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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Chip Berlet: Are the Illuminati real? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

Catholic

adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader

(1) **catholic** in his tastes, (2) the **Catholic** Church

Sociologists are now interested in **catholic** world peace.

shortcoming

n. a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect

synonym: deficiency, fault, weakness

(1) have a serious **shortcoming**, (2) the **shortcoming** in the system

The company's main **shortcoming** was a lack of innovation.

illuminati

n. secret society or group claiming to possess special knowledge or enlightenment, often used to refer to a hypothetical group of influential, powerful people who conspire to control world events; people who claim to possess special understanding or knowledge of a particular subject or concept

synonym: secret society, highbrow, academician

(1) **illuminati** conspiracy, (2) create **illuminati-themed** artwork

The **illuminati** experience in the book represents a transformative journey toward knowledge and enlightenment.

Freemason

n. a member of a secret society or fraternity known as Freemasonry, which has its roots in the stonemason guilds of medieval Europe and incorporates various esoteric rituals, symbols, and principles of morality and brotherhood

(1) **Freemason** lodge, (2) **Freemason** membership
Many of the Founding Fathers were members of the **Freemason** fraternity.

guild

n. an organization or association of individuals in a particular trade, profession, or field formed for mutual aid and protection or for furthering their collective interests

synonym: association, union, society

(1) a purchase **guild**, (2) a **guild** system

The blacksmith was a local **guild** member and often participated in their events and workshops.

masonry

n. the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials

synonym: brickwork, stonework, bricklaying

(1) **masonry** wall, (2) **masonry** restoration

The cathedral's **masonry** sculptures were intricately carved and carefully placed.

revolt

n. to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

synonym: rebellion, uprising, insurgence

(1) **revolt** against existing ways of thinking, (2) **revolt** against the dictator

The people tried to **revolt** to oust the tyrant.

baron

n. a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)

synonym: nobleman, lord, peer

(1) media **baron**, (2) the domain of a **baron**

The **baron's** castle was the center of political and social life in the region.

mason

n. a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

synonym: bricklayer, stonemason, masonry worker

(1) **mason** jar, (2) the craft of a **mason**

The accomplished **mason** expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.

monarch

n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen

synonym: ruler, sovereign, majesty

(1) an absolute **monarch**, (2) **monarch** butterflies

She came from a commoner background but eventually became the **monarch** of that country.

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.

allege

v. to claim or assert that something is true without providing proof or evidence

synonym: claim, assert, state

(1) **allege** abuse, (2) **allege** wrongdoing

The prosecution **alleged** that the defendant was guilty of the crime.

ostensible

adj. appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared to be one thing while being something different or hidden

synonym: apparent, seeming, supposed

(1) **ostensible** reason, (2) **ostensible** explanation

The **ostensible** purpose of the meeting was to discuss budgeting, but the real topic was employee layoffs.

dissolve

v. to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss

synonym: disband, disappear, liquefy

(1) **dissolve** the sugar, (2) officially **dissolved** the marriage

The political party **dissolved** after much internal fighting.

seize

v. to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

synonym: grab, grasp, capture

(1) **seize** a person's property, (2) **seize** the day

He has the superpower to **seize** a business opportunity.

exile

n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons

synonym: banishment, expulsion, deportation

(1) **exile** community, (2) political **exile**

The **exiled** king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.

afterlife

n. life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions

synonym: eternal life, immortality, hereafter

(1) **afterlife** name, (2) corporate **afterlife**

The belief in an **afterlife** comforted those mourning the loss of their loved ones.

banishment

n. the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons

synonym: exile, expulsion, deportation

(1) **banishment** from society, (2) self- **banishment**

The king ordered the **banishment** of the troublemaker from the kingdom.

orchestrate

v. to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly; (noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music

synonym: plan, coordinate, arrange

(1) **orchestrate** a takeover, (2) **orchestrate** the political reinstatement

He carefully **orchestrated** the details of his business plan.

overthrow

v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

synonym: defeat, destroy, conquer

(1) **overthrow** the government, (2) **overthrow** the theory

The group aims to **overthrow** the military regime.

monarchy

n. a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority

synonym: kingdom, realm, empire

(1) **monarchy** system, (2) abolish **monarchy**

The **monarchy** government had been in power for centuries.

preach

v. to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience

synonym: expound, advocate, sermonize

(1) **preach** the gospel, (2) **preach** to the masses

The pastor **preached** about the importance of forgiveness.

upheaval

n. great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation

synonym: disturbance, turmoil, upheaval

(1) **upheaval** of society, (2) the big **upheaval** of my life

The recent political **upheaval** has left the country in a state of chaos.

whisper

v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

synonym : murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves

He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

spur

n. a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something

synonym : encouragement, motivation, stimulus

(1) **spur** of the moment, (2) **spur** a momentum of economic growth

The threat of losing his job was the **spur** he needed to work harder.

Session 2: Spelling

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|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. af_____fe name | <i>n.</i> life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions |
| 2. Fr_____on membership | <i>n.</i> a member of a secret society or fraternity known as Freemasonry, which has its roots in the stonemason guilds of medieval Europe and incorporates various esoteric rituals, symbols, and principles of morality and brotherhood |
| 3. the big up_____al of my life | <i>n.</i> great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation |
| 4. ma__n jar | <i>n.</i> a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete |
| 5. se__e the day | <i>v.</i> to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something |
| 6. a det_____nt of crop yields | <i>n.</i> a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 7. the Ca_____ic Church | <i>adj.</i> universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader |
| 8. a purchase gu__d | <i>n.</i> an organization or association of individuals in a particular trade, profession, or field formed for mutual aid and protection or for furthering their collective interests |

ANSWERS: 1. afterlife, 2. Freemason, 3. upheaval, 4. mason, 5. seize, 6. determinant, 7. Catholic, 8. guild

9. s__r of the moment *n.* a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something
10. orc_____te a takeover *v.* to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly; (noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music
11. ov_____ow the government *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
12. mo_____hy system *n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
13. self-ban_____nt *n.* the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
14. abolish mo_____hy *n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
15. ov_____ow the theory *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
16. se__e a person's property *v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something
17. al___e wrongdoing *v.* to claim or assert that something is true without providing proof or evidence

ANSWERS: 9. spur, 10. orchestrate, 11. overthrow, 12. monarchy, 13. banishment, 14. monarchy, 15. overthrow, 16. seize, 17. allege

18. the craft of a ma__n *n.* a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete
19. ex__e community *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
20. create ill____ti-themed artwork *n.* secret society or group claiming to possess special knowledge or enlightenment, often used to refer to a hypothetical group of influential, powerful people who conspire to control world events; people who claim to possess special understanding or knowledge of a particular subject or concept
21. ma____y wall *n.* the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials
22. pr__h to the masses *v.* to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience
23. ca____ic in his tastes *adj.* universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
24. ban____nt from society *n.* the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
25. re__t against existing ways of thinking *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler

ANSWERS: 18. mason, 19. exile, 20. illuminati, 21. masonry, 22. preach, 23. Catholic, 24. banishment, 25. revolt

26. ill_____ti conspiracy *n.* secret society or group claiming to possess special knowledge or enlightenment, often used to refer to a hypothetical group of influential, powerful people who conspire to control world events; people who claim to possess special understanding or knowledge of a particular subject or concept
27. an absolute mo_____h *n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
28. ost_____le explanation *adj.* appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared to be one thing while being something different or hidden
29. the domain of a ba__n *n.* a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)
30. orc_____te the political reinstatement *v.* to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly; (noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music
31. the wh_____r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
32. ma_____y restoration *n.* the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials

ANSWERS: 26. illuminati, 27. monarch, 28. ostensible, 29. baron, 30. orchestrate, 31. whisper, 32. masonry

33. media ba__n *n.* a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)
34. ost_____le reason *adj.* appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared to be one thing while being something different or hidden
35. s__r a momentum of economic growth *n.* a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something
36. Fr_____on lodge *n.* a member of a secret society or fraternity known as Freemasonry, which has its roots in the stonemason guilds of medieval Europe and incorporates various esoteric rituals, symbols, and principles of morality and brotherhood
37. al___e abuse *v.* to claim or assert that something is true without providing proof or evidence
38. a gu__d system *n.* an organization or association of individuals in a particular trade, profession, or field formed for mutual aid and protection or for furthering their collective interests
39. re___t against the dictator *n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
40. mo_____h butterflies *n.* a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen
41. answer in a wh_____r *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

ANSWERS: 33. baron, 34. ostensible, 35. spur, 36. Freemason, 37. allege, 38. guild, 39. revolt, 40. monarch, 41. whisper

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|--|-----------|---|
| 42. the sho_____ng in the system | <i>n.</i> | a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect |
| 43. di_____ve the sugar | <i>v.</i> | to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss |
| 44. officially di_____ved the marriage | <i>v.</i> | to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss |
| 45. environmental det_____nt | <i>n.</i> | a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result |
| 46. have a serious sho_____ng | <i>n.</i> | a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect |
| 47. up_____al of society | <i>n.</i> | great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation |
| 48. political ex___e | <i>n.</i> | the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons |
| 49. pr___h the gospel | <i>v.</i> | to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience |
| 50. corporate af_____fe | <i>n.</i> | life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions |

ANSWERS: 42. shortcoming, 43. dissolve, 44. dissolve, 45. determinant, 46. shortcoming, 47. upheaval, 48. exile, 49. preach, 50. afterlife

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The group aims to _____ the military regime.
v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
2. He took me aside and _____ in my ear.
v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
3. The _____ king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.
n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
4. The _____ castle was the center of political and social life in the region.
n. a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)
5. The king ordered the _____ of the troublemaker from the kingdom.
n. the act of expelling or forcing someone to leave a particular place or social group as a form of punishment, often for political or legal reasons
6. He carefully _____ the details of his business plan.
v. to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly;
(noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music
7. The accomplished _____ expertly crafted the stone walls of the castle.
n. a skilled worker who builds structures with stone, brick, or concrete

ANSWERS: 1. overthrow, 2. whispered, 3. exiled, 4. baron's, 5. banishment, 6. orchestrated, 7. mason

8. The _____ government had been in power for centuries.
- n.* a form of government in which a country is ruled by a king or a queen who typically inherits the authority
9. The pastor _____ about the importance of forgiveness.
- v.* to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience
10. The blacksmith was a local _____ member and often participated in their events and workshops.
- n.* an organization or association of individuals in a particular trade, profession, or field formed for mutual aid and protection or for furthering their collective interests
11. The political party _____ after much internal fighting.
- v.* to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss
12. The belief in an _____ comforted those mourning the loss of their loved ones.
- n.* life after death, as believed in many cultures and religious traditions
13. The people tried to _____ to oust the tyrant.
- n.* to take violent action against authority, especially government or ruler
14. The _____ experience in the book represents a transformative journey toward knowledge and enlightenment.
- n.* secret society or group claiming to possess special knowledge or enlightenment, often used to refer to a hypothetical group of influential, powerful people who conspire to control world events; people who claim to possess special understanding or knowledge of a particular subject or concept

ANSWERS: 8. monarchy, 9. preached, 10. guild, 11. dissolved, 12. afterlife, 13. revolt, 14. illuminati

15. The prosecution _____ that the defendant was guilty of the crime.
v. to claim or assert that something is true without providing proof or evidence
16. Many of the Founding Fathers were members of the _____ fraternity.
n. a member of a secret society or fraternity known as Freemasonry, which has its roots in the stonemason guilds of medieval Europe and incorporates various esoteric rituals, symbols, and principles of morality and brotherhood
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. The company's main _____ was a lack of innovation.
n. a lack or deficiency in a particular respect; a fault or defect
19. Sociologists are now interested in _____ world peace.
adj. universal and including many different types of things; related to or associated with the part of the Christian Church that has the Pope as its leader
20. The _____ purpose of the meeting was to discuss budgeting, but the real topic was employee layoffs.
adj. appearing or seeming to be true, genuine, or plausible, but not necessarily so; outwardly appearing or declared to be one thing while being something different or hidden
21. She came from a commoner background but eventually became the _____ of that country.
n. a person who rules a country, such as a king or queen

ANSWERS: 15. alleged, 16. Freemason, 17. determinant, 18. shortcoming, 19. catholic, 20. ostensible, 21. monarch

22. He has the superpower to _____ a business opportunity.

- v.* to catch or take hold of someone or something suddenly and forcibly; to capture the attention or imagination of something

23. The cathedral's _____ sculptures were intricately carved and carefully placed.

- n.* the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials

24. The threat of losing his job was the _____ he needed to work harder.

- n.* a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something

25. The recent political _____ has left the country in a state of chaos.

- n.* great change, disruption, or disturbance; (geology) a rise of land to a higher elevation

ANSWERS: 22. seize, 23. masonry, 24. spur, 25. upheaval