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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jennifer 8. Lee: Why 1.5 billion people eat with chopsticks | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/jennifer_8_lee_why_1_5_billion_people_eat_with_chopsticks

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

utensil

n. a tool used in the house

synonym: appliance, equipment, instrument

(1) cooking **utensils**, (2) cleaning **utensils**

This cuisine requires special kitchen **utensils**.

chopstick

n. a pair of thin, tapered sticks used in East Asian cultures to pick up and eat food

(1) **chopstick** holder, (2) wooden **chopstick**

She struggled to grab the sushi with **chopsticks**.

pincers

n. a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing

synonym: pliers, tweezers, forceps

(1) scorpion **pincers**, (2) grip with **pincers**

The handyman used his trusty **pincers** to remove the rusty nails from the old boards.

jade

n. a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse

synonym: gemstone, stone, mineral

(1) a **jade** accessory, (2) decorated with **jade**
The **jade** sculpture was worth a fortune.

ivory

n. a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items

synonym: elephant tusk, bone, tooth

(1) tower of **ivory**, (2) **ivory** carving

The intricate carvings on the **ivory** tusk were a work of art.

dumpling

n. a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables

synonym: doughball, potsticker, pierogi

(1) **dumpling** soup, (2) homemade **dumpling**

I ordered some delicious **dumplings** for lunch.

drumstick

n. a thin stick used to strike a drum to produce a sound

synonym: beater, mallet, stick

(1) **drumstick** grip, (2) **drumstick** case

The drummer used **drumsticks** to play the drumset.

tempting

adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

synonym: alluring, attractive, inviting

(1) **tempting** offer, (2) sound very **tempting**

The chocolate cake was too **tempting** for me to resist.

incense

n. a substance that is burned to produce a pleasant scent, often used in religious or spiritual ceremonies; figuratively, something that is pleasing or satisfying to the senses, feelings, or emotions

synonym: fragrance, aroma, perfume

(1) **incense** burner, (2) **incense** stick

In ancient times, people believed that burning **incense** helped ward off evil spirits.

commonplace

adj. occurring very often; lacking originality or interest

synonym: ordinary, routine, mundane

(1) become a **commonplace** sight, (2) **commonplace** event

Forgetting someone's name is a **commonplace** occurrence.

diplomat

n. a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations

synonym: envoy, ambassador, representative

(1) allied **diplomat**, (2) expel a **diplomat**

The senior **diplomat** worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.

dynasty

n. a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country

(1) **dynasty** of China, (2) during the Ming **dynasty**

During the Habsburg **dynasty**, colonization began.

tripod

n. a three-legged stand, typically one with a platform for a camera or other equipment

synonym: three-legged stand, three-legged base, three-legged support

(1) **tripod** mic stand, (2) **tripod** mount

The photographer set up his camera on a **tripod** to take the shot.

starve

v. to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

synonym: famish, hunger

(1) **starve** for a victory, (2) **starve** to death

If you don't eat soon, you're going to **starve**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. in____e stick *n.* a substance that is burned to produce a pleasant scent, often used in religious or spiritual ceremonies; figuratively, something that is pleasing or satisfying to the senses, feelings, or emotions

2. in____e burner *n.* a substance that is burned to produce a pleasant scent, often used in religious or spiritual ceremonies; figuratively, something that is pleasing or satisfying to the senses, feelings, or emotions

3. tower of iv__y *n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items

4. a j__e accessory *n.* a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse

5. dr_____ck grip *n.* a thin stick used to strike a drum to produce a sound

6. tr___d mount *n.* a three-legged stand, typically one with a platform for a camera or other equipment

7. com_____ce event *adj.* occurring very often; lacking originality or interest

8. homemade du_____ng *n.* a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables

ANSWERS: 1. incense, 2. incense, 3. ivory, 4. jade, 5. drumstick, 6. tripod, 7. commonplace, 8. dumpling

9. scorpion pi____s *n.* a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing
10. grip with pi____s *n.* a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing
11. expel a di____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
12. ch____ck holder *n.* a pair of thin, tapered sticks used in East Asian cultures to pick up and eat food
13. du____ng soup *n.* a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables
14. tr____d mic stand *n.* a three-legged stand, typically one with a platform for a camera or other equipment
15. st____e for a victory *v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

ANSWERS: 9. pincers, 10. pincers, 11. diplomat, 12. chopstick, 13. dumpling, 14. tripod, 15. starve

16. dr_____ck case *n.* a thin stick used to strike a drum to produce a sound
17. allied di_____at *n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
18. te_____ng offer *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
19. wooden ch_____ck *n.* a pair of thin, tapered sticks used in East Asian cultures to pick up and eat food
20. dy_____y of China *n.* a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country
21. st___e to death *v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
22. cooking ut_____ls *n.* a tool used in the house
23. during the Ming dy_____y *n.* a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country
24. sound very te_____ng *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
25. iv__y carving *n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items

ANSWERS: 16. drumstick, 17. diplomat, 18. tempting, 19. chopstick, 20. dynasty, 21. starve, 22. utensil, 23. dynasty, 24. tempting, 25. ivory

26. cleaning ut____ls *n.* a tool used in the house
27. decorated with j__e *n.* a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse
28. become a com_____ce sight *adj.* occurring very often; lacking originality or interest

ANSWERS: 26. utensil, 27. jade, 28. commonplace

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Forgetting someone's name is a _____ occurrence.
adj. occurring very often; lacking originality or interest
2. The drummer used _____ to play the drumset.
n. a thin stick used to strike a drum to produce a sound
3. The intricate carvings on the _____ tusk were a work of art.
n. a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items
4. In ancient times, people believed that burning _____ helped ward off evil spirits.
n. a substance that is burned to produce a pleasant scent, often used in religious or spiritual ceremonies; figuratively, something that is pleasing or satisfying to the senses, feelings, or emotions
5. The chocolate cake was too _____ for me to resist.
adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
6. The _____ sculpture was worth a fortune.
n. a green or white mineral, typically composed of jadeite or nephrite, used for making jewelry and ornamental objects; an old or over-worked horse
7. The handyman used his trusty _____ to remove the rusty nails from the old boards.
n. a tool or instrument with two limbs or jaws that are jointed together and used for gripping and holding objects; the claws or appendages of certain creatures that are used for grasping, gripping, or crushing

ANSWERS: 1. commonplace, 2. drumsticks, 3. ivory, 4. incense, 5. tempting, 6. jade, 7. pincers

8. The senior _____ worked tirelessly to negotiate a peace treaty between the two countries.
- n.* a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations
9. During the Habsburg _____ colonization began.
- n.* a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country
10. This cuisine requires special kitchen _____.
- n.* a tool used in the house
11. The photographer set up his camera on a _____ to take the shot.
- n.* a three-legged stand, typically one with a platform for a camera or other equipment
12. I ordered some delicious _____ for lunch.
- n.* a small ball or lump of dough, often boiled or steamed and filled with meat or vegetables
13. She struggled to grab the sushi with _____.
- n.* a pair of thin, tapered sticks used in East Asian cultures to pick up and eat food
14. If you don't eat soon, you're going to _____.
- v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

ANSWERS: 8. diplomat, 9. dynasty, 10. utensils, 11. tripod, 12. dumplings, 13. chopsticks, 14. starve