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Stefan C. Dombrowski: The dark history of IQ tests |
TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

individualize

v. to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.

synonym: personalize, differentiate

(1) **individualize** each patient, (2) **individualize** dosages

Our schools offer **individualized** education by excellent teachers.

hypothesize

v. to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate

synonym: speculate, theorize, conjecture

(1) **hypothesize** as to outcomes, (2) **hypothesize** what could have happened

Scientists **hypothesize** that the new fish species evolved to survive in deep-sea environments.

quotient

n. a degree or measure of a specific quality or characteristic; the result of dividing one number by another

synonym: dividend, ratio, proportion

(1) **quotient** rule, (2) creativity **quotient**

My intelligence **quotient** is below average, according to the test results.

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.

eugenic

adj. relating to or promoting the improvement of the human genetic stock, particularly through controlled breeding, to enhance desirable traits among offspring

synonym: improving, genetic engineering, selective breeding

(1) **eugenic** screening, (2) **eugenic** movement

That government had once implemented a series of **eugenic** policies to improve the population's genetic makeup.

undesirable

adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance

synonym: objectionable, distasteful, unwanted

(1) **undesirable** outcome, (2) **undesirable** behavior

The smell of the garbage was very **undesirable**.

trait

n. a particular feature of your nature

synonym: attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

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.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

sterilize

v. to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation

synonym: disinfect, sanitize, cleanse

(1) **sterilize** chemically, (2) **sterilize** surfaces

The nurse **sterilized** the instruments before the surgery to prevent any infections.

uphold

v. to support or defend something, such as a law, idea, decision, etc.

synonym: defend, maintain, sustain

(1) **uphold** the law, (2) **uphold** tradition

The judge may **uphold** the decision of the lower court.

calibrate

v. to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

synonym: adjust, fine-tune

(1) **calibrate** machinery, (2) **calibrate** measurements

It's important to **calibrate** the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

schizophrenia

n. a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior

synonym: psychosis, disorder, mental illness

(1) **schizophrenia** spectrum disorder, (2) **schizophrenia** treatment

The **schizophrenia** patient was experiencing severe auditory hallucinations.

horrific

adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying

synonym: terrifying, alarming, shocking

(1) **horrific** experience, (2) **horrific** condition

The accident scene was **horrific**, with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.

baseless

adj. without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason

synonym: groundless, unfounded, unsupported

(1) **baseless** rumor, (2) **baseless** accusation

The lawsuit against the company was dismissed due to the plaintiff's **baseless** claims

worthless

adj. having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

synonym: valueless, useless, pointless

(1) **worthless** stock, (2) **worthless** coin

The product was found to be **worthless** as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

categorize

v. to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.

synonym: classify, pigeonhole, sort

(1) **categorize** the image, (2) **categorize** the cause of failure

The biologist **categorized** the viruses into four groups.

Session 2: Spelling

1. enrich my in_____ct
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
2. cat_____ze the image
v. to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.
3. human in_____ct
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
4. chemical tr__t
n. a particular feature of your nature
5. a pre_____ved notion
adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
6. up___d the law
v. to support or defend something, such as a law, idea, decision, etc.
7. st_____ze chemically
v. to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation
8. ba_____ss accusation
adj. without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason
9. cat_____ze the cause of failure
v. to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.
10. und_____le outcome
adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance

ANSWERS: 1. intellect, 2. categorize, 3. intellect, 4. trait, 5. preconceived, 6. uphold, 7. sterilize, 8. baseless, 9. categorize, 10. undesirable

11. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
12. ba_____ss rumor *adj.* without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason
13. ind_____ize dosages *v.* to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.
14. up____d tradition *v.* to support or defend something, such as a law, idea, decision, etc.
15. in_____t ancestral property *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
16. creativity qu_____nt *n.* a degree or measure of a specific quality or characteristic; the result of dividing one number by another
17. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
18. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
19. personality tr__ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature
20. und_____le behavior *adj.* not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance
21. wo_____ss coin *adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

ANSWERS: 11. improvisation, 12. baseless, 13. individualize, 14. uphold, 15. inherit, 16. quotient, 17. determinant, 18. improvisation, 19. trait, 20. undesirable, 21. worthless

22. qu____nt rule *n.* a degree or measure of a specific quality or characteristic; the result of dividing one number by another
23. in____t estate *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
24. ca_____te measurements *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance
25. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
26. eu____c screening *adj.* relating to or promoting the improvement of the human genetic stock, particularly through controlled breeding, to enhance desirable traits among offspring
27. wo_____ss stock *adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering
28. ind_____ize each patient *v.* to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.
29. ho____ic condition *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
30. ca_____te machinery *v.* to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

ANSWERS: 22. quotient, 23. inherit, 24. calibrate, 25. determinant, 26. eugenic, 27. worthless, 28. individualize, 29. horrific, 30. calibrate

31. st_____ze surfaces *v.* to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation
32. sch_____nia treatment *n.* a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior
33. hyp_____ze what could have happened *v.* to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate
34. eu_____c movement *adj.* relating to or promoting the improvement of the human genetic stock, particularly through controlled breeding, to enhance desirable traits among offspring
35. ho_____ic experience *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
36. hyp_____ze as to outcomes *v.* to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate
37. sch_____nia spectrum disorder *n.* a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior
38. pre_____ved opinions *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness

ANSWERS: 31. sterilize, 32. schizophrenia, 33. hypothesize, 34. eugenic, 35. horrific, 36. hypothesize, 37. schizophrenia, 38. preconceived

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. That government had once implemented a series of _____ policies to improve the population's genetic makeup.
adj. relating to or promoting the improvement of the human genetic stock, particularly through controlled breeding, to enhance desirable traits among offspring

2. Our schools offer _____ education by excellent teachers.
v. to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.

3. The nurse _____ the instruments before the surgery to prevent any infections.
v. to make something free of all forms of life, especially bacteria or viruses, by using heat, chemicals, or radiation

4. The _____ patient was experiencing severe auditory hallucinations.
n. a severe mental disorder in which a person has a distorted view of reality and may experience hallucinations, delusions, and disordered thinking and behavior

5. It's important to _____ the equipment regularly to ensure accurate results.
v. to measure or adjust something, typically a machine or device, to ensure accurate functioning or to match a standard or desired level of performance

6. Scientists _____ that the new fish species evolved to survive in deep-sea environments.
v. to form or present a theory or explanation without sufficient evidence; to speculate

ANSWERS: 1. eugenic, 2. individualized, 3. sterilized, 4. schizophrenia, 5. calibrate, 6. hypothesize

7. The lawsuit against the company was dismissed due to the plaintiff's _____ claims

adj. without any credible evidence, justification, or foundation; unfounded, groundless, or unsupported by facts or reason

8. The judge may _____ the decision of the lower court.

v. to support or defend something, such as a law, idea, decision, etc.

9. The product was found to be _____ as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

adj. having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

10. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

11. The smell of the garbage was very _____.

adj. not wanted or looked upon favorably; unwanted or unpleasant in nature, character, or appearance

12. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.

n. a particular feature of your nature

13. The accident scene was _____ with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.

adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying

14. After his death, his sons _____ his business.

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

ANSWERS: 7. baseless, 8. uphold, 9. worthless, 10. intellect, 11. undesirable, 12. traits, 13. horrific, 14. inherited

15. 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

16. The biologist _____ the viruses into four groups.

v. to put people or things into groups according to their features, types, etc.

17. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

18. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

19. My intelligence _____ is below average, according to the test results.

n. a degree or measure of a specific quality or characteristic; the result of dividing one number by another

ANSWERS: 15. preconceived, 16. categorized, 17. determinant, 18. improvisation, 19. quotient