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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Clint Smith: "Ode to the Only Black Kid in the Class" |
TED Talk

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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- ode** *n.* a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone
synonym: poem, song, verse
(1) nature **ode**, (2) an **ode** to love
The poet composed a beautiful **ode** to nature and its wonders.
- manifestation** *n.* a visible or tangible form of something, especially a particular sign of a disease or condition
synonym: expression, embodiment, presentation
(1) **manifestation** of a deeper problem, (2) **manifestation** of psychological stress
The **manifestation** of his anxiety was evident in his shaking hands.
- lifetime** *n.* the duration of someone's life or something's existence;
synonym: lifespan, duration
(1) **lifetime** benefits, (2) **lifetime** ban from the sport
She had lived through two world wars in her **lifetime**.
- toil** *v.* to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended

periods of time

synonym : struggle, labor, work hard

(1) **toil** to make a living, (2) **toil** up the mountain

The farmers **toiled** in the fields, harvesting the crops before the start of the rainy season.

flesh

n. the soft substance composing the body of a person or animal, as opposed to bones and other structures

synonym : meat, muscle, tissue

(1) grow in **flesh**, (2) **flesh** eating

The **flesh** of the fruit is sweet and juicy.

antechamber

n. a smaller room or space that leads to a larger room, often used as a waiting area or a transitional space

synonym : ante-room, vestibule, waiting room

(1) **antechamber** entrance, (2) royal **antechamber**

I waited nervously in the **antechamber** before my big job interview.

deem

v. to consider or decide something in a particular way

synonym : believe, consider, suppose

(1) **deem** socially responsible, (2) **deem** wrong or inappropriate

Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were **deemed** unsafe.

hell

n. the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place

synonym : inferno, agony, misery

(1) run like **hell**, (2) **hell** broke loose

The battlefield became **hell** on earth.

lyricology

n. the study or analysis of lyrics, especially about popular music

(1) **lyricology** analysis, (2) **lyricology** research

The university's music department offers a course on **lyricology**, focusing on analyzing the themes and structures in popular music.

athlete

n. a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance

synonym: player, contestant, jock

(1) become a professional **athlete**, (2) high school **athletes**
His dream is to become an Olympic **athlete**.

sideshow

n. a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment

synonym: side attraction

(1) **sideshow** performer, (2) carnival **sideshow**

The circus **sideshow** featured a bearded lady and a human cannonball.

exception

n. something that is not included in a general rule or pattern; a person or thing that is excluded or stands apart from others

synonym: anomaly, rarity, exemption

(1) make an **exception**, (2) without **exception**

She was the **exception** to the rule, as she managed to graduate college in only two years.

affirmative

adj. indicating agreement, support, or confirmation; positive or assertive in tone

synonym: positive, confirming, approving

(1) **affirmative** decision, (2) **affirmative** action

The teacher gave an **affirmative** nod to let the student know they had answered the question correctly.

destine

v. to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a

particular fate or outcome

synonym: ordain, doom, predestine

(1) **destine** us to meet again, (2) be **destined** to become a great artist

Some people believe that we are all **destined** for greatness.

invisible

adj. impossible or nearly impossible to see

synonym: hidden, imperceptible, unseen

(1) an **invisible** asset, (2) **invisible** stars

The phenomenon is **invisible** at optical wavelengths.

render

v. to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.

synonym: deliver, give, provide

(1) **render** an assessment, (2) **render** the contract void

The jury must **render** a decision on this complex case.

asteroid

n. a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter

synonym: minor planet, planetoid, rocky planetesimal

(1) **asteroid** mining, (2) **asteroid** explorer

Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the **asteroid** belt to understand the early solar system better.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| 1. man_____ion of a deeper problem | <i>n.</i> a visible or tangible form of something, especially a particular sign of a disease or condition |
| 2. fl__h eating | <i>n.</i> the soft substance composing the body of a person or animal, as opposed to bones and other structures |
| 3. t__l to make a living | <i>v.</i> to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended periods of time |
| 4. t__l up the mountain | <i>v.</i> to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended periods of time |
| 5. without ex_____on | <i>n.</i> something that is not included in a general rule or pattern; a person or thing that is excluded or stands apart from others |
| 6. d__m wrong or inappropriate | <i>v.</i> to consider or decide something in a particular way |
| 7. aff_____ve action | <i>adj.</i> indicating agreement, support, or confirmation; positive or assertive in tone |
| 8. h__l broke loose | <i>n.</i> the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place |

ANSWERS: 1. manifestation, 2. flesh, 3. toil, 4. toil, 5. exception, 6. deem, 7. affirmative, 8. hell

9. ant_____er entrance *n.* a smaller room or space that leads to a larger room, often used as a waiting area or a transitional space
10. de_____e us to meet again *v.* to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome
11. as_____id mining *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
12. be de_____ed to become a great artist *v.* to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome
13. high school at_____es *n.* a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance
14. li_____me benefits *n.* the duration of someone's life or something's existence;
15. si_____ow performer *n.* a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
16. an in_____le asset *adj.* impossible or nearly impossible to see
17. become a professional at_____e *n.* a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance

ANSWERS: 9. antechamber, 10. destine, 11. asteroid, 12. destine, 13. athlete, 14. lifetime, 15. sideshow, 16. invisible, 17. athlete

18. re___r the contract void *v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
19. as_____id explorer *n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
20. man_____ion of psychological stress *n.* a visible or tangible form of something, especially a particular sign of a disease or condition
21. aff_____ve decision *adj.* indicating agreement, support, or confirmation; positive or assertive in tone
22. d__m socially responsible *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
23. royal ant_____er *n.* a smaller room or space that leads to a larger room, often used as a waiting area or a transitional space
24. grow in fl__h *n.* the soft substance composing the body of a person or animal, as opposed to bones and other structures
25. in_____le stars *adj.* impossible or nearly impossible to see
26. lyr_____gy research *n.* the study or analysis of lyrics, especially about popular music
27. re___r an assessment *v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
28. an o_e to love *n.* a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone

ANSWERS: 18. render, 19. asteroid, 20. manifestation, 21. affirmative, 22. deem, 23. antechamber, 24. flesh, 25. invisible, 26. lyricology, 27. render, 28. ode

29. lyr_____gy analysis *n.* the study or analysis of lyrics, especially about popular music
30. run like h__l *n.* the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place
31. nature o_e *n.* a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone
32. make an ex_____on *n.* something that is not included in a general rule or pattern; a person or thing that is excluded or stands apart from others
33. carnival si_____ow *n.* a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
34. li_____me ban from the sport *n.* the duration of someone's life or something's existence;

ANSWERS: 29. lyricology, 30. hell, 31. ode, 32. exception, 33. sideshow, 34. lifetime

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She was the _____ to the rule, as she managed to graduate college in only two years.
 - n.* something that is not included in a general rule or pattern; a person or thing that is excluded or stands apart from others
2. The university's music department offers a course on _____ focusing on analyzing the themes and structures in popular music.
 - n.* the study or analysis of lyrics, especially about popular music
3. The phenomenon is _____ at optical wavelengths.
 - adj.* impossible or nearly impossible to see
4. Some people believe that we are all _____ for greatness.
 - v.* to determine or set the course of something in advance, often in a way that seems predetermined or inevitable; to specify or choose someone or something for a particular fate or outcome
5. The battlefield became _____ on earth.
 - n.* the place thought to be where bad people go and are punished after death, often depicted as being located beneath the earth; an extraordinarily unpleasant or difficult place
6. The _____ of his anxiety was evident in his shaking hands.
 - n.* a visible or tangible form of something, especially a particular sign of a disease or condition
7. The teacher gave an _____ nod to let the student know they had answered the question correctly.
 - adj.* indicating agreement, support, or confirmation; positive or assertive in tone

ANSWERS: 1. exception, 2. lyricology, 3. invisible, 4. destined, 5. hell, 6. manifestation, 7. affirmative

8. His dream is to become an Olympic _____.
- n.* a person who competes in one or more sports that involve physical strength, speed, or endurance
9. Scientists are studying the composition and origins of the _____ belt to understand the early solar system better.
- n.* a small rocky body orbiting the sun, typically in the region between Mars and Jupiter
10. The poet composed a beautiful ____ to nature and its wonders.
- n.* a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone
11. The farmers _____ in the fields, harvesting the crops before the start of the rainy season.
- v.* to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended periods of time
12. The jury must _____ a decision on this complex case.
- v.* to bring someone or something into a particular state; to provide something such as service, help, etc.
13. The circus _____ featured a bearded lady and a human cannonball.
- n.* a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
14. Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were _____ unsafe.
- v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
15. She had lived through two world wars in her _____.
- n.* the duration of someone's life or something's existence;

ANSWERS: 8. athlete, 9. asteroid, 10. ode, 11. toiled, 12. render, 13. sideshow, 14. deemed, 15. lifetime

16. The _____ of the fruit is sweet and juicy.

- n.* the soft substance composing the body of a person or animal, as opposed to bones and other structures

17. I waited nervously in the _____ before my big job interview.

- n.* a smaller room or space that leads to a larger room, often used as a waiting area or a transitional space

ANSWERS: 16. flesh, 17. antechamber