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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jay Van Bavel: Do politics make us irrational? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

illogical

adj. not making sense or not based on sound reasoning

synonym: irrational, senseless, nonsensical

(1) **illogical** argument, (2) **illogical** reasoning

His argument made no sense and was completely **illogical**.

dissonance

n. a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds

synonym: conflict, disharmony, disagreement

(1) cognitive **dissonance**, (2) musical **dissonance**

The **dissonance** between the two melodies created a sense of tension in the music.

limbo

n. a state of being uncertain, unknown, or neglected; an imaginary place for lost or neglected things

synonym: purgatory, oblivion, no man's land

(1) left in **limbo**, (2) **limbo** period

Her career was in **limbo** as she waited for a job offer.

referee

n. a person who controls the game in some sports by making players follow the rules

synonym: judge, arbiter, umpire

(1) a fair **referee**, (2) assistant **referee**

The **referee** blew his whistle.

allegiance

n. loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty

synonym: loyalty, devotion, faithfulness

(1) loyal **allegiance**, (2) show **allegiance**

The soldiers pledged their **allegiance** to their country.

discredit

v. to harm the reputation or credibility of someone or something; to make something appear untrue or unreliable

synonym: disprove, undermine, disgrace

(1) **discredit** a theory, (2) **discredit** a witness

The company's unethical practices have **discredited** its brand image in the eyes of consumers.

polarization

n. the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles

synonym: polarity, division, separation

(1) **polarization** effect, (2) dielectric **polarization**

The **polarization** of political views has created a deep divide in the country.

like-minded

adj. having the same ideas or interests

synonym: simpatico, kindred-spirited, compatible

(1) find a **like-minded** friend, (2) **like-minded** group

They formed a group of **like-minded** individuals who shared a common goal.

uncover

v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden

synonym: disclose, reveal, unveil

(1) **uncover** a potential problem, (2) **uncover** the truth

He continued his investigation and soon **uncovered** another crime.

intuition

n. the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to

do or believe something without fully understanding why
synonym: instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research

Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be influenced by their experiences and biases.

misinformation

n. information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately

synonym: falsity, misreport, misstatement

(1) **misinformation** about a vaccine, (2) combat **misinformation** on social media

The government called for caution against pseudoscientific **misinformation** about vaccines.

receptive

adj. willing to listen to or accept new ideas or suggestions

synonym: open-minded, sensory, sensorial

(1) **receptive** audience, (2) **receptive** to change

The voters appeared to be **receptive** to his new ideas.

Session 2: Spelling

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|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. un_____r a potential problem | <i>v.</i> to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden |
| 2. in_____on research | <i>n.</i> the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why |
| 3. creative in_____on | <i>n.</i> the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why |
| 4. assistant re_____e | <i>n.</i> a person who controls the game in some sports by making players follow the rules |
| 5. pol_____ion effect | <i>n.</i> the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles |
| 6. show all_____ce | <i>n.</i> loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty |
| 7. li__o period | <i>n.</i> a state of being uncertain, unknown, or neglected; an imaginary place for lost or neglected things |
| 8. find a lik_____ed friend | <i>adj.</i> having the same ideas or interests |

ANSWERS: 1. uncover, 2. intuition, 3. intuition, 4. referee, 5. polarization, 6. allegiance, 7. limbo, 8. like-minded

9. cognitive dis_____ce *n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
10. musical dis_____ce *n.* a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds
11. combat mis_____ion on social media *n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
12. un_____r the truth *v.* to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden
13. di_____it a witness *v.* to harm the reputation or credibility of someone or something; to make something appear untrue or unreliable
14. re_____ve audience *adj.* willing to listen to or accept new ideas or suggestions
15. il_____al reasoning *adj.* not making sense or not based on sound reasoning
16. di_____it a theory *v.* to harm the reputation or credibility of someone or something; to make something appear untrue or unreliable
17. re_____ve to change *adj.* willing to listen to or accept new ideas or suggestions
18. loyal all_____ce *n.* loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty
19. dielectric pol_____ion *n.* the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles

ANSWERS: 9. dissonance, 10. dissonance, 11. misinformation, 12. uncover, 13. discredit, 14. receptive, 15. illogical, 16. discredit, 17. receptive, 18. allegiance, 19. polarization

20. il_____al argument *adj.* not making sense or not based on sound reasoning
21. mis_____ion about a vaccine *n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
22. a fair re_____e *n.* a person who controls the game in some sports by making players follow the rules
23. lik_____ed group *adj.* having the same ideas or interests
24. left in li__o *n.* a state of being uncertain, unknown, or neglected; an imaginary place for lost or neglected things

ANSWERS: 20. illogical, 21. misinformation, 22. referee, 23. like-minded, 24. limbo

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company's unethical practices have _____ its brand image in the eyes of consumers.
 - v. to harm the reputation or credibility of someone or something; to make something appear untrue or unreliable

2. He continued his investigation and soon _____ another crime.
 - v. to remove the cover from something; to discover something previously unseen or hidden

3. The government called for caution against pseudoscientific _____ about vaccines.
 - n. information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately

4. The voters appeared to be _____ to his new ideas.
 - adj. willing to listen to or accept new ideas or suggestions

5. The _____ between the two melodies created a sense of tension in the music.
 - n. a lack of harmony or agreement between people or things; a harsh or discordant combination of sounds

6. Some studies suggest that people's _____ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.
 - n. the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

ANSWERS: 1. discredited, 2. uncovered, 3. misinformation, 4. receptive, 5. dissonance, 6. intuitions

7. The _____ of political views has created a deep divide in the country.
n. the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles
8. The soldiers pledged their _____ to their country.
n. loyalty or faithfulness to a person, country, cause, or belief; a pledge or oath of loyalty
9. Her career was in _____ as she waited for a job offer.
n. a state of being uncertain, unknown, or neglected; an imaginary place for lost or neglected things
10. His argument made no sense and was completely _____.
adj. not making sense or not based on sound reasoning
11. The _____ blew his whistle.
n. a person who controls the game in some sports by making players follow the rules
12. They formed a group of _____ individuals who shared a common goal.
adj. having the same ideas or interests

ANSWERS: 7. polarization, 8. allegiance, 9. limbo, 10. illogical, 11. referee, 12. like-minded