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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Michael Green: The natural building blocks of sustainable architecture | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

masonry

n. the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials

synonym: brickwork, stonework, bricklaying

(1) **masonry** wall, (2) **masonry** restoration

The cathedral's **masonry** sculptures were intricately carved and carefully placed.

footprint

n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

synonym: footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

sequester

v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

synonym: isolate, set apart, segregate

(1) **sequester** ten percent of the annual carbon emissions,

(2) **sequester** myself from the world

He approved their requests to **sequester** the jury.

tweak

v. to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely

synonym : nip, pinch, fine-tune

(1) **tweak** his cheek, (2) **tweak** the economy

He didn't **tweak** the plan, even though he had time.

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.

biomaterial

n. a substance, usually synthetic, that is used for medical or veterinary purposes and is designed to mimic or replace biological tissues

(1) **biomaterial** development, (2) **biomaterials** industry

The new **biomaterials** used in implants are more durable and less likely to cause an immune response.

lignify

v. to transform something into wood or a woody substance; to cause a plant or other organic material to become hard, tough, or woody through the deposition of lignin (= a structural substance found in the cell walls of plants)

synonym : solidify, woodify, harden

(1) **lignify** to a great degree, (2) the tree trunk begins to **lignify**

Plant cells **lignify** as a normal part of their growth cycle.

cellulose

n. a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials

synonym : fiber, paper, wood pulp

(1) **cellulose** acetate, (2) **cellulose** insulation

The **cellulose** content in fruits and vegetables contributes to their dietary fiber.

ligneous

adj. relating to or resembling wood; having the texture or characteristics of wood

synonym : woody, timbered

(1) **ligneous** material, (2) **ligneous** plant
He used **ligneous** logs to fuel the fire.

slab

n. a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure

synonym: slate, tile, paving stone

(1) a **slab** of chocolate, (2) marble **slab**

The construction workers poured a large **slab** of concrete for the foundation of the building.

rink

n. a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling

synonym: park, field

(1) outdoor **rink**, (2) roller **rink**

I love to skate on the ice **rink** during the winter.

understory

n. the layer of vegetation and plant growth that grows beneath the main canopy of a forest or woodland

synonym: underbrush, brushwood, forest floor

(1) **understory** vegetation, (2) **understory** habitat

The forest's **understory** is home to many plants and animals.

wasteful

adj. characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

synonym: uneconomical, extravagant, profligate

(1) **wasteful** practices, (2) **wasteful** habits

Buying new clothes every week is a **wasteful** use of money and resources.

microscopic

adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

synonym: infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis

Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

lamine

n. a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring

synonym: veneer, coating, layer

(1) **lamine** flooring, (2) **lamine** table

The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable **lamine** material.

robotic

adj. of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

synonym: automated, mechanical, laborsaving

(1) **robotic** arm, (2) **robotic** guide operation

The surgeon removed the tumor using **robotic** video assistance.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

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| 1. op_____ne occasion | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 2. und_____ry vegetation | <i>n.</i> the layer of vegetation and plant growth that grows beneath the main canopy of a forest or woodland |
| 3. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization | <i>n.</i> a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface |
| 4. a s__b of chocolate | <i>n.</i> a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure |
| 5. se_____er myself from the world | <i>v.</i> to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid. |
| 6. an op_____ne remark | <i>adj.</i> suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 7. marble s__b | <i>n.</i> a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure |
| 8. la_____te flooring | <i>n.</i> a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring |
| 9. roller r__k | <i>n.</i> a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling |

ANSWERS: 1. opportune, 2. understory, 3. footprint, 4. slab, 5. sequester, 6. opportune, 7. slab, 8. laminate, 9. rink

10. ma____y restoration *n.* the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials
11. wa____ul habits *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense
12. la____te table *n.* a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
13. tw__k the economy *v.* to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely
14. bio____al development *n.* a substance, usually synthetic, that is used for medical or veterinary purposes and is designed to mimic or replace biological tissues
15. li____y to a great degree *v.* to transform something into wood or a woody substance; to cause a plant or other organic material to become hard, tough, or woody through the deposition of lignin (= a structural substance found in the cell walls of plants)
16. wa____ul practices *adj.* characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

ANSWERS: 10. masonry, 11. wasteful, 12. laminate, 13. tweak, 14. biomaterial, 15. lignify, 16. wasteful

17. ro____c guide operation *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
18. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
19. bio_____als industry *n.* a substance, usually synthetic, that is used for medical or veterinary purposes and is designed to mimic or replace biological tissues
20. fo_____nts in the snow *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
21. ro____c arm *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
22. the tree trunk begins to li____y *v.* to transform something into wood or a woody substance; to cause a plant or other organic material to become hard, tough, or woody through the deposition of lignin (= a structural substance found in the cell walls of plants)
23. se_____er ten percent of the annual carbon emissions *v.* to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
24. mic_____ic analysis *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
25. ma____y wall *n.* the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials

ANSWERS: 17. robotic, 18. industrious, 19. biomaterial, 20. footprint, 21. robotic, 22. lignify, 23. sequester, 24. microscopic, 25. masonry

26. li____us material *adj.* relating to or resembling wood; having the texture or characteristics of wood
27. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
28. li____us plant *adj.* relating to or resembling wood; having the texture or characteristics of wood
29. mic_____ic inquiry *adj.* tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
30. ce_____se insulation *n.* a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials
31. und_____ry habitat *n.* the layer of vegetation and plant growth that grows beneath the main canopy of a forest or woodland
32. ce_____se acetate *n.* a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials
33. outdoor r__k *n.* a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling
34. tw__k his cheek *v.* to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely

ANSWERS: 26. ligneous, 27. industrious, 28. ligneous, 29. microscopic, 30. cellulose, 31. understory, 32. cellulose, 33. rink, 34. tweak

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.
n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
2. He didn't _____ the plan, even though he had time.
v. to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely
3. Inspectors noticed _____ cracks in the submarine's hull.
adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
4. The forest's _____ is home to many plants and animals.
n. the layer of vegetation and plant growth that grows beneath the main canopy of a forest or woodland
5. The _____ content in fruits and vegetables contributes to their dietary fiber.
n. a complex carbohydrate that is the main structural component of plant cell walls and fibers; a substance used to make paper, textiles, and other materials
6. The new _____ used in implants are more durable and less likely to cause an immune response.
n. a substance, usually synthetic, that is used for medical or veterinary purposes and is designed to mimic or replace biological tissues
7. Buying new clothes every week is a _____ use of money and resources.
adj. characterized by excessive or unnecessary use or consumption; using resources or materials inefficiently or inappropriately, resulting in unnecessary waste or expense

ANSWERS: 1. footprint, 2. tweak, 3. microscopic, 4. understory, 5. cellulose, 6. biomaterials, 7. wasteful

8. I love to skate on the ice _____ during the winter.
n. a flat, typically enclosed surface used for skating or other recreational activities such as roller skating, ice hockey, or curling
9. The construction workers poured a large _____ of concrete for the foundation of the building.
n. a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure
10. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
11. He approved their requests to _____ the jury.
v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
12. The countertop in my kitchen is made of durable _____ material.
n. a material made by bonding together two or more layers of different materials, often used in furniture or flooring
13. The surgeon removed the tumor using _____ video assistance.
adj. of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
14. Plant cells _____ as a normal part of their growth cycle.
v. to transform something into wood or a woody substance; to cause a plant or other organic material to become hard, tough, or woody through the deposition of lignin (= a structural substance found in the cell walls of plants)
15. The cathedral's _____ sculptures were intricately carved and carefully placed.
n. the art or work of constructing buildings, walls, or other structures from carefully shaped and arranged blocks of stone, brick, or other materials

ANSWERS: 8. rink, 9. slab, 10. industrious, 11. sequester, 12. laminate, 13. robotic, 14. lignify, 15. masonry

16. He used _____ logs to fuel the fire.

adj. relating to or resembling wood; having the texture or characteristics of wood

17. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

ANSWERS: 16. ligneous, 17. opportune