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Sonaar Luthra: We need to track the world's water like we track the weather | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

confer

v. to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

synonym: consult, meet, discuss

(1) **confer** degree, (2) **confer** honor

The leaders of the two countries met to **confer** on the issue.

onstage

adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

(1) appeared **onstage**, (2) walk **onstage**

He performed his magic trick **onstage**, leaving the audience in awe.

seductive

adj. tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief

synonym: alluring, tempting, enticing

(1) a **seductive** smile, (2) **seductive** behavior

The actor's **seductive** gaze drew the audience's attention on stage.

presume

v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties,

behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance

synonym : assume, suppose, guess

(1) **presume** innocence, (2) **presume** on his tolerance
I **presume** you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.

conserve

v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

synonym : preserve, save, maintain

(1) means to **conserve** energy, (2) **conserve** coal resources

Children must be taught to **conserve** our natural environment.

pollute

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

synonym : contaminate, corrupt, degrade

(1) **pollute** the air, (2) **pollute** the thread

We should do our best not to **pollute** the environment.

subaverage

adj. below the average or standard level of performance or ability; less than what is considered to be normal or satisfactory

synonym : below average, subpar, inferior

(1) **subaverage** performance, (2) **subaverage** income

The students in the **subaverage** group received extra support and resources to help them succeed in school.

pinpoint

v. to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something

synonym : name, direct, identify

(1) **pinpoint** the problem, (2) **pinpoint** signs of manipulation

This radar quickly **pinpoints** the position of the enemy.

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**.

contaminate

v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

synonym: defile, pollute, adulterate

(1) **contaminate** with a disease, (2) **contaminate** his ego

We strive not to **contaminate** the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

dilution

n. the process of making something weaker, less concentrated, or less potent by adding or mixing in other substances; the act of reducing the strength or impact of an idea, principle, or tradition

synonym: diluting, reduction, weakening

(1) **dilution** of power, (2) **dilution** of the original message

The **dilution** of the chemical solution weakened its strength.

dilute

v. to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it

synonym: weaken, thin, reduce

(1) **dilute** acid with water, (2) **dilute** a great idea

She **diluted** the concentrated juice with water.

foresee

v. to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future

synonym: predict, anticipate, forecast

(1) **foresee** the consequences, (2) **foresee** challenges

I **foresee** a problem arising if we don't address this issue now.

groundwater

n. water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock

synonym : aquifer, well water, underground water

(1) **groundwater** supply, (2) contaminated **groundwater**

The town's main source of water is natural **groundwater**.

firefight

n. a struggle to extinguish a fire; a military engagement in which small arms and other weapons are used

synonym : battle, conflict, fight

(1) killed in a **firefight**, (2) turn into a **firefight**

The platoon experienced a full-scale **firefight**.

pervasive

adj. spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place

synonym : extensive, ubiquitous, prevalent

(1) **pervasive** language, (2) the **pervasive** odor of garlic

Suspicion and worry were **pervasive** in our minds.

erode

v. to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

synonym : wear away, deteriorate, corrode

(1) **erode** coast, (2) **erode** trust

The ongoing budget cuts have **eroded** the quality of education in many schools.

doom

n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

synonym : judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

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.

telegraph

n. a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals

(1) answer by **telegraph**, (2) **telegraph** wires

The **telegraph** service was interrupted for a while.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

staggering

adj. so shocking as to stun or overwhelm

synonym: astounding, astonishing, stunning

(1) **staggering** number, (2) a **staggering** defeat

The amount of money required was **staggering**.

easement

n. a legal right to use or access another person's property, typically for a specific purpose or activity, such as walking across a neighbor's land to access a nearby park

synonym: right-of-way, privilege, license

(1) utility **easement**, (2) **easement** agreement

The new housing development needed an **easement** from the neighboring property to build their road.

perpetual

adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted

synonym : enduring, unchanging, incessant

(1) **perpetual** motion machine, (2) **perpetual** struggle

The company employs a **perpetual** inventory system.

evasion

n. the act of avoiding or escaping from someone or something, such as an opponent, a pursuer, or an unpleasant situation

synonym : escape, avoidance, dodging

(1) **evasion** of responsibility, (2) take shelter in **evasion**

The **evasion** of his responsibility was reprehensible.

ingrained

adj. deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time

synonym : inborn, embedded, deep-seated

(1) **ingrained** habit, (2) **ingrained** prejudice

Her fear of dogs was **ingrained** after a traumatic experience in childhood.

reclamation

n. the process of restoring or reclaiming something, particularly land or resources that have been damaged or depleted; the act of obtaining or recovering something that was lost or taken away

synonym : recovery, reutilization, restoration

(1) **reclamation** district, (2) coastal **reclamation**

The **reclamation** of the wetlands allowed for the restoration of the natural ecosystem.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym : brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

restructure

v. to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively

synonym : reorganize, revamp, reconstruct

(1) **restructure** sentence, (2) **restructure** my debts

The economic downturn made it necessary to **restructure** the business.

discourage

v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

synonym : dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth

His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

Session 2: Spelling

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|---------------------------------|----|--|
| 1. fo_____e the consequences | v. | to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future |
| 2. st_____ze blood sugar levels | v. | to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way |
| 3. con_____te with a disease | v. | to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture |
| 4. po_____e the air | v. | to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals |
| 5. means to co_____ve energy | v. | to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction |
| 6. pi_____nt the problem | v. | to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something |
| 7. co_____r honor | v. | to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something |
| 8. pr_____e innocence | v. | to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance |
| 9. re_____on leader | n. | an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler |

ANSWERS: 1. foresee, 2. stabilize, 3. contaminate, 4. pollute, 5. conserve, 6. pinpoint, 7. confer, 8. presume, 9. rebellion

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|--|
| 10. pr_____e on his tolerance | v. | to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance |
| 11. pi_____nt signs of manipulation | v. | to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something |
| 12. te_____ph wires | n. | a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals |
| 13. er__e trust | v. | to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time |
| 14. st_____ze prices | v. | to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way |
| 15. pe_____ve language | adj. | spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place |
| 16. utility ea_____nt | n. | a legal right to use or access another person's property, typically for a specific purpose or activity, such as walking across a neighbor's land to access a nearby park |
| 17. ev_____n of responsibility | n. | the act of avoiding or escaping from someone or something, such as an opponent, a pursuer, or an unpleasant situation |
| 18. op_____ne occasion | adj. | suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |

ANSWERS: 10. presume, 11. pinpoint, 12. telegraph, 13. erode, 14. stabilize, 15. pervasive, 16. easement, 17. evasion, 18. opportune

19. prophet of d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
20. con_____te his ego *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
21. res_____re sentence *v.* to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively
22. co_____ve coal resources *v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
23. er__e coast *v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
24. sta_____ng number *adj.* so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
25. coastal rec_____on *n.* the process of restoring or reclaiming something, particularly land or resources that have been damaged or depleted; the act of obtaining or recovering something that was lost or taken away
26. pe_____al struggle *adj.* continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
27. dis_____ge bacterial growth *v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
28. walk on_____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

ANSWERS: 19. doom, 20. contaminate, 21. restructure, 22. conserve, 23. erode, 24. staggering, 25. reclamation, 26. perpetual, 27. discourage, 28. onstage

29. fo_____e challenges *v.* to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future
30. in_____ed prejudice *adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
31. appeared on_____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
32. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
33. sub_____ge income *adj.* below the average or standard level of performance or ability; less than what is considered to be normal or satisfactory
34. answer by te_____ph *n.* a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals
35. dis_____ge customers *v.* to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something
36. rec_____on district *n.* the process of restoring or reclaiming something, particularly land or resources that have been damaged or depleted; the act of obtaining or recovering something that was lost or taken away
37. in_____ed habit *adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time

ANSWERS: 29. foresee, 30. ingrained, 31. onstage, 32. dedicate, 33. subaverage, 34. telegraph, 35. discourage, 36. reclamation, 37. ingrained

38. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
39. di___e a great idea *v.* to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it
40. po_____e the thread *v.* to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals
41. ea_____nt agreement *n.* a legal right to use or access another person's property, typically for a specific purpose or activity, such as walking across a neighbor's land to access a nearby park
42. the pe_____ve odor of garlic *adj.* spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place
43. take shelter in ev_____n *n.* the act of avoiding or escaping from someone or something, such as an opponent, a pursuer, or an unpleasant situation
44. di___e acid with water *v.* to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it
45. res_____re my debts *v.* to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively
46. a sta_____ng defeat *adj.* so shocking as to stun or overwhelm
47. turn into a fi_____ht *n.* a struggle to extinguish a fire; a military engagement in which small arms and other weapons are used

ANSWERS: 38. opportune, 39. dilute, 40. pollute, 41. easement, 42. pervasive, 43. evasion, 44. dilute, 45. restructure, 46. staggering, 47. firefight

48. a se_____ve smile *adj.* tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief
49. excite re_____on *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
50. killed in a fi_____ht *n.* a struggle to extinguish a fire; a military engagement in which small arms and other weapons are used
51. pe_____al motion machine *adj.* continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
52. gro_____er supply *n.* water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
53. 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
54. se_____ve behavior *adj.* tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief
55. 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

ANSWERS: 48. seductive, 49. rebellion, 50. firefight, 51. perpetual, 52. groundwater, 53. rev, 54. seductive, 55. rev

56. economic d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
57. de_____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
58. di_____on of power *n.* the process of making something weaker, less concentrated, or less potent by adding or mixing in other substances; the act of reducing the strength or impact of an idea, principle, or tradition
59. di_____on of the original message *n.* the process of making something weaker, less concentrated, or less potent by adding or mixing in other substances; the act of reducing the strength or impact of an idea, principle, or tradition
60. contaminated gro_____er *n.* water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
61. sub_____ge performance *adj.* below the average or standard level of performance or ability; less than what is considered to be normal or satisfactory
62. co____r degree *v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

ANSWERS: 56. doom, 57. dedicate, 58. dilution, 59. dilution, 60. groundwater, 61. subaverage, 62. confer

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The economic downturn made it necessary to _____ the business.
v. to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively
2. The actor's _____ gaze drew the audience's attention on stage.
adj. tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief
3. The company employs a _____ inventory system.
adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
4. The town's main source of water is natural _____.
n. water that is present beneath the surface of the ground, especially in soil or in pores and crevices in rock
5. Her fear of dogs was _____ after a traumatic experience in childhood.
adj. deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
6. The _____ of the wetlands allowed for the restoration of the natural ecosystem.
n. the process of restoring or reclaiming something, particularly land or resources that have been damaged or depleted; the act of obtaining or recovering something that was lost or taken away
7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. restructure, 2. seductive, 3. perpetual, 4. groundwater, 5. ingrained, 6. reclamation, 7. rev

8. The platoon experienced a full-scale _____.
- n.* a struggle to extinguish a fire; a military engagement in which small arms and other weapons are used
9. The new housing development needed an _____ from the neighboring property to build their road.
- n.* a legal right to use or access another person's property, typically for a specific purpose or activity, such as walking across a neighbor's land to access a nearby park
10. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
- v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
11. We strive not to _____ the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.
- v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
12. The ongoing budget cuts have _____ the quality of education in many schools.
- v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
13. Everyone was aware of the impending _____ but was unable to prevent it.
- n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
14. This radar quickly _____ the position of the enemy.
- v.* to locate or identify the exact position in space or time of something
15. The leaders of the two countries met to _____ on the issue.
- v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

ANSWERS: 8. firefight, 9. easement, 10. stabilizes, 11. contaminate, 12. eroded, 13. doom, 14. pinpoints, 15. confer

16. He _____ his life to helping others.

- v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

17. I _____ a problem arising if we don't address this issue now.

- v.* to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future

18. The _____ of the chemical solution weakened its strength.

- n.* the process of making something weaker, less concentrated, or less potent by adding or mixing in other substances; the act of reducing the strength or impact of an idea, principle, or tradition

19. The students in the _____ group received extra support and resources to help them succeed in school.

- adj.* below the average or standard level of performance or ability; less than what is considered to be normal or satisfactory

20. The _____ service was interrupted for a while.

- n.* a method of long-distance transmission of messages by electrical or radio signals

21. She _____ the concentrated juice with water.

- v.* to make a substance less concentrated by adding a liquid or another substance to it

22. The _____ of his responsibility was reprehensible.

- n.* the act of avoiding or escaping from someone or something, such as an opponent, a pursuer, or an unpleasant situation

23. Suspicion and worry were _____ in our minds.

- adj.* spreading or existing throughout every part of a thing or place

ANSWERS: 16. dedicated, 17. foresee, 18. dilution, 19. subaverage, 20. telegraph, 21. diluted, 22. evasion, 23. pervasive

24. He performed his magic trick _____ leaving the audience in awe.

adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

25. Children must be taught to _____ our natural environment.

v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

26. His parents tried to _____ him from becoming an artist.

v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

27. I _____ you've already made plans for the weekend since you didn't respond to my invitation.

v. to suppose or assume something to be true, often without sufficient evidence or proof; to take liberties, behave impolitely, or overstep one's bounds, often due to arrogance or ignorance

28. The amount of money required was _____.

adj. so shocking as to stun or overwhelm

29. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

30. We should do our best not to _____ the environment.

v. to make an area or substance, such as land, air, water, etc., dirty or harmful to living things by adding waste matter or harmful chemicals

31. 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: 24. onstage, 25. conserve, 26. discourage, 27. presume, 28. staggering, 29. opportune, 30. pollute, 31. rebellion

ANSWERS: