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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jon Gray: The power of the Afro pick | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

toothbrush

n. a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth

synonym: brush, scrubber, cleaner

(1) **toothbrush** stand, (2) power **toothbrush**

My **toothbrush** with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.

groom

v. to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat

synonym: brush, comb, neaten

(1) **groom** duties, (2) **groom** a horse

I need to **groom** my dog before his fur gets too long.

subconscious

adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

synonym: unconscious, latent, hidden

(1) **subconscious** influence, (2) **subconscious** behavior

The **subconscious** mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.

utilitarian

adj. designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious

synonym: functional, practical, pragmatic

(1) **utilitarian** design, (2) **utilitarian** economics

The kitchen is designed with a **utilitarian** approach, focusing on practicality rather than aesthetics.

hairstyle

n. the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head

synonym: hairdo, coiffure, haircut

(1) modern **hairstyle**, (2) bob **hairstyle**

My sister got a new **hairstyle** for her job interview.

ergonomic

adj. relating to or designed for efficiency and comfort in the working environment

synonym: user-friendly, efficient, comfortable

(1) **ergonomic** design, (2) **ergonomic** keyboard

The **ergonomic** desk allows for better posture and comfort while working.

straighten

v. to make something straight or orderly; to adjust or fix something crooked, bent, or misaligned

synonym: even up, align, untangle

(1) **straighten** out a problem, (2) **straighten** a crooked picture

I need to **straighten** my hair before I go to the party.

spherical

adj. having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance

synonym: round, orbicular, spherical

(1) **spherical** shape, (2) **spherical** object

The Earth is a nearly **spherical** planet.

rebellion

n. an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler

synonym: insurrection, uprising, revolt

(1) **rebellion** leader, (2) excite **rebellion**

The antigovernment **rebellion** was put down quickly by the government's military forces.

embellish

v. to make something more beautiful, interesting, or attractive by adding decorative details or features; to exaggerate or enhance the truth or significance of something

synonym: decorate, adorn, beautify

(1) **embellish** a story, (2) **embellish** a room

I decided to **embellish** the plain white dress with some colorful accessories.

coincide

v. to take place at or near the same time

synonym: overlap, coexist, concur

(1) partly **coincide**, (2) **coincide** with reality

These results **coincide** with our hypothesis.

panther

n. a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia

synonym: panthera, big cat, feline

(1) black **panther**, (2) **panther** habitat

The **panther's** sleek black coat and piercing yellow eyes make for a striking vision in the forest.

purposely

adv. with the intention of doing something; deliberately

synonym: intentionally, deliberately, on purpose

(1) **purposely** ignored, (2) **purposely** vague

She **purposely** left her phone at home to disconnect and enjoy her vacation.

clench

v. to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress

synonym: grasp, clasp, tighten

(1) **clench** teeth, (2) **clench** muscles

He **clenched** his fist in anger when he heard the bad news.

remnant

n. a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a

surviving piece or fragment of something

synonym : remainder, leftover, residue

(1) **remnant** of the past, (2) **remnants** of fabric

The only **remnant** left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.

enlightened

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

synonym : educated, informed, aware

(1) **enlightened** age, (2) make an **enlightened** decision

The **enlightened** teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pu_____ly ignored *adv.* with the intention of doing something; deliberately
2. pu_____ly vague *adv.* with the intention of doing something; deliberately
3. excite re_____on *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
4. uti_____an economics *adj.* designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious
5. re_____ts of fabric *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
6. gr__m duties *v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat
7. cl___h muscles *v.* to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress
8. re_____on leader *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
9. power too_____sh *n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
10. gr__m a horse *v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat

ANSWERS: 1. purposely, 2. purposely, 3. rebellion, 4. utilitarian, 5. remnant, 6. groom, 7. clench, 8. rebellion, 9. toothbrush, 10. groom

11. em_____sh a story *v.* to make something more beautiful, interesting, or attractive by adding decorative details or features; to exaggerate or enhance the truth or significance of something
12. partly co_____de *v.* to take place at or near the same time
13. cl____h teeth *v.* to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress
14. str_____en a crooked picture *v.* to make something straight or orderly; to adjust or fix something crooked, bent, or misaligned
15. sp_____al shape *adj.* having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance
16. str_____en out a problem *v.* to make something straight or orderly; to adjust or fix something crooked, bent, or misaligned
17. re_____t of the past *n.* a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
18. too_____sh stand *n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
19. sub_____ous behavior *adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
20. pa_____r habitat *n.* a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia

ANSWERS: 11. embellish, 12. coincide, 13. clench, 14. straighten, 15. spherical, 16. straighten, 17. remnant, 18. toothbrush, 19. subconscious, 20. panther

21. er_____ic design *adj.* relating to or designed for efficiency and comfort in the working environment
22. em_____sh a room *v.* to make something more beautiful, interesting, or attractive by adding decorative details or features; to exaggerate or enhance the truth or significance of something
23. enl_____ed age *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
24. er_____ic keyboard *adj.* relating to or designed for efficiency and comfort in the working environment
25. co_____de with reality *v.* to take place at or near the same time
26. make an enl_____ed decision *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
27. black pa_____r *n.* a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia
28. bob ha_____le *n.* the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head
29. sub_____ous influence *adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
30. uti_____an design *adj.* designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious
31. sp_____al object *adj.* having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance

ANSWERS: 21. ergonomic, 22. embellish, 23. enlightened, 24. ergonomic, 25. coincide, 26. enlightened, 27. panther, 28. hairstyle, 29. subconscious, 30. utilitarian, 31. spherical

32. modern ha_____le

n. the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head

ANSWERS: 32. hairstyle

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. These results _____ with our hypothesis.
v. to take place at or near the same time
2. My sister got a new _____ for her job interview.
n. the way in which a person's hair is cut, styled, or arranged on their head
3. The _____ teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.
adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
4. The only _____ left of the ancient civilization was the crumbling ruins of their temples.
n. a small remaining quantity of something, considered separately from what has been lost or destroyed; a surviving piece or fragment of something
5. The kitchen is designed with a _____ approach, focusing on practicality rather than aesthetics.
adj. designed to be practical and functional rather than decorative or luxurious
6. I decided to _____ the plain white dress with some colorful accessories.
v. to make something more beautiful, interesting, or attractive by adding decorative details or features; to exaggerate or enhance the truth or significance of something
7. The antigovernment _____ was put down quickly by the government's military forces.
n. an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler

ANSWERS: 1. coincide, 2. hairstyle, 3. enlightened, 4. remnant, 5. utilitarian, 6. embellish, 7. rebellion

8. The _____ sleek black coat and piercing yellow eyes make for a striking vision in the forest.
- n.* a large and powerful wildcat with a distinctive sleek black coat found primarily in the Americas, Africa, and Asia
9. He _____ his fist in anger when he heard the bad news.
- v.* to close tightly or grip firmly; to contract or stiffen, especially as in response to stress or pain; to tighten or compress
10. I need to _____ my dog before his fur gets too long.
- v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat
11. The _____ mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.
- adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
12. The _____ desk allows for better posture and comfort while working.
- adj.* relating to or designed for efficiency and comfort in the working environment
13. The Earth is a nearly _____ planet.
- adj.* having the shape of a sphere; round, spherical, or ball-shaped in appearance
14. My _____ with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.
- n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
15. She _____ left her phone at home to disconnect and enjoy her vacation.
- adv.* with the intention of doing something; deliberately

ANSWERS: 8. panther's, 9. clenched, 10. groom, 11. subconscious, 12. ergonomic, 13. spherical, 14. toothbrush, 15. purposely

16. I need to _____ my hair before I go to the party.

- v. to make something straight or orderly; to adjust or fix something crooked, bent, or misaligned

ANSWERS: 16. straighten