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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Arunabha Ghosh: 5 steps for clean air in India | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

wholehearted

adj. sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment

synonym : passionate, enthusiastic, devoted

(1) **wholehearted** support, (2) **wholehearted** commitment
She put her **wholehearted** effort into finishing the project on time.

multifaceted

adj. having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied

synonym : complex, diverse, versatile

(1) a **multifaceted** undertaking, (2) **multifaceted** problem
The job requires excellent communication skills and a **multifaceted** approach to problem-solving.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student
He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym : buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

synonym: contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread

We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

miraculous

adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected

synonym: amazing, astonishing, awesome

(1) a **miraculous** encounter, (2) go through a **miraculous** change

He made a **miraculous** recovery.

smoker

n. a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking

(1) **smoker** behavior, (2) an inveterate **smoker**

Many **smokers** are aware of the health risks associated with smoking but find it difficult to quit.

purify

v. to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it

synonym: refine, filter, clarify

(1) **purify** hydrogen gas, (2) **purify** the blood

The equipment is frequently used to **purify** and distribute drinking water.

dweller

n. a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location

synonym: resident, occupant, inhabitant

(1) city **dweller**, (2) rural **dweller**

The mountain **dweller** lived off the land and had a deep connection to nature.

precaution

n. a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness

synonym: safeguard, measure, provision

(1) airborne **precaution**, (2) take extra **precautions**

As a **precaution**, the company locked all of its doors after a threat was made.

spew

v. to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts

synonym: vomit, spout, discharge

(1) **spew** carbon dioxide, (2) **spew** insults

The volcano started to **spew** lava and ash, causing panic among residents.

whack

v. to hit someone or something hard or noisily

synonym: hit, strike, bash

(1) **whack** him with a stick, (2) **whack** up the volume

He **whacked** the ball out of the park with his home run.

mole

n. small velvety-furred burrowing mammal having small eyes and fossorial forefeet; a spy who works against enemy espionage; a small congenital pigmented spot on the skin

(1) **mole** catcher, (2) **mole** planted by the FBI

The **mole** burrowed in the ground.

offend

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

synonym: insult, hurt, anger

(1) **offend** his sensibilities, (2) **offend** a customer

His rude comments **offended** many people at the party.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

cracker

n. a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited

synonym : biscuit, hacker, banger

(1) cannon **cracker**, (2) computer **cracker**

I love having a cheese and **cracker** platter while watching a movie.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym : compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

stubble

n. short, rough growth of hair or bristles on a person's face after a period of not shaving; the short, rough growth remaining after cutting or harvesting a crop

synonym : stump, bristle, whisker

(1) **stubble** beard, (2) **stubble** field

He had rough **stubble** on his chin from not shaving for a few days.

paddy

n. a flooded field where rice is grown, also known as a rice paddy; rice that is still in its husk, harvested from marshy fields called paddies, usually in Asia

synonym : rice field, wetland

(1) **paddy** farming, (2) **paddy** production

The sight of the **paddy** fields swaying in the wind was breathtaking.

groundwater

n. water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock

synonym : aquifer, well water, underground water

(1) **groundwater** supply, (2) contaminated **groundwater**

The town's main source of water is natural **groundwater**.

laborer

n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

synonym : worker, employee, operative

(1) **laborer** job, (2) skilled **laborer**

The construction site hired many **laborers** to help with the heavy lifting.

segregate

v. to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic

synonym : isolate, separate, divide

(1) **segregate** by race, (2) **segregate** boys and girls

The school board decided to **segregate** students by the ability to meet their needs better.

recycle

v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again

synonym : reclaim, reuse, reprocess

(1) **recycle** the cardboard boxes, (2) **recycle** milk packaging into new paper

We largely **recycle** the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.

apathy

n. lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm

synonym : affectlessness, dispassion, indifference

(1) **apathy** in the election, (2) political **apathy**

The global economic crisis has led to pervasive **apathy** and powerlessness.

bureaucracy

n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by

elected representatives

synonym : administration, government, system

(1) government **bureaucracy**, (2) arbitrary **bureaucracy**

The bumbling **bureaucracy** made it difficult to get the permits we needed.

enlighten

v. to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense

synonym : inform, educate, illuminate

(1) **enlighten** legions of people, (2) **enlighten** other countries

The teacher sought to **enlighten** her students by introducing them to new ideas and perspectives.

Session 2: Spelling

1. en_____en legions of people *v.* to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense
2. computer cr_____r *n.* a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited
3. se_____te by race *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
4. political ap____y *n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
5. who_____ted commitment *adj.* sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment
6. po_____e the air *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
7. pa__y farming *n.* a flooded field where rice is grown, also known as a rice paddy; rice that is still in its husk, harvested from marshy fields called paddies, usually in Asia
8. a mir_____us encounter *adj.* very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected

ANSWERS: 1. enlighten, 2. cracker, 3. segregate, 4. apathy, 5. wholehearted, 6. pollute, 7. paddy, 8. miraculous

9. st____e field *n.* short, rough growth of hair or bristles on a person's face after a period of not shaving; the short, rough growth remaining after cutting or harvesting a crop
10. re____e milk packaging into new paper *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
11. city dw____r *n.* a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location
12. full of em____y *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
13. take extra pre____ons *n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
14. wh__k up the volume *v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily
15. of____d a customer *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
16. gro____er supply *n.* water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
17. st____e beard *n.* short, rough growth of hair or bristles on a person's face after a period of not shaving; the short, rough growth remaining after cutting or harvesting a crop
18. el____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 9. stubble, 10. recycle, 11. dweller, 12. empathy, 13. precaution, 14. whack, 15. offend, 16. groundwater, 17. stubble, 18. electrify

19. rural dw_____r
n. a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location
20. a mul_____ted undertaking
adj. having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied
21. wh__k him with a stick
v. to hit someone or something hard or noisily
22. mul_____ted problem
adj. having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied
23. go through a mir_____us change
adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected
24. contaminated gro_____er
n. water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
25. sm___r behavior
n. a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking
26. s__w carbon dioxide
v. to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
27. el_____fy the audience
v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
28. an inveterate sm___r
n. a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking
29. po_____e the thread
v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
30. hu_____g sound
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

ANSWERS: 19. dweller, 20. multifaceted, 21. whack, 22. multifaceted, 23. miraculous, 24. groundwater, 25. smoker, 26. spew, 27. electrify, 28. smoker, 29. pollute, 30. humming

31. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
32. re_____e the cardboard boxes *v.* to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
33. se_____te boys and girls *v.* to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
34. m__e planted by the FBI *n.* small velvety-furred burrowing mammal having small eyes and fossorial forefeet; a spy who works against enemy espionage; a small congenital pigmented spot on the skin
35. cannon cr_____r *n.* a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited
36. government bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
37. arbitrary bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
38. ap___y in the election *n.* lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm

ANSWERS: 31. industrious, 32. recycle, 33. segregate, 34. mole, 35. cracker, 36. bureaucracy, 37. bureaucracy, 38. apathy

39. of___d his sensibilities *v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
40. en_____en other countries *v.* to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense
41. pu___y the blood *v.* to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it
42. la_____r job *n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
43. who_____ted support *adj.* sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment
44. s__w insults *v.* to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
45. airborne pre_____on *n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness
46. skilled la_____r *n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
47. em_____y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
48. pu___y hydrogen gas *v.* to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it

ANSWERS: 39. offend, 40. enlighten, 41. purify, 42. laborer, 43. wholehearted, 44. spew, 45. precaution, 46. laborer, 47. empathy, 48. purify

49. hu____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
50. m__e catcher *n.* small velvety-furred burrowing mammal having small eyes and fossorial forefeet; a spy who works against enemy espionage; a small congenital pigmented spot on the skin
51. pa__y production *n.* a flooded field where rice is grown, also known as a rice paddy; rice that is still in its husk, harvested from marshy fields called paddies, usually in Asia
52. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 49. humming, 50. mole, 51. paddy, 52. industrious

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I love having a cheese and _____ platter while watching a movie.
 - n.* a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited

2. The construction site hired many _____ to help with the heavy lifting.
 - n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

3. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
 - v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

4. As a _____ the company locked all of its doors after a threat was made.
 - n.* a measure taken in advance to prevent harm, danger, or injury; foresightfulness

5. The teacher sought to _____ her students by introducing them to new ideas and perspectives.
 - v.* to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense

6. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
 - n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

7. He _____ the ball out of the park with his home run.
 - v.* to hit someone or something hard or noisily

ANSWERS: 1. cracker, 2. laborers, 3. electrify, 4. precaution, 5. enlighten, 6. Empathy, 7. whacked

8. She put her _____ effort into finishing the project on time.
adj. sincere, genuine, and enthusiastic; with complete devotion or commitment
9. The sight of the _____ fields swaying in the wind was breathtaking.
n. a flooded field where rice is grown, also known as a rice paddy; rice that is still in its husk, harvested from marshy fields called paddies, usually in Asia
10. The bumbling _____ made it difficult to get the permits we needed.
n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
11. He had rough _____ on his chin from not shaving for a few days.
n. short, rough growth of hair or bristles on a person's face after a period of not shaving; the short, rough growth remaining after cutting or harvesting a crop
12. The global economic crisis has led to pervasive _____ and powerlessness.
n. lack of emotion, concern, or enthusiasm
13. The volcano started to _____ lava and ash, causing panic among residents.
v. to eject forcefully and abundantly; to flow out rapidly and in large amounts
14. The job requires excellent communication skills and a _____ approach to problem-solving.
adj. having many different aspects, features, or sides; complex and varied
15. The town's main source of water is natural _____.
n. water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock

ANSWERS: 8. wholehearted, 9. paddy, 10. bureaucracy, 11. stubble, 12. apathy, 13. spew, 14. multifaceted, 15. groundwater

16. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.
v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed
17. The mountain _____ lived off the land and had a deep connection to nature.
n. a person or animal that lives in a particular place or region; an inhabitant of a specific location
18. The _____ burrowed in the ground.
n. small velvety-furred burrowing mammal having small eyes and fossorial forefeet; a spy who works against enemy espionage; a small congenital pigmented spot on the skin
19. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
20. The school board decided to _____ students by the ability to meet their needs better.
v. to separate or set apart from others, often based on race, gender, or some other characteristic
21. The equipment is frequently used to _____ and distribute drinking water.
v. to remove harmful substances from something and increase the concentration of it
22. We largely _____ the circuit board of cell phones because they contain a lot of valuable metals.
v. to sort and collect things to process them and produce valuable materials that can be used again
23. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.
adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

ANSWERS: 16. offended, 17. dweller, 18. mole, 19. industrious, 20. segregate, 21. purify, 22. recycle, 23. humming

24. He made a _____ recovery.

adj. very effective or lucky, or completely unexpected

25. Many _____ are aware of the health risks associated with smoking but find it difficult to quit.

n. a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking

26. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

ANSWERS: 24. miraculous, 25. smokers, 26. pollute