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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

*Alex Rosenthal and Pall Thordarson: Which is better:
Soap or hand sanitizer? | TED Talk*

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

rift

n. a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces

synonym: split, break, gap

(1) **rift** between friends, (2) geological **rift**

Their disagreement caused a **rift** in their friendship.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym: pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus

Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

sanitize

v. to clean or disinfect something to make it safe or hygienic; to remove potentially harmful or sensitive information from a document or communication

synonym: clean, disinfect, sterilize

(1) **sanitize** surfaces, (2) **sanitize** the kitchen

I always **sanitize** my hands before eating to prevent germs from spreading.

coronavirus

- n.* a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2

synonym: covid

- (1) **coronavirus** antibody test kit, (2) **coronavirus** bankruptcy

Considering the situation of **coronavirus**, organized stopped this year's beer festival.

repulse

- v.* to drive or force back; to reject with disgust or aversion

synonym: repel, drive away, reject

- (1) **repulse** an attack, (2) **repulse** an invader

The army was **repulsed** by the enemy and forced to retreat.

hydrophobic

- adj.* tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water

synonym: water-repelling, aquaphobic, water-resistant

- (1) **hydrophobic** molecules, (2) **hydrophobic** amino acids

The **hydrophobic** coating on the fabric repels water, keeping the wearer dry in a downpour.

hijack

- v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence

synonym: commandeer, seize, pirate

- (1) **hijack** a helicopter, (2) **hijack** a phone number

He made a desperate effort to **hijack** an airliner.

pry

- v.* to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions

synonym: probe, investigate, inquire

- (1) **pry** a secret out of a person, (2) **pry** into the affairs

He used a crowbar to **pry** open the locked door.

quadrillion

- n.* a number equivalent to a thousand raised to the power of five, or 10 to the 15th power; colloquially used to

indicate an extremely large or theoretical number

synonym: one thousand million million million

(1) **quadrillion** atoms, (2) **quadrillion** dollars

The energy output of the sun is measured in **quadrillions** of watts.

amphiphile

n. a molecule or compound that has both hydrophilic (water-loving) and hydrophobic (water-fearing) parts, often important in the formation of cell membranes and surfactants

(1) **amphiphile** bilayer, (2) **amphiphile** lipid

Soaps and detergents are examples of **amphiphile** compounds.

crowbar

n. a long, straight metal bar with a flattened or curved end used to pry or lever things apart

synonym: pry bar, pinch bar

(1) remove nails with a **crowbar**, (2) use a **crowbar**

She purchased a **crowbar-resistant** safe to protect her valuable possessions.

isopropanol

n. a colorless, flammable liquid alcohol that is often used as a solvent, disinfectant, or antifreeze

synonym: isopropyl alcohol, rubbing alcohol

(1) **isopropanol** solution, (2) **isopropanol** hand sanitizer

I added a few drops of **isopropanol** to my windshield washer fluid to prevent it from freezing in the winter.

mortar

n. a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances

synonym: howitzer, cement mixer, masonry tool

(1) **mortar** joints, (2) apply **mortar**

The bricklayer started on the second course of bricks, laying them in fresh **mortar**.

crumble

v. to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support

synonym: disintegrate, collapse, deteriorate

(1) **crumble** to dust, (2) began to **crumble** under financial pressure

The old building was starting to **crumble** due to years of neglect and lack of maintenance.

intricate

adj. having many different parts and small details that all work together

synonym: complicated, convoluted, complex

(1) **intricate** details, (2) **intricate** lacework

The politician managed to deal with that **intricate** issue.

fingertip

n. the end or tip of a finger

(1) apply **fingertip** pressure, (2) burn my **fingertip**

The archaeologist ran his **fingertips** along the pattern of the tombstones.

chlorine

n. a chemical element with the symbol Cl and atomic number 17, a greenish-yellow gas that is highly reactive and used in a variety of applications, including as a bleach and disinfectant

synonym: element, greenish-yellow gas, bleach

(1) **chlorine** gas, (2) **chlorine** tablet

Some people are sensitive to the smell of **chlorine** and experience headaches or respiratory irritation.

pathogen

n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease

synonym: germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) plant **pathogen**, (2) the **pathogen** in the air

mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated **pathogens**.

rhinovirus

n. the most common viral infectious agent in humans and is the predominant cause of the common cold

(1) **rhinovirus** cold, (2) a **rhinovirus** in a host

About half of all asthma attacks are thought to be caused by **rhinovirus** infection.

capsid

n. the protein coat that surrounds the genetic material (DNA or RNA) of a virus, often serving as a protective barrier and helping to facilitate infection of host cells

synonym: protein coat, virus shell, viral capsid

(1) **capsid** protein, (2) **capsid** structure

The **capsid** of the virus is composed of protein subunits.

destabilize

v. to cause something to become less stable or secure

synonym: unsettle, disrupt, upset

(1) **destabilize** the market, (2) **destabilize** a good relationship

The political crisis **destabilized** the country and caused widespread turmoil.

accredit

v. to give official recognition or approval to an individual, organization, or educational institution; to attribute something to a particular source or cause

synonym: authorize, endorse, validate

(1) **accredit** certification organizations, (2) **accredit** a course

The university will **accredit** the new college if it meets its standards.

Session 2: Spelling

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|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. in_____te details | <i>adj.</i> having many different parts and small details that all work together |
| 2. qua_____on dollars | <i>n.</i> a number equivalent to a thousand raised to the power of five, or 10 to the 15th power; colloquially used to indicate an extremely large or theoretical number |
| 3. ca____d structure | <i>n.</i> the protein coat that surrounds the genetic material (DNA or RNA) of a virus, often serving as a protective barrier and helping to facilitate infection of host cells |
| 4. amp_____le lipid | <i>n.</i> a molecule or compound that has both hydrophilic (water-loving) and hydrophobic (water-fearing) parts, often important in the formation of cell membranes and surfactants |
| 5. in____t a computer with a virus | <i>v.</i> to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism |
| 6. mo____r joints | <i>n.</i> a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances |
| 7. the pa_____en in the air | <i>n.</i> a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease |
| 8. re_____e an invader | <i>v.</i> to drive or force back; to reject with disgust or aversion |

ANSWERS: 1. intricate, 2. quadrillion, 3. capsid, 4. amphiphile, 5. infect, 6. mortar, 7. pathogen, 8. repulse

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|--|---|
| 9. des_____ze a good relationship | <i>v.</i> to cause something to become less stable or secure |
| 10. ch_____ne tablet | <i>n.</i> a chemical element with the symbol Cl and atomic number 17, a greenish-yellow gas that is highly reactive and used in a variety of applications, including as a bleach and disinfectant |
| 11. iso_____ol solution | <i>n.</i> a colorless, flammable liquid alcohol that is often used as a solvent, disinfectant, or antifreeze |
| 12. rhi_____us cold | <i>n.</i> the most common viral infectious agent in humans and is the predominant cause of the common cold |
| 13. hi___k a phone number | <i>v.</i> to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence |
| 14. hi___k a helicopter | <i>v.</i> to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence |
| 15. sa_____ze the kitchen | <i>v.</i> to clean or disinfect something to make it safe or hygienic; to remove potentially harmful or sensitive information from a document or communication |
| 16. began to cr_____e under financial pressure | <i>v.</i> to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support |
| 17. a rhi_____us in a host | <i>n.</i> the most common viral infectious agent in humans and is the predominant cause of the common cold |

ANSWERS: 9. destabilize, 10. chlorine, 11. isopropanol, 12. rhinovirus, 13. hijack, 14. hijack, 15. sanitize, 16. crumble, 17. rhinovirus

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|----------------------------------|---|
| 18. ac____it a course | <i>v.</i> to give official recognition or approval to an individual, organization, or educational institution; to attribute something to a particular source or cause |
| 19. cor____us bankruptcy | <i>n.</i> a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 |
| 20. ch____ne gas | <i>n.</i> a chemical element with the symbol Cl and atomic number 17, a greenish-yellow gas that is highly reactive and used in a variety of applications, including as a bleach and disinfectant |
| 21. r__t between friends | <i>n.</i> a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces |
| 22. burn my fi____ip | <i>n.</i> the end or tip of a finger |
| 23. sa____ze surfaces | <i>v.</i> to clean or disinfect something to make it safe or hygienic; to remove potentially harmful or sensitive information from a document or communication |
| 24. p_y a secret out of a person | <i>v.</i> to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions |

ANSWERS: 18. accredit, 19. coronavirus, 20. chlorine, 21. rift, 22. fingertip, 23. sanitize, 24. pry

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|----------------------------------|---|
| 25. in_____te lacework | <i>adj.</i> having many different parts and small details that all work together |
| 26. cor_____us antibody test kit | <i>n.</i> a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2 |
| 27. qua_____on atoms | <i>n.</i> a number equivalent to a thousand raised to the power of five, or 10 to the 15th power; colloquially used to indicate an extremely large or theoretical number |
| 28. plant pa_____en | <i>n.</i> a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease |
| 29. hyd_____ic amino acids | <i>adj.</i> tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water |
| 30. iso_____ol hand sanitizer | <i>n.</i> a colorless, flammable liquid alcohol that is often used as a solvent, disinfectant, or antifreeze |
| 31. use a cr_____r | <i>n.</i> a long, straight metal bar with a flattened or curved end used to pry or lever things apart |
| 32. apply fi_____ip pressure | <i>n.</i> the end or tip of a finger |
| 33. cr_____e to dust | <i>v.</i> to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support |

ANSWERS: 25. intricate, 26. coronavirus, 27. quadrillion, 28. pathogen, 29. hydrophobic, 30. isopropanol, 31. crowbar, 32. fingertip, 33. crumble

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|---|---|
| 34. amp_____le bilayer | <i>n.</i> a molecule or compound that has both hydrophilic (water-loving) and hydrophobic (water-fearing) parts, often important in the formation of cell membranes and surfactants |
| 35. geological r__t | <i>n.</i> a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces |
| 36. apply mo____r | <i>n.</i> a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances |
| 37. ac_____it certification organizations | <i>v.</i> to give official recognition or approval to an individual, organization, or educational institution; to attribute something to a particular source or cause |
| 38. hyd_____ic molecules | <i>adj.</i> tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water |
| 39. ca____d protein | <i>n.</i> the protein coat that surrounds the genetic material (DNA or RNA) of a virus, often serving as a protective barrier and helping to facilitate infection of host cells |
| 40. p_y into the affairs | <i>v.</i> to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions |
| 41. des_____ze the market | <i>v.</i> to cause something to become less stable or secure |

ANSWERS: 34. amphiphile, 35. rift, 36. mortar, 37. accredit, 38. hydrophobic, 39. capsid, 40. pry, 41. destabilize

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|----------------------------------|---|
| 42. re____e an attack | <i>v.</i> to drive or force back; to reject with disgust or aversion |
| 43. remove nails with a cr____r | <i>n.</i> a long, straight metal bar with a flattened or curved end used to pry or lever things apart |
| 44. in____t other animal species | <i>v.</i> to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism |

ANSWERS: 42. repulse, 43. crowbar, 44. infect

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. About half of all asthma attacks are thought to be caused by _____ infection.
 - n.* the most common viral infectious agent in humans and is the predominant cause of the common cold
2. The old building was starting to _____ due to years of neglect and lack of maintenance.
 - v.* to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support
3. The _____ of the virus is composed of protein subunits.
 - n.* the protein coat that surrounds the genetic material (DNA or RNA) of a virus, often serving as a protective barrier and helping to facilitate infection of host cells
4. The _____ coating on the fabric repels water, keeping the wearer dry in a downpour.
 - adj.* tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water
5. Some people are sensitive to the smell of _____ and experience headaches or respiratory irritation.
 - n.* a chemical element with the symbol Cl and atomic number 17, a greenish-yellow gas that is highly reactive and used in a variety of applications, including as a bleach and disinfectant
6. Considering the situation of _____ organized stopped this year's beer festival.
 - n.* a large family of viruses that can cause illness in humans and animals, which name comes from the crown-like spikes on the surface of the virus, which can be seen under a microscope, and COVID-19 is caused by a specific type of coronavirus known as SARS-CoV-2

ANSWERS: 1. rhinovirus, 2. crumble, 3. capsid, 4. hydrophobic, 5. chlorine, 6. coronavirus,

7. mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated _____.
- n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
8. The political crisis _____ the country and caused widespread turmoil.
- v.* to cause something to become less stable or secure
9. The politician managed to deal with that _____ issue.
- adj.* having many different parts and small details that all work together
10. The university will _____ the new college if it meets its standards.
- v.* to give official recognition or approval to an individual, organization, or educational institution; to attribute something to a particular source or cause
11. He made a desperate effort to _____ an airliner.
- v.* to seize control of an airplane or other vehicle during an operation, especially with violence
12. The bricklayer started on the second course of bricks, laying them in fresh _____.
- n.* a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances
13. I always _____ my hands before eating to prevent germs from spreading.
- v.* to clean or disinfect something to make it safe or hygienic; to remove potentially harmful or sensitive information from a document or communication
14. The energy output of the sun is measured in _____ of watts.
- n.* a number equivalent to a thousand raised to the power of five, or 10 to the 15th power; colloquially used to indicate an extremely large or theoretical number

ANSWERS: 7. pathogens, 8. destabilized, 9. intricate, 10. accredit, 11. hijack, 12. mortar, 13. sanitize, 14. quadrillions

15. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.
v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
16. The army was _____ by the enemy and forced to retreat.
v. to drive or force back; to reject with disgust or aversion
17. He used a crowbar to ____ open the locked door.
v. to force open or to try to get information from someone by asking too many questions
18. The archaeologist ran his _____ along the pattern of the tombstones.
n. the end or tip of a finger
19. I added a few drops of _____ to my windshield washer fluid to prevent it from freezing in the winter.
n. a colorless, flammable liquid alcohol that is often used as a solvent, disinfectant, or antifreeze
20. Their disagreement caused a _____ in their friendship.
n. a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces
21. Soaps and detergents are examples of _____ compounds.
n. a molecule or compound that has both hydrophilic (water-loving) and hydrophobic (water-fearing) parts, often important in the formation of cell membranes and surfactants
22. She purchased a _____ safe to protect her valuable possessions.
n. a long, straight metal bar with a flattened or curved end used to pry or lever things apart

ANSWERS: 15. infect, 16. repulsed, 17. pry, 18. fingertips, 19. isopropanol, 20. rift, 21. amphiphile, 22. crowbar-resistant

ANSWERS: