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Will Hurd: A wall won't solve America's border problems | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

congressperson

n. a person who belongs to a congress, especially a member of the US House of Representatives; congressman (congressperson is used to avoid gender discrimination)

synonym : lawmaker, politician, representative

(1) hawkish **congressperson**, (2) former **congressperson**

The term of a **congressperson** is two years.

undercover

adj. carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito

synonym : covert, hidden, stealthy

(1) **undercover** operation, (2) **undercover** journalist

The **undercover** police officer was able to gather crucial evidence without being detected.

trump

n. a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games

(1) **trump** card, (2) choose **trump**

The **trump** suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.

streamline

v. to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps

synonym : simplify, optimize, make more efficient

(1) **streamline** administrative activities, (2) **streamline** workflow

The government plans to **streamline** the tax collection process to make it more efficient.

republican

n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States

synonym : conservative, right-winger, rightist

(1) **republican** ideology, (2) **Republican** party

Many **republican** lawmakers are advocating for stricter immigration policies.

fling

v. to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry

synonym : throw, dump, hurl

(1) **fling** a stream of abuse, (2) **fling** a door open forcefully

He was provoked to **fling** the draft on the floor.

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.

corruptible

adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

synonym : bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

purge

v. to remove or get rid of something, especially that is unwanted or impure

synonym : cleanse, clear, eliminate

(1) **purge** the system, (2) **purge** his sins

The government tried to **purge** corrupt officials from the bureaucracy.

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.

hemisphere

n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

(1) northern **hemisphere**, (2) cerebral **hemisphere**

This weather pattern is unique to the southern **hemisphere**.

diplomacy

n. the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

synonym : tact, negotiation, delicacy

(1) the language of **diplomacy**, (2) the art of **diplomacy**

Effective **diplomacy** is necessary to resolve conflicts and maintain relationships between countries.

deterrent

n. something that prevents or discourages someone from doing something or taking a particular action; a hindrance or obstacle

synonym : hindrance, obstacle, impediment

(1) criminal **deterrent**, (2) nuclear **deterrent**

The threat of punishment serves as a **deterrent** for many people who might consider committing a crime.

snatch

v. to take or grab something suddenly or quickly

synonym : grab, seize, capture

(1) **snatch** a hasty meal, (2) **snatch** up her purse

He **snatches** victory from the jaws of defeat in the game's final seconds.

decency

n. behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards

synonym : morality, propriety, decorum

(1) an offense against **decency**, (2) **decency** standards

He always tried to act with **decency**, treating others with respect and kindness.

disastrous

adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful

synonym : catastrophic, destructive, fatal

(1) have **disastrous** consequences, (2) absolutely **disastrous** effect

The emission of hazardous substances has **disastrous** effects on the ecology of a region.

detain

v. to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving

synonym : hold, keep, detainment

(1) **detain** a terrorist, (2) **detain** for investigation

The police **detained** the suspect for questioning.

patron

n. a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.

synonym : contributor, sponsor, supporter

(1) the **patron** saint of a place, (2) political **patron**

They have been a **patron** of this restaurant for many years.

backlog

n. a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet

synonym : accumulation, pile-up, logjam

(1) **backlog** of work, (2) data **backlog**

The company needed help to keep up with the **backlog** of orders.

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.

persecute

v. to subject someone to hostility, ill-treatment, or harassment, especially because of their race, religion, or political beliefs; to oppress or mistreat someone because of their identity

synonym: victimize, harass, oppress

(1) **persecute** minorities, (2) **persecute** for small debts

The government's crackdown on free speech was seen as an attempt to **persecute** journalists and media outlets.

undocumented

adj. not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission

(1) **undocumented** worker, (2) **undocumented** command

The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking down on **undocumented** non-citizens.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

oversea

adj. situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries

synonym: foreign, abroad, international

(1) **oversea** shipments, (2) for **oversea** use

The company enhanced **oversea** operations to tap into new markets.

fencing

n. the art or practice of fighting with swords, especially with foils, épées, or sabers, according to certain rules

synonym: swordplay, duelling, sabreplay

(1) **fencing** equipment, (2) **fencing** club

He practiced his **fencing** techniques with a partner.

hardworking

adj. tending to work with a lot of effort and care

synonym: diligent, dedicated, conscientious

(1) **hardworking** student, (2) retire from **hardworking** life

They sought candidates with **hardworking** and good-natured.

aisle

n. a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

synonym: corridor, passageway, gangway

(1) **aisle** seat, (2) the center **aisle** of a church

She walked down the **aisle** to the front of the church.

bipartisan

adj. involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country

synonym: neutral, impartial, nonpartisan

(1) promote **bipartisan** cooperation, (2) **bipartisan** agreement

The legislation was passed with **bipartisan** support from both parties.

crisscross

v. to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's

(1) **crisscross** over the edges of the walls, (2) **crisscross** my heart

The roads **crisscrossed** through the countryside, creating a beautiful scenic drive.

commandment

n. a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority

synonym: law, edict, precept

(1) violate a **commandment**, (2) a religious **commandment**
He was punished because he contravened a **commandment** of God.

perilous

adj. involving a high degree of risk or danger; hazardous or fraught with potential harm

synonym: risky, dangerous, hazardous

(1) **perilous** journey, (2) **perilous** terrain

Climbing the cliff was a **perilous** adventure.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. nuclear de_____nt | <i>n.</i> something that prevents or discourages someone from doing something or taking a particular action; a hindrance or obstacle |
| 2. allied di_____at | <i>n.</i> a person appointed by a government to conduct diplomacy (= the management of relationships between countries) with one or more other countries or international organizations |
| 3. have dis_____us consequences | <i>adj.</i> extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful |
| 4. left in li__o | <i>n.</i> a state of being uncertain, unknown, or neglected; an imaginary place for lost or neglected things |
| 5. pe_____us terrain | <i>adj.</i> involving a high degree of risk or danger; hazardous or fraught with potential harm |
| 6. Rep_____an party | <i>n.</i> a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States |
| 7. the center ai__e of a church | <i>n.</i> a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure |

ANSWERS: 1. deterrent, 2. diplomat, 3. disastrous, 4. limbo, 5. perilous, 6. republican, 7. aisle

8. de___n for investigation *v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving
9. sn___h up her purse *v.* to take or grab something suddenly or quickly
10. und_____ted worker *adj.* not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
11. fe_____g equipment *n.* the art or practice of fighting with swords, especially with foils, épées, or sabers, according to certain rules
12. political pa___n *n.* a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.
13. li___o period *n.* a state of being uncertain, unknown, or neglected; an imaginary place for lost or neglected things
14. cri_____ss over the edges of the walls *v.* to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's
15. pe_____us journey *adj.* involving a high degree of risk or danger; hazardous or fraught with potential harm
16. und_____er operation *adj.* carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito
17. tr___p card *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
18. sn___h a hasty meal *v.* to take or grab something suddenly or quickly

ANSWERS: 8. detain, 9. snatch, 10. undocumented, 11. fencing, 12. patron, 13. limbo, 14. crisscross, 15. perilous, 16. undercover, 17. trump, 18. snatch

19. northern hem_____re
n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
20. rep_____an ideology
n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
21. 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
22. und_____ted command
adj. not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
23. str_____ne workflow
v. to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps
24. str_____ne administrative activities
v. to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps
25. the pa____n saint of a place
n. a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.
26. retire from har_____ng life
adj. tending to work with a lot of effort and care
27. ind_____us student
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
28. ai__e seat
n. a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

ANSWERS: 19. hemisphere, 20. republican, 21. diplomat, 22. undocumented, 23. streamline, 24. streamline, 25. patron, 26. hardworking, 27. industrious, 28. aisle

29. former con_____son *n.* a person who belongs to a congress, especially a member of the US House of Representatives; congressman (congressperson is used to avoid gender discrimination)
30. an offense against de_____y *n.* behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards
31. choose tr__p *n.* a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
32. cor_____le judges *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
33. pu__e his sins *v.* to remove or get rid of something, especially that is unwanted or impure
34. absolutely dis_____us effect *adj.* extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
35. pe_____te minorities *v.* to subject someone to hostility, ill-treatment, or harassment, especially because of their race, religion, or political beliefs; to oppress or mistreat someone because of their identity
36. cor_____le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
37. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
38. a religious com_____nt *n.* a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority
39. de_____y standards *n.* behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards

ANSWERS: 29. congressperson, 30. decency, 31. trump, 32. corruptible, 33. purge, 34. disastrous, 35. persecute, 36. corruptible, 37. industrious, 38. commandment, 39. decency

40. for ov_____a use *adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
41. ov_____a shipments *adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
42. pu__e the system *v.* to remove or get rid of something, especially that is unwanted or impure
43. pe_____te for small debts *v.* to subject someone to hostility, ill-treatment, or harassment, especially because of their race, religion, or political beliefs; to oppress or mistreat someone because of their identity
44. fl__g a door open forcefully *v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
45. fe_____g club *n.* the art or practice of fighting with swords, especially with foils, épées, or sabers, according to certain rules
46. the language of di_____cy *n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way
47. ba_____g of work *n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet
48. promote bip_____an cooperation *adj.* involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country

ANSWERS: 40. oversea, 41. oversea, 42. purge, 43. persecute, 44. fling, 45. fencing, 46. diplomacy, 47. backlog, 48. bipartisan

49. fl__g a stream of abuse *v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
50. har_____ng student *adj.* tending to work with a lot of effort and care
51. the art of di_____cy *n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way
52. criminal de_____nt *n.* something that prevents or discourages someone from doing something or taking a particular action; a hindrance or obstacle
53. bip_____an agreement *adj.* involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country
54. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
55. de___n a terrorist *v.* to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving
56. cri_____ss my heart *v.* to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's
57. violate a com_____nt *n.* a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority
58. hawkish con_____son *n.* a person who belongs to a congress, especially a member of the US House of Representatives; congressman (congressperson is used to avoid gender discrimination)

ANSWERS: 49. fling, 50. hardworking, 51. diplomacy, 52. deterrent, 53. bipartisan, 54. opportune, 55. detain, 56. crisscross, 57. commandment, 58. congressperson

59. cerebral hem_____re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
60. und_____er journalist *adj.* carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito
61. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
62. data ba_____g *n.* a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet

ANSWERS: 59. hemisphere, 60. undercover, 61. opportune, 62. backlog

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The government's crackdown on free speech was seen as an attempt to _____ journalists and media outlets.
 - v. to subject someone to hostility, ill-treatment, or harassment, especially because of their race, religion, or political beliefs; to oppress or mistreat someone because of their identity

2. The company needed help to keep up with the _____ of orders.
 - n. a buildup of tasks or work that has accumulated over time and needs to be completed; a reserve of goods or materials that have not been processed or distributed yet

3. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
 - adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

4. Climbing the cliff was a _____ adventure.
 - adj. involving a high degree of risk or danger; hazardous or fraught with potential harm

5. The government plans to _____ the tax collection process to make it more efficient.
 - v. to simplify or make more efficient by eliminating unnecessary parts or steps

6. This weather pattern is unique to the southern _____.
 - n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

7. The legislation was passed with _____ support from both parties.
 - adj. involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country

ANSWERS: 1. persecute, 2. backlog, 3. industrious, 4. perilous, 5. streamline, 6. hemisphere, 7. bipartisan

8. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

9. She walked down the _____ to the front of the church.

n. a passage between rows of seats in a theater, airplane, or other public building, typically one of two or more running parallel with the main body of the structure

10. The roads _____ through the countryside, creating a beautiful scenic drive.

v. to move or make lines that intersect or cross each other in a pattern resembling a series of X's

11. They have been a _____ of this restaurant for many years.

n. a person who gives financial or other support to a person, organization, or activity; a loyal or regular customer of a particular shop, restaurant, etc.

12. He practiced his _____ techniques with a partner.

n. the art or practice of fighting with swords, especially with foils, épées, or sabers, according to certain rules

13. Many _____ lawmakers are advocating for stricter immigration policies.

n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States

14. He was provoked to _____ the draft on the floor.

v. to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry

ANSWERS: 8. opportune, 9. aisle, 10. crisscrossed, 11. patron, 12. fencing, 13. republican, 14. fling

15. Bureaucracies are more _____ than other systems or organizations.
adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
16. The border patrol has recently been focusing on cracking down on _____ non-citizens.
adj. not supported by written evidence or having the necessary written permission
17. The government tried to _____ corrupt officials from the bureaucracy.
v. to remove or get rid of something, especially that is unwanted or impure
18. 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
19. He was punished because he contravened a _____ of God.
n. a divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments; an order or law given by authority
20. The term of a _____ is two years.
n. a person who belongs to a congress, especially a member of the US House of Representatives; congressman (congressperson is used to avoid gender discrimination)
21. They sought candidates with _____ and good-natured.
adj. tending to work with a lot of effort and care
22. He always tried to act with _____ treating others with respect and kindness.
n. behavior that is appropriate or suitable in a given context, especially in terms of social norms and moral standards

ANSWERS: 15. corruptible, 16. undocumented, 17. purge, 18. diplomat, 19. commandment, 20. congressperson, 21. hardworking, 22. decency,

23. The _____ suit in the game of bridge is determined at the beginning of each hand.
n. a playing card with a picture of a trumpeter on it, used in certain card games
24. He _____ victory from the jaws of defeat in the game's final seconds.
v. to take or grab something suddenly or quickly
25. The emission of hazardous substances has _____ effects on the ecology of a region.
adj. extremely bad, harmful, or unsuccessful
26. 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
27. The company enhanced _____ operations to tap into new markets.
adj. situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
28. The threat of punishment serves as a _____ for many people who might consider committing a crime.
n. something that prevents or discourages someone from doing something or taking a particular action; a hindrance or obstacle
29. The _____ police officer was able to gather crucial evidence without being detected.
adj. carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito
30. The police _____ the suspect for questioning.
v. to keep someone in official custody; to prevent them from leaving

ANSWERS: 23. trump, 24. snatches, 25. disastrous, 26. limbo, 27. oversea, 28. deterrent, 29. undercover, 30. detained

31. Effective _____ is necessary to resolve conflicts and maintain relationships between countries.
- n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

ANSWERS: 31. diplomacy