29. low-r_v engine *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
30. exc_____on work *n.* the act or process of removing soil, rock, or other material to reveal or extract something, such as an archaeological site or underground structure, or the hole or area created by this process
31. a piece of ch__k *n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards
32. r_v up the crowd *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
33. st___y relationship *adj.* marked by strong winds, heavy rain, thunder, and lightning; characterized by tumultuous or rough emotions, particularly in a relationship or situation

ANSWERS: 26. trajectory, 27. submerge, 28. paleontology, 29. rev, 30. excavation, 31. chalk, 32. rev, 33. stormy

34. a cr_____er between a sedan and an SUV *n.* a work or artist that blends elements of different genres, styles, or cultures; a type of vehicle that combines the features of an SUV (sport utility vehicle) and a car; (of music) a work that successfully appeals to multiple audiences
35. und_____ed cancer *adj.* not perceived or discovered
36. s__p cool and moist air *v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
37. st_____ze prices *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
38. s__p into paper *v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
39. st___y weather *adj.* marked by strong winds, heavy rain, thunder, and lightning; characterized by tumultuous or rough emotions, particularly in a relationship or situation
40. leave the house und_____ed *adj.* not perceived or discovered
41. needle pu_____re *n.* a small hole or wound made by piercing, such as with a needle, nail, or pointed object
42. bicycle pu_____re *n.* a small hole or wound made by piercing, such as with a needle, nail, or pointed object

ANSWERS: 34. crossover, 35. undetected, 36. seep, 37. stabilize, 38. seep, 39. stormy, 40. undetected, 41. puncture, 42. puncture

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The archaeologists _____ the ruins of an ancient city buried under the desert sands.
 - v.* to dig or remove earth, rocks, or other materials from the ground or a site, often to uncover or discover something

2. The city council meeting was _____ as people argued about a controversial new policy.
 - adj.* marked by strong winds, heavy rain, thunder, and lightning; characterized by tumultuous or rough emotions, particularly in a relationship or situation

3. The company has shown an excellent growth _____ over the years.
 - n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space

4. The archaeological _____ of the site revealed many artifacts from the ancient civilization.
 - n.* the act or process of removing soil, rock, or other material to reveal or extract something, such as an archaeological site or underground structure, or the hole or area created by this process

5. The kids used colored _____ to create a mural on the pavement.
 - n.* a soft, white, porous sedimentary rock composed of calcium carbonate, often used for drawing or writing on surfaces such as blackboards

6. The _____ asked various related questions about the land.
 - n.* an engineer who measures and records the details of areas of land

7. The dense coral reefs on the _____ provide a home for various marine life.
 - n.* the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms

ANSWERS: 1. excavated, 2. stormy, 3. trajectory, 4. excavation, 5. chalk, 6. surveyors, 7. seabed

8. Doctors made mistakes, and diseases remained _____.
- adj.* not perceived or discovered
9. The tire had a _____ and needed to be replaced.
- n.* a small hole or wound made by piercing, such as with a needle, nail, or pointed object
10. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
- v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
11. I need to _____ the tiles in the bathroom to prevent moisture from damaging the walls.
- v.* to fill the gaps between tiles, stones, or other building materials with a mixture of cement, sand, and water; to reinforce or seal the joints or cracks between building materials with a similar mixture
12. The ship was _____ in the ocean for many years before it was finally discovered.
- v.* to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
13. The room was only one _____ wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.
- n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
14. _____ deposits are often found near bodies of water, such as lakes and rivers.
- n.* a crumbly, earthy deposit composed of clay and calcium carbonate, often used as a fertilizer or soil amendment
15. The _____ in the rock was too narrow to squeeze through.
- n.* a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization

ANSWERS: 8. undetected, 9. puncture, 10. stabilizes, 11. grout, 12. submerged, 13. centimeter, 14. Marl, 15. fissure

16. My interest in _____ research began when I visited a natural history museum and saw a display of fossils from the Jurassic period.
- n.* the study of fossils and the history of life on Earth
17. 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
18. The _____ of the mountain was difficult to climb.
- n.* the side of an animal, especially the side between the last rib and the hip; the side of military or naval formation; (verb) to be located on either side of something
19. The rain began to _____ through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.
- v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
20. The _____ between country and pop music is becoming increasingly popular.
- n.* a work or artist that blends elements of different genres, styles, or cultures; a type of vehicle that combines the features of an SUV (sport utility vehicle) and a car; (of music) a work that successfully appeals to multiple audiences
21. The apple _____ destroys crops by burrowing into the fruit.
- n.* a tool or machine used for making a hole in wood or other materials; an insect or other organism that bores into and feeds on wood, plants, or other materials

ANSWERS: 16. paleontology, 17. rev, 18. flank, 19. seep, 20. crossover, 21. borer