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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Janelle Peters: How Romans flooded the Colosseum for sea battles | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- roar** *v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
synonym: bellow, yell, shout
(1) **roar** with laughter, (2) **roar** for more
The lion **roared** loudly, signaling its dominance over the other animals.
- colosseum** *n.* a large amphitheater (= an open-air venue used for entertainment, performances, and sports) in Rome whose construction was begun by Vespasian about AD 75 or 80
(1) build a **colosseum** for gladiators, (2) **Colosseum** area
Rome's **Colosseum** gets busy in peak season.
- gladiator** *n.* a person who fought in ancient Rome's public contests, typically armed with weapons and wearing armor to entertain audiences
synonym: fighter, warrior, combatant
(1) act like a **gladiator**, (2) the Christian **gladiator**
The **gladiator's** training regimen included physical conditioning, weapons training, and strategy.
- duel** *n.* formal, one-on-one combat between two people, typically with deadly weapons, often as a means of

settling a dispute or seeking revenge

synonym : contest, fight, competition

(1) sword **duel**, (2) **duel** for honor

The **duel** between the two rival knights was a spectacle to see.

chariot

n. a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing

(1) **chariot** builder, (2) **chariot** race

The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating **chariot** races.

submerge

v. to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely

synonym : deluge, drench, dunk

(1) **submerge** in a liquid, (2) **submerge** my head completely

The ship was **submerged** in the ocean for many years before it was finally discovered.

spectacle

n. something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision

synonym : marvel, sensation, phenomenon

(1) pretty **spectacle**, (2) **spectacle** lens

She could not help watching the sad **spectacle**.

naumachia

n. a type of ancient Roman entertainment that involved the staging of mock naval battles or sea fights in an artificial lake or amphitheater

synonym : naval combats, mock sea battles

(1) **naumachia** event, (2) **naumachia** arena

The emperor hosted a grand **naumachia** event to commemorate his victory over the enemy fleet.

emperor

n. the male ruler of an empire

synonym: ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor**

The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

spoil

v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

synonym: rot, decay, deteriorate

(1) **spoil** a person's sport, (2) **spoil** the surprise

If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will **spoil**.

amphitheater

n. an open-air theater, usually circular or oval, with tiers of seats surrounding a central performance area

synonym: arena, stadium, coliseum

(1) outdoor **amphitheater**, (2) ancient **amphitheater**

The performers took to the stage in the **amphitheater's** center, surrounded by cheering fans.

pageantry

n. elaborate and spectacular display or ceremony, typically associated with big events and special occasions such as parades, broadcasts, or theatrical performances

synonym: spectacle, ceremony, parade

(1) grand **pageantry**, (2) royal **pageantry**

The **pageantry** of the parade was truly magnificent, with colorful floats and costumed performers.

lavish

adj. large in amount and expensive or impressive

synonym: grate, grand, splendid

(1) **lavish** lifestyle, (2) enjoy a **lavish** trip abroad

He has earned **lavish** praise for his achievement.

awe-inspiring

adj. making you feel great respect or admiration through being impressive or formidable

synonym: magnificent, amazing, astonishing

(1) **awe-inspiring** painting, (2) **awe-inspiring** power

The moment the glacier collapses is an **awe-inspiring** sight.

bolster

v. to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources

synonym: reinforce, support, strengthen

(1) **bolster** confidence, (2) **bolster** the economy

The company hired a new advertising agency to **bolster** its marketing efforts.

aqueduct

n. a structure constructed to carry water over a long distance, typically consisting of a series of arches or elevated channels supported by pillars or towers

synonym: conduit, canal, channel

(1) **aqueduct** system, (2) mountain **aqueduct**

The ancient Romans built an **aqueduct** to transport water to the city.

divert

v. to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose

synonym: distract, redirect, sidetrack

(1) **divert** attention, (2) **divert** an assault

Due to the road construction, we had to **divert** our course to get to the restaurant.

sluice

n. a channel or gate used to control the flow of water or other fluids typically used to regulate water levels in a canal, lock, or reservoir; a device for separating fine particles from a mixture, such as in a gold miner's sluice box; (verb) to wash or rinse something with a large quantity of flowing water

synonym: channel, gate, lock

(1) **sluice** gate, (2) **sluice** down a floor

We watched as the engineer opened the **sluice** gate to let the water flow from the dam.

scrape

v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

synonym: scratch, graze, rub

(1) **scrape** meat off a bone, (2) **scrape** a hole in the ground
He **scraped** the mud off his boots before entering the house.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

synonym: renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

drown

v. to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater

synonym: douse, drench, overwhelm

(1) **drown** in a bath, (2) I was **drowned** in work

Floods have the potential to **drown** any subsurface animals easily.

incapacitate

v. to disable or render someone or something unable to function or operate normally, either temporarily or permanently, often as a result of injury, illness, or damage

synonym: disable, paralyze, immobilize

(1) **incapacitate** opponent, (2) **incapacitate** the enemy

The injury sustained during the game could **incapacitate** the player for the rest of the season.

foe

n. an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another

synonym: enemy, adversary, opponent

(1) a political **foe**, (2) bitter **foe**

The superhero's arch- **foe** was an evil mastermind who always got away.

watery

adj. full of or containing water; wet

synonym: liquid, wet, damp

(1) a **watery** fluid, (2) go to a **watery** grave

The soup was too **watery** and needed more flavor.

gruesome

adj. causing horror or disgust

synonym: appalling, horrific, terrible

(1) hear **gruesome** details, (2) **gruesome** accident

The **gruesome** crime scene was difficult for the detectives to stomach.

glide

v. to move smoothly and effortlessly

synonym: slide, skim, coast

(1) **glide** through the water, (2) **glide** down the mountain

The eagle gracefully **glided** on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.

enact

v. to make a law; to put something into practice

synonym: legislate, pass, decree

(1) **enact** new legislation, (2) **enact** the smoking ban

The government **enacted** this law in 1925.

condemn

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

synonym: criticize, denounce, censure

(1) **condemn** violence, (2) **condemn** crime

The government was **condemned** for its handling of the crisis.

synchronize

v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

synonym: coordinate, accompany, harmonize

(1) **synchronize** movements, (2) **synchronize** our watches

The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly **synchronized**.

torch

n. a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle

synonym : flashlight, lantern, flare

(1) the **torch** of learning, (2) **torch** song

She used an electric **torch** to light her way through the dark cave.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1. go to a wa___y grave | <i>adj.</i> full of or containing water; wet |
| 2. the to__h of learning | <i>n.</i> a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle |
| 3. act like a gl_____or | <i>n.</i> a person who fought in ancient Rome's public contests, typically armed with weapons and wearing armor to entertain audiences |
| 4. inc_____ate the enemy | <i>v.</i> to disable or render someone or something unable to function or operate normally, either temporarily or permanently, often as a result of injury, illness, or damage |
| 5. bo_____r confidence | <i>v.</i> to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources |
| 6. sc___e meat off a bone | <i>v.</i> to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter |
| 7. bitter f_e | <i>n.</i> an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another |
| 8. ancient amp_____ter | <i>n.</i> an open-air theater, usually circular or oval, with tiers of seats surrounding a central performance area |
| 9. co_____n violence | <i>v.</i> to express strong disapproval or criticism of something |

ANSWERS: 1. watery, 2. torch, 3. gladiator, 4. incapacitate, 5. bolster, 6. scrape, 7. foe, 8. amphitheater, 9. condemn

10. pretty sp_____le *n.* something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision
11. build a co_____um for gladiators *n.* a large amphitheater (= an open-air venue used for entertainment, performances, and sports) in Rome whose construction was begun by Vespasian about AD 75 or 80
12. na_____ia event *n.* a type of ancient Roman entertainment that involved the staging of mock naval battles or sea fights in an artificial lake or amphitheater
13. su_____ge in a liquid *v.* to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
14. hear gr_____me details *adj.* causing horror or disgust
15. di____t attention *v.* to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose
16. su_____ge my head completely *v.* to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
17. a wa____y fluid *adj.* full of or containing water; wet
18. sl____e gate *n.* a channel or gate used to control the flow of water or other fluids typically used to regulate water levels in a canal, lock, or reservoir; a device for separating fine particles from a mixture, such as in a gold miner's sluice box; (verb) to wash or rinse something with a large quantity of flowing water

ANSWERS: 10. spectacle, 11. colosseum, 12. naumachia, 13. submerge, 14.

gruesome, 15. divert, 16. submerge, 17. watery, 18. sluice

31. en__t new legislation *v.* to make a law; to put something into practice
32. sp__l the surprise *v.* to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
33. dr__n in a bath *v.* to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
34. gr_____me accident *adj.* causing horror or disgust
35. to__h song *n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle
36. sword d__l *n.* formal, one-on-one combat between two people, typically with deadly weapons, often as a means of settling a dispute or seeking revenge
37. sp__l a person's sport *v.* to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
38. d__l for honor *n.* formal, one-on-one combat between two people, typically with deadly weapons, often as a means of settling a dispute or seeking revenge
39. sp_____le lens *n.* something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision
40. Co_____um area *n.* a large amphitheater (= an open-air venue used for entertainment, performances, and sports) in Rome whose construction was begun by Vespasian about AD 75 or 80

ANSWERS: 31. enact, 32. spoil, 33. drown, 34. gruesome, 35. torch, 36. duel, 37. spoil, 38. duel, 39. spectacle, 40. colosseum

41. ch____t builder *n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
42. sl____e down a floor *n.* a channel or gate used to control the flow of water or other fluids typically used to regulate water levels in a canal, lock, or reservoir; a device for separating fine particles from a mixture, such as in a gold miner's sluice box; (verb) to wash or rinse something with a large quantity of flowing water
43. di____t an assault *v.* to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose
44. a political f_e *n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
45. re____te the feeling of the 1920s *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
46. inc____ate opponent *v.* to disable or render someone or something unable to function or operate normally, either temporarily or permanently, often as a result of injury, illness, or damage
47. syn____ze movements *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

ANSWERS: 41. chariot, 42. sluice, 43. divert, 44. foe, 45. recreate, 46. incapacitate, 47. synchronize

48. ch____t race *n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
49. syn_____ze our watches *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
50. na_____ia arena *n.* a type of ancient Roman entertainment that involved the staging of mock naval battles or sea fights in an artificial lake or amphitheater
51. em_____r of Rome *n.* the male ruler of an empire
52. former em_____r *n.* the male ruler of an empire
53. awe_____ing power *adj.* making you feel great respect or admiration through being impressive or formidable
54. r__r for more *v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
55. mountain aq_____ct *n.* a structure constructed to carry water over a long distance, typically consisting of a series of arches or elevated channels supported by pillars or towers
56. grand pa_____ry *n.* elaborate and spectacular display or ceremony, typically associated with big events and special occasions such as parades, broadcasts, or theatrical performances
57. sc___e a hole in the ground *v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

ANSWERS: 48. chariot, 49. synchronize, 50. naumachia, 51. emperor, 52. emperor, 53. awe-inspiring, 54. roar, 55. aqueduct, 56. pageantry, 57. scrape

58. royal pa_____ry *n.* elaborate and spectacular display or ceremony, typically associated with big events and special occasions such as parades, broadcasts, or theatrical performances
59. bo_____r the economy *v.* to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources
60. enjoy a la___h trip abroad *adj.* large in amount and expensive or impressive

ANSWERS: 58. pageantry, 59. bolster, 60. lavish

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He has earned _____ praise for his achievement.
adj. large in amount and expensive or impressive
2. The emperor hosted a grand _____ event to commemorate his victory over the enemy fleet.
n. a type of ancient Roman entertainment that involved the staging of mock naval battles or sea fights in an artificial lake or amphitheater
3. The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly _____.
v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
4. Rome's _____ gets busy in peak season.
n. a large amphitheater (= an open-air venue used for entertainment, performances, and sports) in Rome whose construction was begun by Vespasian about AD 75 or 80
5. Floods have the potential to _____ any subsurface animals easily.
v. to die or cause to die by being unable to breathe underwater
6. She could not help watching the sad _____.
n. something or someone seen, especially a notable or unusual sight; an optical device consisting of a frame that houses a pair of lenses for correcting defective vision
7. The company hired a new advertising agency to _____ its marketing efforts.
v. to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources

ANSWERS: 1. lavish, 2. naumachia, 3. synchronized, 4. Colosseum, 5. drown, 6. spectacle, 7. bolster

8. The _____ training regimen included physical conditioning, weapons training, and strategy.
- n.* a person who fought in ancient Rome's public contests, typically armed with weapons and wearing armor to entertain audiences
9. The soup was too _____ and needed more flavor.
- adj.* full of or containing water; wet
10. The ancient Romans enjoyed spectating _____ races.
- n.* a two-wheeled horse-drawn battle vehicle used in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome for warfare and racing
11. The government _____ this law in 1925.
- v.* to make a law; to put something into practice
12. The _____ crime scene was difficult for the detectives to stomach.
- adj.* causing horror or disgust
13. The ancient Romans built an _____ to transport water to the city.
- n.* a structure constructed to carry water over a long distance, typically consisting of a series of arches or elevated channels supported by pillars or towers
14. The government was _____ for its handling of the crisis.
- v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
15. The _____ once lived in the vast palace.
- n.* the male ruler of an empire
16. The moment the glacier collapses is an _____ sight.
- adj.* making you feel great respect or admiration through being impressive or formidable

ANSWERS: 8. gladiator's, 9. watery, 10. chariot, 11. enacted, 12. gruesome, 13. aqueduct, 14. condemned, 15. Emperor, 16. awe-inspiring

17. The eagle gracefully _____ on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.
v. to move smoothly and effortlessly
18. The lion _____ loudly, signaling its dominance over the other animals.
v. to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
19. The superhero's arch-____ was an evil mastermind who always got away.
n. an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
20. The _____ of the parade was truly magnificent, with colorful floats and costumed performers.
n. elaborate and spectacular display or ceremony, typically associated with big events and special occasions such as parades, broadcasts, or theatrical performances
21. If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will _____.
v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
22. The ship was _____ in the ocean for many years before it was finally discovered.
v. to put something under water or to go under water; to bury or hide something deeply or completely
23. The injury sustained during the game could _____ the player for the rest of the season.
v. to disable or render someone or something unable to function or operate normally, either temporarily or permanently, often as a result of injury, illness, or damage

ANSWERS: 17. glided, 18. roared, 19. foe, 20. pageantry, 21. spoil, 22. submerged, 23. incapacitate

24. We watched as the engineer opened the _____ gate to let the water flow from the dam.
- n.* a channel or gate used to control the flow of water or other fluids typically used to regulate water levels in a canal, lock, or reservoir; a device for separating fine particles from a mixture, such as in a gold miner's sluice box; (verb) to wash or rinse something with a large quantity of flowing water
25. He _____ the mud off his boots before entering the house.
- v.* to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
26. Due to the road construction, we had to _____ our course to get to the restaurant.
- v.* to change the course or direction of something, often away from a specific path or target; to entertain or amuse someone, often to distract them from a problem or concern; to appropriate something for a different purpose
27. She _____ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
- v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
28. The performers took to the stage in the _____ center, surrounded by cheering fans.
- n.* an open-air theater, usually circular or oval, with tiers of seats surrounding a central performance area
29. The _____ between the two rival knights was a spectacle to see.
- n.* formal, one-on-one combat between two people, typically with deadly weapons, often as a means of settling a dispute or seeking revenge
30. She used an electric _____ to light her way through the dark cave.
- n.* a portable device that produces a flame, typically one that is used to light a fire or a candle

ANSWERS: 24. sluice, 25. scraped, 26. divert, 27. recreated, 28. amphitheater's, 29. duel, 30. torch

ANSWERS: