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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ashweetha Shetty: How education helped me rewrite my life | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

perseverance

n. steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success

synonym: persistence, tenacity, determination

(1) unwavering **perseverance**, (2) dogged **perseverance**

Despite facing numerous setbacks and obstacles, his **perseverance** and determination led him to success.

tremble

v. to shake slightly in a way that you cannot control, for example, because you are frightened, angry, or excited, or because of illness

synonym: shiver, flutter, quaver

(1) **tremble** in fear, (2) **tremble** violently with emotion

When I heard the news, my whole body **trembled** with excitement.

priceless

adj. extremely valuable or important

synonym: invaluable, incalculable, precious

(1) **priceless** work of art, (2) **priceless** opportunity

Investigators discovered **priceless** documents throughout the house.

worthless

adj. having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

synonym: valueless, useless, pointless

(1) **worthless** stock, (2) **worthless** coin

The product was found to be **worthless** as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

discourage

v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

synonym: dishearten, depress, demoralize

(1) **discourage** customers, (2) **discourage** bacterial growth

His parents tried to **discourage** him from becoming an artist.

autobiography

n. a written account of someone's own life, written by that person

synonym: bio, life story, biography

(1) **autobiography** of his early life, (2) fictionalized **autobiography**

She wrote an **autobiography** detailing her journey from poverty to success.

indomitable

adj. impossible to defeat, discourage or subdue; unconquerable; unyielding in spirit

synonym: unbeatable, invincible, unconquerable

(1) **indomitable** determination, (2) **indomitable** courage

Despite facing many challenges, her **indomitable** spirit helped her overcome them all.

commute

v. to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work

synonym: travel, journey, trip

(1) **commute** to work, (2) daily **commute**

He had to **commute** two hours each way to get to work.

huddle

v. to crowd or press closely together; cuddle

synonym: cluster, crowd, group

(1) **huddle** in a temporary shelter, (2) **huddle** around the open fire

The children **huddled** together for warmth in the cold winter storm.

shawl

n. a piece of fabric or clothing worn as a covering or adornment around the neck, shoulders, or head; a wrap or cape-like garment

synonym: wrap, stole, pashmina

(1) **shawl** collar, (2) silk **shawl**

My grandmother wore her favorite knitted **shawl** to keep warm on the chilly autumn evening.

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.

alienated

adj. feeling isolated, estranged, or disconnected from others, often due to a sense of difference or lack of belonging

synonym: isolated, estranged, disconnected

(1) **alienated** from my parents, (2) become **alienated**

The new employee felt **alienated** from the rest of the team, as they didn't try to include him in their conversations.

intimidate

v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

synonym: frighten, threaten, terrify

(1) **intimidate** an opponent, (2) effectively **intimidate** a thief

The boss tried to **intimidate** his subordinate with threats.

awaken

v. to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping

synonym: rouse, arouse, revive

(1) **awaken** at daybreak, (2) **awaken** a child

The friend's death **awakens** them.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym : formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

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.

laborer

n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

synonym : worker, employee, operative

(1) **laborer** job, (2) skilled **laborer**

The construction site hired many **laborers** to help with the heavy lifting.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. ins_____ize customary laws | v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.) |
| 2. pr_____ss opportunity | <i>adj.</i> extremely valuable or important |
| 3. la_____r job | <i>n.</i> a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks |
| 4. ind_____le determination | <i>adj.</i> impossible to defeat, discourage or subdue; unconquerable; unyielding in spirit |
| 5. daily co_____e | v. to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work |
| 6. dis_____ge bacterial growth | v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something |
| 7. ind_____le courage | <i>adj.</i> impossible to defeat, discourage or subdue; unconquerable; unyielding in spirit |
| 8. wo_____ss coin | <i>adj.</i> having no value or usefulness; not worth considering |
| 9. dis_____ge customers | v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something |

ANSWERS: 1. institutionalize, 2. priceless, 3. laborer, 4. indomitable, 5. commute, 6. discourage, 7. indomitable, 8. worthless, 9. discourage

10. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
11. become al_____ed *adj.* feeling isolated, estranged, or disconnected from others, often due to a sense of difference or lack of belonging
12. dogged per_____nce *n.* steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success
13. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
14. fictionalized aut_____phy *n.* a written account of someone's own life, written by that person
15. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
16. hu___e around the open fire *v.* to crowd or press closely together; cuddle
17. aw___n at daybreak *v.* to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
18. wo_____ss stock *adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering
19. aut_____phy of his early life *n.* a written account of someone's own life, written by that person
20. silk sh__l *n.* a piece of fabric or clothing worn as a covering or adornment around the neck, shoulders, or head; a wrap or cape-like garment

ANSWERS: 10. institutionalize, 11. alienated, 12. perseverance, 13. confuse, 14. autobiography, 15. opportune, 16. huddle, 17. awaken, 18. worthless, 19. autobiography, 20. shawl

21. int_____te an opponent *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
22. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
23. pr_____ss work of art *adj.* extremely valuable or important
24. skilled la_____r *n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
25. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
26. unwavering per_____nce *n.* steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success
27. tr_____e in fear *v.* to shake slightly in a way that you cannot control, for example, because you are frightened, angry, or excited, or because of illness
28. tr_____e violently with emotion *v.* to shake slightly in a way that you cannot control, for example, because you are frightened, angry, or excited, or because of illness
29. al_____ed from my parents *adj.* feeling isolated, estranged, or disconnected from others, often due to a sense of difference or lack of belonging
30. hu___e in a temporary shelter *v.* to crowd or press closely together; cuddle

ANSWERS: 21. intimidate, 22. opportune, 23. priceless, 24. laborer, 25. confuse, 26. perseverance, 27. tremble, 28. tremble, 29. alienated, 30. huddle

31. aw___n a child v. to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
32. sh__l collar n. a piece of fabric or clothing worn as a covering or adornment around the neck, shoulders, or head; a wrap or cape-like garment
33. co_____e to work v. to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work
34. effectively int_____te a thief v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

ANSWERS: 31. awaken, 32. shawl, 33. commute, 34. intimidate

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
2. My grandmother wore her favorite knitted _____ to keep warm on the chilly autumn evening.
n. a piece of fabric or clothing worn as a covering or adornment around the neck, shoulders, or head; a wrap or cape-like garment
3. She wrote an _____ detailing her journey from poverty to success.
n. a written account of someone's own life, written by that person
4. The friend's death _____ them.
v. to stop sleeping or to cause someone to stop sleeping
5. The boss tried to _____ his subordinate with threats.
v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
6. The new employee felt _____ from the rest of the team, as they didn't try to include him in their conversations.
adj. feeling isolated, estranged, or disconnected from others, often due to a sense of difference or lack of belonging
7. The construction site hired many _____ to help with the heavy lifting.
n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

ANSWERS: 1. opportune, 2. shawl, 3. autobiography, 4. awakens, 5. intimidate, 6. alienated, 7. laborers

8. Her remarks _____ the debate.

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

9. The children _____ together for warmth in the cold winter storm.

v. to crowd or press closely together; cuddle

10. The product was found to be _____ as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

adj. having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

11. Despite facing many challenges, her _____ spirit helped her overcome them all.

adj. impossible to defeat, discourage or subdue; unconquerable; unyielding in spirit

12. His parents tried to _____ him from becoming an artist.

v. to make someone lose confidence, enthusiasm, or less willing to do something

13. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

14. When I heard the news, my whole body _____ with excitement.

v. to shake slightly in a way that you cannot control, for example, because you are frightened, angry, or excited, or because of illness

15. Investigators discovered _____ documents throughout the house.

adj. extremely valuable or important

ANSWERS: 8. confused, 9. huddled, 10. worthless, 11. indomitable, 12. discourage, 13. institutionalize, 14. trembled, 15. priceless

16. He had to _____ two hours each way to get to work.

- v.* to regularly travel a particular journey, especially between one's home and place of work; (noun) a regular journey of some distance to and from your place of work

17. Despite facing numerous setbacks and obstacles, his _____ and determination led him to success.

- n.* steadfastness in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success

ANSWERS: 16. commute, 17. perseverance