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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

boardroom

n. a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets

synonym: meeting room, conference room, executive room

(1) **boardroom** meeting, (2) **boardroom** decision

The corporate **boardroom** was filled with tense silence as the CEO presented the new plan.

pitchfork

n. a long-handled farm tool with two or three prongs at the end, used for turning over hay or other agricultural materials

synonym: hayfork, trident, pikestaff

(1) **pitchfork** attack, (2) **pitchfork** protest

The angry mob marched towards the mansion with **pitchforks** and torches in hand.

interrelated

adj. closely connected or related to each other

synonym: connected, related, interdependent

(1) the **interrelated** nature of the problems, (2) **interrelated** factors

The different parts of the system are **interrelated** and rely on each other to function correctly.

courageous

adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

synonym : brave, valiant, fearless

(1) make a **courageous** decision, (2) **courageous** rescue attempt

He was a **courageous** soldier who had served his country with honor.

paternity

n. the state of being a father; the attribution of a specific child to a particular father; the characteristics or traits inherited or passed down from a father

synonym : fatherhood, fathering, parenthood

(1) **paternity** suit, (2) **paternity** test

The **paternity** leave policy at his workplace allowed him to take time off to bond with his new baby

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.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym : sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

disproportionately

adv. in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

synonym : excessively, unequally

(1) **disproportionately** affected, (2) **disproportionately** high

The rich can often **disproportionately** benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.

disbeliever

n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

synonym: non-believer, skeptic, doubter

(1) persuade a **disbeliever**, (2) stubborn **disbeliever**

Despite the evidence, she remained a **disbeliever** in the theory of evolution.

masculine

adj. having characteristics or an appearance that are usually regarded as typical or appropriate for men

synonym: male, mannish, manly

(1) wear **masculine** attire, (2) **masculine** beauty

Her allure lies in her **masculine** rather than feminine beauty.

hubris

n. excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin

synonym: arrogance, conceit, pride

(1) political **hubris**, (2) **hubris** in business

The athlete's **hubris** resulted in him underestimating his competition and losing the game.

unleash

v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled

synonym: discharge, free, release

(1) **unleash** a hound, (2) **unleash** her anger

The general was still reluctant to **unleash** his troops in pursuit of an enemy.

meltdown

n. a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically

synonym: collapse, disaster, failure

(1) **meltdown** disaster, (2) economic **meltdown**

The nuclear **meltdown** in the country was a disaster with far-reaching consequences.

humility

n. the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

synonym : humbleness, modesty, unpretentiousness

(1) develop an attitude of **humility**, (2) lack of **humility**

We were filled with **humility** at the sight of the Queen.

aspiring

adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life

synonym : hopeful, ambitious, eager

(1) **aspiring** prime minister, (2) have **aspiring** eyes

He was extremely generous to the **aspiring** young artist.

outspoken

adj. frank and candid in speech or expression; not afraid to speak one's mind or voice one's opinions, even if unpopular or controversial

synonym : vocal, blunt, frank

(1) **outspoken** critic, (2) **outspoken** journalist

She was known for being **outspoken** and speaking her mind.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym : conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

fascination

n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

synonym : allure, attraction, charm

(1) rapt in **fascination**, (2) the **fascination** with classical music

I looked at the painting in **fascination**.

barricade

n. a barrier, often improvised or temporary, used to block passage or protect against danger or attack

synonym : barrier, obstacle, blockade

(1) **barricade** fencing, (2) police **barricade**

The protestors built a **barricade** to prevent police from entering the area.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep
I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

synonym: health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**
We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

superpower

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym: great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

Session 2: Spelling

1. pa_____ty test *n.* the state of being a father; the attribution of a specific child to a particular father; the characteristics or traits inherited or passed down from a father
2. di_____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
3. police ba_____de *n.* a barrier, often improvised or temporary, used to block passage or protect against danger or attack
4. ov_____lm opponents by numbers *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
5. the int_____ted nature of the problems *adj.* closely connected or related to each other
6. ou_____en critic *adj.* frank and candid in speech or expression; not afraid to speak one's mind or voice one's opinions, even if unpopular or controversial
7. me_____wn disaster *n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
8. dis_____ely affected *adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

ANSWERS: 1. paternity, 2. disrupt, 3. barricade, 4. overwhelm, 5. interrelated, 6. outspoken, 7. meltdown, 8. disproportionately

9. political hu___s *n.* excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
10. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
11. wear ma_____ne attire *adj.* having characteristics or an appearance that are usually regarded as typical or appropriate for men
12. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
13. the fas_____on with classical music *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
14. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude *v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
15. ba_____de fencing *n.* a barrier, often improvised or temporary, used to block passage or protect against danger or attack
16. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
17. persuade a dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

ANSWERS: 9. hubris, 10. opportune, 11. masculine, 12. opportune, 13. fascination, 14. overwhelm, 15. barricade, 16. superpower, 17. disbeliever

18. have as_____ng eyes *adj.* desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
19. hu____s in business *n.* excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
20. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
21. pa_____ty suit *n.* the state of being a father; the attribution of a specific child to a particular father; the characteristics or traits inherited or passed down from a father
22. as_____ng prime minister *adj.* desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
23. un_____h her anger *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
24. make a cou_____us decision *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
25. a sense of wel_____ng *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
26. lack of hu_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
27. bo_____om decision *n.* a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets

ANSWERS: 18. aspiring, 19. hubris, 20. superpower, 21. paternity, 22. aspiring, 23. unleash, 24. courageous, 25. well-being, 26. humility, 27. boardroom

28. stubborn dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
29. the wel_____ng of a nation *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
30. rapt in fas_____on *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
31. don't dis_____nt me *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
32. di_____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
33. ou_____en journalist *adj.* frank and candid in speech or expression; not afraid to speak one's mind or voice one's opinions, even if unpopular or controversial
34. pi_____rk attack *n.* a long-handled farm tool with two or three prongs at the end, used for turning over hay or other agricultural materials
35. ma_____ne beauty *adj.* having characteristics or an appearance that are usually regarded as typical or appropriate for men
36. bo_____om meeting *n.* a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets
37. develop an attitude of hu_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

ANSWERS: 28. disbeliever, 29. well-being, 30. fascination, 31. disappoint, 32. disrupt, 33. outspoken, 34. pitchfork, 35. masculine, 36. boardroom, 37. humility

38. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
39. int_____ted factors *adj.* closely connected or related to each other
40. pi_____rk protest *n.* a long-handled farm tool with two or three prongs at the end, used for turning over hay or other agricultural materials
41. un_____h a hound *v.* to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
42. economic me_____wn *n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
43. cou_____us rescue attempt *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
44. dis_____ely high *adv.* in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

ANSWERS: 38. disappoint, 39. interrelated, 40. pitchfork, 41. unleash, 42. meltdown, 43. courageous, 44. disproportionately

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
2. She was known for being _____ and speaking her mind.
adj. frank and candid in speech or expression; not afraid to speak one's mind or voice one's opinions, even if unpopular or controversial
3. The angry mob marched towards the mansion with _____ and torches in hand.
n. a long-handled farm tool with two or three prongs at the end, used for turning over hay or other agricultural materials
4. He was extremely generous to the _____ young artist.
adj. desiring or striving for recognition or advancement; wanting to be successful in life
5. Her allure lies in her _____ rather than feminine beauty.
adj. having characteristics or an appearance that are usually regarded as typical or appropriate for men
6. Despite the evidence, she remained a _____ in the theory of evolution.
n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
7. I looked at the painting in _____.
n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

ANSWERS: 1. superpower, 2. outspoken, 3. pitchforks, 4. aspiring, 5. masculine, 6. disbeliever, 7. fascination

8. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
- v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
9. The _____ leave policy at his workplace allowed him to take time off to bond with his new baby
- n.* the state of being a father; the attribution of a specific child to a particular father; the characteristics or traits inherited or passed down from a father
10. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.
- n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
11. The different parts of the system are _____ and rely on each other to function correctly.
- adj.* closely connected or related to each other
12. The nuclear _____ in the country was a disaster with far-reaching consequences.
- n.* a severe overheating of the core of a nuclear reactor resulting in the core melting and radiation escaping; a situation in which something fails or weakens suddenly or dramatically
13. The protestors built a _____ to prevent police from entering the area.
- n.* a barrier, often improvised or temporary, used to block passage or protect against danger or attack
14. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 8. disappoint, 9. paternity, 10. well-being, 11. interrelated, 12. meltdown, 13. barricade, 14. opportune

15. He was a _____ soldier who had served his country with honor.
adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
16. We were filled with _____ at the sight of the Queen.
n. the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
17. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody
18. The corporate _____ was filled with tense silence as the CEO presented the new plan.
n. a room where the board of directors of a company or organization meets
19. The athlete's _____ resulted in him underestimating his competition and losing the game.
n. excessive pride, arrogance, or overconfidence, often leading to someone's downfall or ruin
20. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
21. The general was still reluctant to _____ his troops in pursuit of an enemy.
v. to suddenly release a strong force, emotion, etc. that cannot be controlled
22. The rich can often _____ benefit from tax breaks and other advantages.
adv. in a way that is not reasonably or appropriately balanced, equal, or distributed; in a manner that is unequal or excessive about something else

ANSWERS: 15. courageous, 16. humility, 17. overwhelm, 18. boardroom, 19. hubris, 20. disrupt, 21. unleash, 22. disproportionately

ANSWERS: