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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alex Rosenthal: The Tower of Epiphany | Think Like A Coder, Ep 7 | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/alex_rosenthal_the_tower_of_epiphany_think_like_a_coder_ep_7

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.

propel

v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

synonym : drive, push, move

(1) **propel** growth, (2) **propel** the ship

An increase in employment helps **propel** economic growth.

unoccupied

adj. not lived in or used; empty; without anyone in it

synonym : empty, vacant, unused

(1) an **unoccupied** seat, (2) **unoccupied** hours

The house was **unoccupied** and had been for months.

subtract

v. to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole

synonym : deduct, take away, remove

(1) **subtract** numbers, (2) **subtract** one from the total
I need to **subtract** the cost of my expenses from my income to see how much money I have left.

tally

n. a record or count of a particular thing often used to keep track of scores, votes, or numbers

synonym: count, record, score

(1) keep a **tally**, (2) **tally** sheet

Let's keep a **tally** of the votes to see who won the election.

cascade

n. a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units

synonym: waterfall, watercourse, step

(1) **cascade** connection, (2) transistor **cascade**

The **cascade** of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.

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**.

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**.

smuggle

v. to import or export something or someone without paying appropriate customs duties, often illegally

(1) **smuggle** drugs, (2) **smuggle** herself out of a country

He was able to **smuggle** a gun inside the prison.

enclose

v. to surround, as with a fence, wall, or barrier; to put within boundaries; to include

synonym: surround, encase, contain

(1) **enclose** a check with a letter, (2) **enclose** area

The walls were **enclosed** to create a private outdoor space.

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.

flicker

v. to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light

synonym: flash, spark, glimmer

(1) **flicker** every two seconds, (2) **flicker** out like a candle

The fireflies **flickered** in the darkness.

fizzle

v. to fail or end in a weak or unsatisfactory way; to make a hissing or sputtering sound like that of a shorting electrical circuit

synonym: sputter, fume, fail

(1) **fizzle** to nothing, (2) gradually **fizzle** out

The enthusiasm for the project **fizzled** as the challenges and obstacles became more apparent.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pr___l the ship
v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
2. 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
3. pr___l growth
v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
4. su_____ct numbers
v. to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole
5. keep a ta__y
n. a record or count of a particular thing often used to keep track of scores, votes, or numbers
6. en_____e area
v. to surround, as with a fence, wall, or barrier; to put within boundaries; to include
7. ca_____e connection
n. a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
8. transistor ca_____e
n. a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
9. uno_____ed hours
adj. not lived in or used; empty; without anyone in it

ANSWERS: 1. propel, 2. ethic, 3. propel, 4. subtract, 5. tally, 6. enclose, 7. cascade, 8. cascade, 9. unoccupied

10. puzzle m__e *n.* a complex network of winding passages or pathways designed as a puzzle or challenge for people to navigate through
11. fl____r every two seconds *v.* to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light
12. labyrinth m__e *n.* a complex network of winding passages or pathways designed as a puzzle or challenge for people to navigate through
13. gradually fi___e out *v.* to fail or end in a weak or unsatisfactory way; to make a hissing or sputtering sound like that of a shorting electrical circuit
14. 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
15. an uno_____ed seat *adj.* not lived in or used; empty; without anyone in it
16. ta__y sheet *n.* a record or count of a particular thing often used to keep track of scores, votes, or numbers
17. 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
18. fi___e to nothing *v.* to fail or end in a weak or unsatisfactory way; to make a hissing or sputtering sound like that of a shorting electrical circuit

ANSWERS: 10. maze, 11. flicker, 12. maze, 13. fizzle, 14. ethic, 15. unoccupied, 16. tally, 17. rev, 18. fizzle

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Let's keep a _____ of the votes to see who won the election.
 - n.* a record or count of a particular thing often used to keep track of scores, votes, or numbers

2. 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

3. An increase in employment helps _____ economic growth.
 - v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

4. The walls were _____ to create a private outdoor space.
 - v.* to surround, as with a fence, wall, or barrier; to put within boundaries; to include

5. The fireflies _____ in the darkness.
 - v.* to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light

6. I need to _____ the cost of my expenses from my income to see how much money I have left.
 - v.* to take away or deduct a quantity or amount from a total; to remove or eliminate something from a larger whole

7. The enthusiasm for the project _____ as the challenges and obstacles became more apparent.
 - v.* to fail or end in a weak or unsatisfactory way; to make a hissing or sputtering sound like that of a shorting electrical circuit

ANSWERS: 1. tally, 2. rev, 3. propel, 4. enclosed, 5. flickered, 6. subtract, 7. fizzled

8. He was able to _____ a gun inside the prison.
- v.* to import or export something or someone without paying appropriate customs duties, often illegally
9. 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
10. The _____ of waterfalls in the national park was a breathtaking sight.
- n.* a small waterfall or series of small waterfalls; a succession of stages or operations or processes or units
11. 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
12. The house was _____ and had been for months.
- adj.* not lived in or used; empty; without anyone in it
13. The museum has a vast collection of Greek _____.
- n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

ANSWERS: 8. smuggle, 9. ethic, 10. cascade, 11. maze, 12. unoccupied, 13. artifacts