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TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

imperfectly

adv. in a faulty or incomplete way

synonym : amiss, insufficiently, clumsily

(1) **imperfectly** developed, (2) **imperfectly** known disease

He created an **imperfectly** shaped torso.

wreckage

n. the remains of something that has been destroyed, ruined, severely damaged, or crashed, usually referring to vehicles, buildings, or machinery

synonym : debris, remains, demolition

(1) **wreckage** recovery, (2) ship **wreckage**

The **wreckage** of the plane was scattered across the field after the crash.

trade-off

n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

synonym : compromise, balance, exchange

(1) **trade-off** problem, (2) environmental **trade-off**

There was a **trade-off** between speed and accuracy in the task.

worldview

n. a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world

synonym : perspective, position, viewpoint

(1) mainstream **worldview**, (2) the **worldview** of the ancient civilization

The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing **worldviews**.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

synonym : health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**

We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

playbook

n. a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action

synonym : strategy, game plan, manual

(1) **playbook** strategy, (2) political **playbook**

The coach's **playbook** helped the team win the championship.

doe

n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym : rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

cofounder

n. one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business

(1) **cofounder** of the university, (2) late **cofounder**

He is the **cofounder** and chairman of this tech company.

overconfidence

n. excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior

synonym : overestimation, hubris, arrogance

(1) **overconfidence** bias, (2) false **overconfidence**

The student's **overconfidence** in their writing abilities caused them not to bother to proofread their essay, resulting in a poor grades.

entitle

v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

synonym : allow, permit, enable

(1) **entitle** him to a pension, (2) **entitle** the company to use the logo

The employee was **entitled** to a week of vacation time.

infrequent

adj. occurring rarely or irregularly; happening at long intervals; not happening often or in large numbers

synonym : rare, sporadic, uncommon

(1) **infrequent** showers, (2) **infrequent** meetings

Traveling to remote villages can be difficult due to **infrequent** transportation.

presumptuous

adj. excessively bold or forward; taking liberties beyond what is appropriate or socially acceptable

synonym : arrogant, overconfident, presuming

(1) **presumptuous** behavior, (2) **presumptuous** attitude

It was **presumptuous** of him to assume he would be hired for the job without submitting a resume.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

spitball

n. a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a

playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner

synonym : paper ball, chewed paper, spit wad

(1) fling a **spitball**, (2) **spitball** ideas

The teacher caught the student making a **spitball** gun in the back of the classroom.

elusive

adj. difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember

synonym : mysterious, ambiguous, inapproachable

(1) an **elusive** criminal, (2) track down an **elusive** fact

The physicist who found the **elusive** particle won the Nobel Prize.

unintended

adj. not planned or meant

synonym : accidental, unconsenting, involuntary

(1) **unintended** bias, (2) **unintended** misunderstanding

Excessive human interference in the global environment may bring **unintended** consequences.

unavoidable

adj. impossible to avoid or evade; inevitable

synonym : inevitable, inescapable, certain

(1) an **unavoidable** accident, (2) under **unavoidable** circumstances

There are now fears that war is **unavoidable**.

sandbox

n. an outdoor play area for children consisting of a box filled with sand; a virtual testing environment used for software development or security testing

synonym : playpen, sandpit, box

(1) **sandbox** approach, (2) virtual **sandbox**

The children played in the **sandbox** for hours, building sandcastles and digging tunnels.

unstoppable

adj. impossible to stop or prevent

synonym : unshakable, unyielding, relentless

(1) **unstoppable** force, (2) **unstoppable** momentum

The team's winning streak was **unstoppable**.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

thunderous

adj. producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive

synonym: thundering, booming, loud

(1) **thunderous** roar, (2) **thunderous** noise

The **thunderous** applause lasted for several minutes after the performance.

applause

n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

synonym: clapping, cheering, acclaim

(1) round of **applause**, (2) earn **applause**

The **applause** burst from the audience.

ovation

n. a sustained and enthusiastic show of appreciation, usually given in the form of applause, for something or someone that is admired or respected

synonym: applause, accolade, praise

(1) standing **ovation**, (2) spontaneous **ovation**

The singer received an **ovation** from the crowd after her performance.

savior

n. a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth

synonym: hero, rescuer, redeemer

(1) political **savior**, (2) pray to the **savior**

The guru of that religion thought of himself as a **savior**.

payoff

n. the outcome or result of an action or series of actions; the return or reward gained from an investment, effort, or risk

synonym : reward, compensation, return

(1) financial **payoff**, (2) emotional **payoff**

The **payoff** for all my hard work was finally getting a promotion.

hurdle

n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome

synonym : obstacle, barrier, challenge

(1) overcome **hurdles**, (2) **hurdle** race

The company faced several **hurdles** in the development of its new product.

unproductive

adj. not producing or able to produce very much or desired results

synonym : fruitless, ineffective, idle

(1) in an **unproductive** manner, (2) **unproductive** industries

The negotiations between labor and management were **unproductive**.

congratulation

n. the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another

synonym : praise, compliment, felicitation

(1) **congratulation** on a promotion, (2) a matter for **congratulation**

The **congratulations** from her friends and family were overwhelming after she won the championship.

mediocrity

n. the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

synonym : averageness, ordinariness, unoriginality

(1) sink into **mediocrity**, (2) escape **mediocrity**

He was content with living a life of **mediocrity**.

quo

n. the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

synonym: status, condition, state

(1) status **quo** politician, (2) **quo** warranto

The company has been successful in maintaining the status **quo**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. uni_____ed bias *adj.* not planned or meant
2. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
3. political sa____r *n.* a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth
4. sa____x approach *n.* an outdoor play area for children consisting of a box filled with sand; a virtual testing environment used for software development or security testing
5. sp____ll ideas *n.* a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner
6. thu_____us noise *adj.* producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive
7. imp_____ly known disease *adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
8. imp_____ly developed *adv.* in a faulty or incomplete way
9. uns_____le force *adj.* impossible to stop or prevent

ANSWERS: 1. unintended, 2. doe, 3. savior, 4. sandbox, 5. spitball, 6. thunderous, 7. imperfectly, 8. imperfectly, 9. unstoppable

10. pl_____ok strategy *n.* a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action
11. the wo_____ew of the ancient civilization *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
12. pre_____ous attitude *adj.* excessively bold or forward; taking liberties beyond what is appropriate or socially acceptable
13. fling a sp_____ll *n.* a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner
14. false ove_____nce *n.* excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior
15. en_____e the company to use the logo *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
16. uni_____ed misunderstanding *adj.* not planned or meant
17. overcome hu_____es *n.* a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
18. earn ap_____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

ANSWERS: 10. playbook, 11. worldview, 12. presumptuous, 13. spitball, 14. overconfidence, 15. entitle, 16. unintended, 17. hurdle, 18. applause

19. inf_____nt showers *adj.* occurring rarely or irregularly; happening at long intervals; not happening often or in large numbers
20. an una_____le accident *adj.* impossible to avoid or evade; inevitable
21. virtual sa_____x *n.* an outdoor play area for children consisting of a box filled with sand; a virtual testing environment used for software development or security testing
22. hu____e race *n.* a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
23. tr_____ff problem *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
24. in an unp_____ive manner *adj.* not producing or able to produce very much or desired results
25. status q_o politician *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
26. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
27. q_o warranto *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
28. spontaneous ov_____n *n.* a sustained and enthusiastic show of appreciation, usually given in the form of applause, for something or someone that is admired or respected
29. inf_____nt meetings *adj.* occurring rarely or irregularly; happening at long intervals; not happening often or in large numbers

ANSWERS: 19. infrequent, 20. unavoidable, 21. sandbox, 22. hurdle, 23. trade-off, 24. unproductive, 25. quo, 26. storytelling, 27. quo, 28. ovation, 29. infrequent

30. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
31. en_____e him to a pension *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
32. the wel_____ng of a nation *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
33. ove_____nce bias *n.* excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior
34. track down an el_____e fact *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
35. wr_____ge recovery *n.* the remains of something that has been destroyed, ruined, severely damaged, or crashed, usually referring to vehicles, buildings, or machinery
36. pray to the sa____r *n.* a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth
37. environmental tr_____ff *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
38. financial pa____f *n.* the outcome or result of an action or series of actions; the return or reward gained from an investment, effort, or risk

ANSWERS: 30. storytelling, 31. entitle, 32. well-being, 33. overconfidence, 34. elusive, 35. wreckage, 36. savior, 37. trade-off, 38. payoff

39. late co_____er *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
40. co_____er of the university *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
41. ship wr_____ge *n.* the remains of something that has been destroyed, ruined, severely damaged, or crashed, usually referring to vehicles, buildings, or machinery
42. sink into med_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal
43. a sense of wel_____ng *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
44. standing ov_____n *n.* a sustained and enthusiastic show of appreciation, usually given in the form of applause, for something or someone that is admired or respected
45. pre_____ous behavior *adj.* excessively bold or forward; taking liberties beyond what is appropriate or socially acceptable
46. con_____ion on a promotion *n.* the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another
47. an el_____e criminal *adj.* difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
48. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

ANSWERS: 39. cofounder, 40. cofounder, 41. wreckage, 42. mediocrity, 43. well-being, 44. ovation, 45. presumptuous, 46. congratulation, 47. elusive, 48. doe

49. under una_____le circumstances *adj.* impossible to avoid or evade; inevitable
50. escape med_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal
51. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
52. political pl_____ok *n.* a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action
53. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
54. a matter for con_____ion *n.* the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another
55. thu_____us roar *adj.* producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive
56. unp_____ive industries *adj.* not producing or able to produce very much or desired results

ANSWERS: 49. unavoidable, 50. mediocrity, 51. rev, 52. playbook, 53. rev, 54. congratulation, 55. thunderous, 56. unproductive

57. round of ap____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
58. mainstream wo_____ew *n.* a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
59. uns_____le momentum *adj.* impossible to stop or prevent
60. emotional pa___f *n.* the outcome or result of an action or series of actions; the return or reward gained from an investment, effort, or risk

ANSWERS: 57. applause, 58. worldview, 59. unstoppable, 60. payoff

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The singer received an _____ from the crowd after her performance.
n. a sustained and enthusiastic show of appreciation, usually given in the form of applause, for something or someone that is admired or respected
2. He is the _____ and chairman of this tech company.
n. one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
3. The teacher caught the student making a _____ gun in the back of the classroom.
n. a small ball made from chewing gum or paper and moistened with saliva, typically thrown as a prank or in a playful manner; (verb) brainstorm or throw out ideas, often in a casual or non-committal manner
4. The physicist who found the _____ particle won the Nobel Prize.
adj. difficult to find, define, achieve, or remember
5. Traveling to remote villages can be difficult due to _____ transportation.
adj. occurring rarely or irregularly; happening at long intervals; not happening often or in large numbers
6. The negotiations between labor and management were _____.
adj. not producing or able to produce very much or desired results
7. The _____ from her friends and family were overwhelming after she won the championship.
n. the act of expressing that someone has an occasion for celebration or the expression of pleasure at the success or good fortune of another

ANSWERS: 1. ovation, 2. cofounder, 3. spitball, 4. elusive, 5. infrequent, 6. unproductive, 7. congratulations

8. Hunters use a whistle that makes the ____ sound to lure stags.
n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
9. There was a _____ between speed and accuracy in the task.
n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
10. The war between the two countries was also a battle between competing _____.
n. a particular philosophy or cognitive orientation of life or conception of the world
11. The guru of that religion thought of himself as a _____.
n. a person who rescues a people from harm or danger; (in Christianity) Jesus Christ who is a teacher and prophet born in Bethlehem and active in Nazareth
12. The _____ of the plane was scattered across the field after the crash.
n. the remains of something that has been destroyed, ruined, severely damaged, or crashed, usually referring to vehicles, buildings, or machinery
13. The coach's _____ helped the team win the championship.
n. a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action
14. The _____ burst from the audience.
n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
15. Excessive human interference in the global environment may bring _____ consequences.
adj. not planned or meant

ANSWERS: 8. doe, 9. trade-off, 10. worldviews, 11. savior, 12. wreckage, 13. playbook, 14. applause, 15. unintended

16. The employee was _____ to a week of vacation time.

v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

17. He was content with living a life of _____.

n. the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

18. He created an _____ shaped torso.

adv. in a faulty or incomplete way

19. It was _____ of him to assume he would be hired for the job without submitting a resume.

adj. excessively bold or forward; taking liberties beyond what is appropriate or socially acceptable

20. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

21. There are now fears that war is _____.

adj. impossible to avoid or evade; inevitable

22. The student's _____ in their writing abilities caused them not to bother to proofread their essay, resulting in a poor grades.

n. excessive trust or faith in one's abilities, judgments, or decisions, often leading to mistaken assumptions or risky behavior

23. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 16. entitled, 17. mediocrity, 18. imperfectly, 19. presumptuous, 20. well-being, 21. unavoidable, 22. overconfidence, 23. storytelling

24. The _____ applause lasted for several minutes after the performance.

adj. producing or accompanied by a loud, deep, rumbling sound, like that of thunder; intense, forceful, or impressive

25. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

26. The company has been successful in maintaining the status ____.

n. the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

27. The company faced several _____ in the development of its new product.

n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome

28. The team's winning streak was _____.

adj. impossible to stop or prevent

29. The _____ for all my hard work was finally getting a promotion.

n. the outcome or result of an action or series of actions; the return or reward gained from an investment, effort, or risk

30. The children played in the _____ for hours, building sandcastles and digging tunnels.

n. an outdoor play area for children consisting of a box filled with sand; a virtual testing environment used for software development or security testing

ANSWERS: 24. thunderous, 25. rev, 26. quo, 27. hurdles, 28. unstoppable, 29. payoff, 30. sandbox