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Eugenia Cheng: An unexpected tool for understanding inequality: abstract math | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/eugenia_cheng_an_unexpected_tool_for_understanding_inequality_abstract_math

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

awash

adj. flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive

synonym : flooded, inundated, immersed

(1) **awash** with cash, (2) **awash** in debt

The beach was **awash** with seaweed after the storm.

divisive

adj. tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people

synonym : polarizing, contentious, disagreeable

(1) **divisive** question, (2) suppress **divisive** arguments

The proposed policy has been met with **divisive** reactions from the public.

bigotry

n. intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself

synonym : intolerance, prejudice, bias

(1) ethnic **bigotry**, (2) self-righteous **bigotry**

Bigotry and discrimination have no place in our society.

minuscule

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym : tiny, insignificant, microscopic

(1) **minuscule** amount, (2) **minuscule** letters

This ore emits **minuscule** quantities of radiation

doom

n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided

synonym : judgment, destiny, fate

(1) economic **doom**, (2) prophet of **doom**

Everyone was aware of the impending **doom** but was unable to prevent it.

vie

v. to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise

synonym : compete, contend, strive

(1) **vie** for a trophy, (2) **vie** for attention

They both **vied** for the top spot in the company.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym : confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

quadrate

n. a square-shaped object or area

synonym : square, rectangle, block

(1) **quadrate** shape, (2) **quadrate** ligament

The scientist examined the **quadrate** bone to determine the species of dinosaur it came from.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym : compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

shudder

v. to tremble uncontrollably or convulsively, often due to fear, cold, or intense emotion; to recoil or react strongly

to something unpleasant, disturbing, or shocking

synonym : tremble, shake, quiver

(1) **shudder** at the thought, (2) **shudder** with fear

I couldn't help but **shudder** when I heard the scary noise from the dark alleyway.

sympathize

v. to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences

synonym : empathize, understand, commiserate

(1) **sympathize** with a tragic hero, (2) **sympathize** with their situation

I **sympathize** with your struggles and am here to support you through them.

grandparent

n. a parent of one's father or mother

(1) great- **grandparent**, (2) person of **grandparent** age

She was close to her paternal **grandparents** and often spent summers with them.

divisible

adj. able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over

synonym : separable, splittable, partitionable

(1) a **divisible** number, (2) exactly **divisible**

The class was divided into groups of four, with each group being **divisible** by two.

adjective

n. a word that describes a noun or pronoun

synonym : modifier, accessory, attribute

(1) **adjective** clause, (2) an attributive **adjective**

The **adjective** "red" describes the color of the apple.

nonbinary

adj. someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things

synonym : pluralistic, polyphyletic

(1) **nonbinary** gender, (2) **nonbinary** identities

More and more people in various countries believe that the policymaker should change the marriage rules for **nonbinary** people.

mistakenly

adv. in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly

synonym : incorrectly, erroneously, wrongly

(1) **mistakenly** left his keys, (2) **mistakenly** delete the important file

He **mistakenly** thought the red liquid was juice, but it was paint.

skew

v. to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.

synonym : slant, tilt, distort

(1) **skew** the message, (2) **skew** social values

The results of the poll are **skewed** because it only surveyed a small group of people.

cuboid

n. a geometric shape with six rectangular faces, where the opposite faces are parallel and congruent; a specific bone in the human body, known as the cuboid bone, which is one of the tarsal bones located in the foot; a three-dimensional rectangle

synonym : rectangular, brick-shaped, blocky

(1) medial surface of the **cuboid**, (2) **cuboid-shaped** wireless speaker

The **cuboid** bone is located in the foot and helps with stability during movement.

cisgender

adj. denoting or relating to a person whose sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with their birth sex

synonym : cis, non-trans

(1) **cisgender** identity, (2) **cisgender** person

Cisgender people often don't have to think about their gender identity in the same way that transgender people do

underprivileged

adj. lacking resources, opportunities, or advantages that are necessary for success

synonym: poor, disadvantaged, destitute

(1) poor and **underprivileged** elderly, (2) **underprivileged** communities

The **underprivileged** children were in dire need of food, clothing, and shelter.

pivot

n. a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances

synonym: center point, fulcrum, heart

(1) center- **pivot** irrigation, (2) **pivot** point

The team needed to come up with a **pivot** strategy to turn things around.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. center-pi__t irrigation | <i>n.</i> a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances |
| 2. suppress di____ve arguments | <i>adj.</i> tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people |
| 3. pi__t point | <i>n.</i> a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances |
| 4. ci_____er identity | <i>adj.</i> denoting or relating to a person whose sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with their birth sex |
| 5. no_____ry identities | <i>adj.</i> someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things |
| 6. und_____ged communities | <i>adj.</i> lacking resources, opportunities, or advantages that are necessary for success |
| 7. full of em_____y | <i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation |
| 8. qu_____te ligament | <i>n.</i> a square-shaped object or area |
| 9. person of gra_____nt age | <i>n.</i> a parent of one's father or mother |
| 10. mis_____ly left his keys | <i>adv.</i> in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly |

ANSWERS: 1. pivot, 2. divisive, 3. pivot, 4. cisgender, 5. nonbinary, 6. underprivileged, 7. empathy, 8. quadrate, 9. grandparent, 10. mistakenly

11. an attributive ad_____ve *n.* a word that describes a noun or pronoun
12. medial surface of the cu____d *n.* a geometric shape with six rectangular faces, where the opposite faces are parallel and congruent; a specific bone in the human body, known as the cuboid bone, which is one of the tarsal bones located in the foot; a three-dimensional rectangle
13. prophet of d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
14. sym_____ze with a tragic hero *v.* to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences
15. a di_____le number *adj.* able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over
16. ad_____ve clause *n.* a word that describes a noun or pronoun
17. v_e for a trophy *v.* to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise
18. ci_____er person *adj.* denoting or relating to a person whose sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with their birth sex
19. exactly di_____le *adj.* able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over

ANSWERS: 11. adjective, 12. cuboid, 13. doom, 14. sympathize, 15. divisible, 16. adjective, 17. vie, 18. cisgender, 19. divisible

20. sh_____r with fear *v.* to tremble uncontrollably or convulsively, often due to fear, cold, or intense emotion; to recoil or react strongly to something unpleasant, disturbing, or shocking
21. sym_____ze with their situation *v.* to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences
22. ethnic bi_____y *n.* intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself
23. mi_____le letters *adj.* extremely small; tiny
24. poor and und_____ged elderly *adj.* lacking resources, opportunities, or advantages that are necessary for success
25. s__w social values *v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
26. mis_____ly delete the important file *adv.* in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly
27. great-gra_____nt *n.* a parent of one's father or mother
28. self-righteous bi_____y *n.* intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself
29. s__w the message *v.* to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.
30. di_____ve question *adj.* tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people

ANSWERS: 20. shudder, 21. sympathize, 22. bigotry, 23. minuscule, 24. underprivileged, 25. skew, 26. mistakenly, 27. grandparent, 28. bigotry, 29. skew, 30. divisive

31. qu____te shape *n.* a square-shaped object or area
32. aw__h in debt *adj.* flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive
33. mi_____le amount *adj.* extremely small; tiny
34. economic d__m *n.* death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
35. v_e for attention *v.* to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise
36. em_____y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
37. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
38. no_____ry gender *adj.* someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things
39. aw__h with cash *adj.* flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive
40. cu___d-shaped wireless speaker *n.* a geometric shape with six rectangular faces, where the opposite faces are parallel and congruent; a specific bone in the human body, known as the cuboid bone, which is one of the tarsal bones located in the foot; a three-dimensional rectangle

ANSWERS: 31. quadrate, 32. awash, 33. minuscule, 34. doom, 35. vie, 36. empathy, 37. confuse, 38. nonbinary, 39. awash, 40. cuboid

41. sh____r at the thought

v. to tremble uncontrollably or convulsively, often due to fear, cold, or intense emotion; to recoil or react strongly to something unpleasant, disturbing, or shocking

42. co____e the listener

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

ANSWERS: 41. shudder, 42. confuse

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The class was divided into groups of four, with each group being _____ by two.
adj. able to be divided into parts, usually with nothing left over
2. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
3. She was close to her paternal _____ and often spent summers with them.
n. a parent of one's father or mother
4. Her remarks _____ the debate.
v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
5. I _____ with your struggles and am here to support you through them.
v. to express or feel compassion or understanding for someone else's pain, difficulty, or misfortune; to share in someone else's emotions or experiences
6. The scientist examined the _____ bone to determine the species of dinosaur it came from.
n. a square-shaped object or area
7. I couldn't help but _____ when I heard the scary noise from the dark alleyway.
v. to tremble uncontrollably or convulsively, often due to fear, cold, or intense emotion; to recoil or react strongly to something unpleasant, disturbing, or shocking

ANSWERS: 1. divisible, 2. Empathy, 3. grandparents, 4. confused, 5. sympathize, 6. quadrate, 7. shudder

8. The _____ children were in dire need of food, clothing, and shelter.
adj. lacking resources, opportunities, or advantages that are necessary for success
9. He _____ thought the red liquid was juice, but it was paint.
adv. in a mistaken or incorrect way; wrongly
10. The _____ bone is located in the foot and helps with stability during movement.
n. a geometric shape with six rectangular faces, where the opposite faces are parallel and congruent; a specific bone in the human body, known as the cuboid bone, which is one of the tarsal bones located in the foot; a three-dimensional rectangle
11. Everyone was aware of the impending _____ but was unable to prevent it.
n. death, destruction, or some other terrible situation that cannot be avoided
12. The _____ "red" describes the color of the apple.
n. a word that describes a noun or pronoun
13. They both _____ for the top spot in the company.
v. to compete or contend for something, usually a prize, position, or advantage; to strive for superiority or mastery in one's field or area of expertise
14. The team needed to come up with a _____ strategy to turn things around.
n. a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances
15. _____ and discrimination have no place in our society.
n. intolerance toward those who hold different opinions from oneself

ANSWERS: 8. underprivileged, 9. mistakenly, 10. cuboid, 11. doom, 12. adjective, 13. vied, 14. pivot, 15. Bigotry

16. More and more people in various countries believe that the policymaker should change the marriage rules for _____ people.

adj. someone who does not identify as a man or a woman; not relating to, composed of, or including only two things

17. The beach was _____ with seaweed after the storm.

adj. flooded or overflowing with water, typically suddenly or unexpectedly; abundant or prevalent to the extent of being overwhelming or excessive

18. This ore emits _____ quantities of radiation

adj. extremely small; tiny

19. The results of the poll are _____ because it only surveyed a small group of people.

v. to turn or place at an angle; to make biased or distorted with the result that it is not accurate, fair, normal, etc.

20. _____ people often don't have to think about their gender identity in the same way that transgender people do

adj. denoting or relating to a person whose sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with their birth sex

21. The proposed policy has been met with _____ reactions from the public.

adj. tending to cause disagreement or hostility between people

ANSWERS: 16. nonbinary, 17. awash, 18. minuscule, 19. skewed, 20. Cisgender, 21. divisive