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Kotchakorn Voraakhom: How to transform sinking cities into landscapes that fight floods | TED Talk
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

crocodile

n. a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

synonym : alligator, gator, croc

(1) **crocodile** hide, (2) saltwater **crocodile**

The **crocodile** attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear

urbanization

n. the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture

synonym : urban development, urban growth, urban expansion

(1) **urbanization** process, (2) non- **urbanization** area

Rapid **urbanization** has led to many environmental and social issues in cities.

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.

centimeter

n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

(1) **centimeter** measurement, (2) thirty **centimeters** tall

The room was only one **centimeter** wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.

sneaky

adj. behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness

synonym: sly, crafty, deceitful

(1) **sneaky** tactics, (2) **sneaky** behavior

The **sneaky** thief slipped into the house through an unlocked window.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

synonym: surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

creep

v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

synonym: crawl, glide, encroach

(1) **creep** along the leaf, (2) **creep** toward the mouse

Ageing **creeps** up slowly with time.

sneak

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

synonym: creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

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.

amphibious

adj. able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings

(1) **amphibious** creature, (2) **amphibious** warfare

The **amphibious** vehicle seamlessly transitioned from land to water.

fertilize

v. to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well

synonym : pollinate, inseminate, enrich

(1) **fertilize** the soil, (2) **fertilize** the female egg

The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to **fertilize** a wife.

displace

v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

synonym : evict, exile, remove

(1) **displace** workers, (2) **displace** the explosive power

The construction of the new dam will **displace** hundreds of families living downstream.

terrify

v. to frighten someone very much

synonym : unnerve, scare, horrify

(1) **terrify** people, (2) the threats **terrify** him

It would be best not to **terrify** your associates into doing complex tasks.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym : wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

centenary

n. a hundredth anniversary or celebration of a hundred years

synonym : centennial, hundredth anniversary

(1) **centenary** event, (2) **centenary** of a book

The country celebrated its **centenary** with parades and fireworks.

capita

n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

synonym : head, headcount, person

(1) per **capita** sales, (2) the agricultural yield per **capita**
GDP per **capita** shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.

megacity

n. a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people

(1) **megacity** pollution, (2) **megacity** project

The fishing village grew rapidly into a bustling **megacity**.

beautify

v. to enhance the physical appearance of something by making it more attractive or aesthetically pleasing; to make something more attractive or appealing in general

synonym : embellish, enhance, decorate

(1) **beautify** my skin, (2) **beautify** a room

The city plans to **beautify** the park with new flowers and trees.

incline

v. to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something

synonym : lean, slant, slope

(1) **incline** towards a certain opinion, (2) **incline** my head
I **incline** toward the idea of taking a vacation instead of working overtime.

rainwater

n. water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected

synonym: precipitation, drizzle, showers

(1) **rainwater** acidity, (2) **rainwater** drainage

The company installed a **rainwater** harvesting system to collect and reuse it for manufacturing.

coastline

n. the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea

synonym: shoreline, seashore, beach

(1) **coastline** erosion, (2) deeply indented **coastline**

The new resort was built along the **coastline**, offering stunning ocean views from every room.

catastrophe

n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune

synonym: disaster, calamity, cataclysm

(1) **catastrophe** risk management, (2) avoid climate **catastrophe**

The lack of funds has resulted in a **catastrophe** for our university system.

tang

n. a strong, sharp taste or smell; a perceptible or distinctive flavor or aftertaste; a metallic ringing or sound

synonym: flavor, taste, zest

(1) metallic **tang**, (2) the **tang** of a lemon

The **tang** of the ocean breeze was refreshing on a hot summer day.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sn__k out of danger v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
2. di____ce workers v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
3. the threats te____y him v. to frighten someone very much
4. amp_____us creature *adj.* able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings
5. in____e towards a certain opinion v. to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something
6. p__e a new path v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
7. metallic t__g *n.* a strong, sharp taste or smell; a perceptible or distinctive flavor or aftertaste; a metallic ringing or sound
8. cr_____le hide *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

ANSWERS: 1. sneak, 2. displace, 3. terrify, 4. amphibious, 5. incline, 6. pave, 7. tang, 8. crocodile

9. sn___y behavior *adj.* behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness
10. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
11. saltwater cr_____le *n.* a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats
12. sn___y tactics *adj.* behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness
13. amp_____us warfare *adj.* able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings
14. p__e a smoother road *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
15. co_____ne erosion *n.* the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea
16. sn__k a cigarette *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
17. urb_____ion process *n.* the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture

ANSWERS: 9. sneaky, 10. electrify, 11. crocodile, 12. sneaky, 13. amphibious, 14. pave, 15. coastline, 16. sneak, 17. urbanization

18. di_____ce the explosive power *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
19. fe_____ze the female egg *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
20. ce_____ry of a book *n.* a hundredth anniversary or celebration of a hundred years
21. the agricultural yield per ca____a *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
22. be_____fy my skin *v.* to enhance the physical appearance of something by making it more attractive or aesthetically pleasing; to make something more attractive or appealing in general
23. ce_____ry event *n.* a hundredth anniversary or celebration of a hundred years
24. cat_____he risk management *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
25. the t__g of a lemon *n.* a strong, sharp taste or smell; a perceptible or distinctive flavor or aftertaste; a metallic ringing or sound
26. me_____ty project *n.* a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people

ANSWERS: 18. displace, 19. fertilize, 20. centenary, 21. capita, 22. beautify, 23. centenary, 24. catastrophe, 25. tang, 26. megacity

27. deeply indented co_____ne
n. the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea
28. me_____ty pollution
n. a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people
29. 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
30. non-urb_____ion area
n. the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture
31. te_____y people
v. to frighten someone very much
32. in_____e my head
v. to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something
33. ra_____er acidity
n. water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected
34. op_____ne occasion
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
35. an op_____ne remark
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
36. ra_____er drainage
n. water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected

ANSWERS: 27. coastline, 28. megacity, 29. commute, 30. urbanization, 31. terrify, 32. incline, 33. rainwater, 34. opportune, 35. opportune, 36. rainwater

37. cen_____er measurement *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
38. cr__p toward the mouse *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
39. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
40. fe_____ze the soil *v.* to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
41. avoid climate cat_____he *n.* a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
42. cr__p along the leaf *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
43. 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
44. thirty cen_____ers tall *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
45. be_____fy a room *v.* to enhance the physical appearance of something by making it more attractive or aesthetically pleasing; to make something more attractive or appealing in general

ANSWERS: 37. centimeter, 38. creep, 39. electrify, 40. fertilize, 41. catastrophe, 42. creep, 43. commute, 44. centimeter, 45. beautify

46. per ca___a sales

n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

ANSWERS: 46. capita

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
 - v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

2. The fishing village grew rapidly into a bustling _____.
 - n. a huge city, especially with a population of more than 10 million people

3. I _____ toward the idea of taking a vacation instead of working overtime.
 - v. to lean or bend in a particular direction; to feel a strong willingness or preference toward something

4. GDP per _____ shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.
 - n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

5. The _____ attack left the villagers in a state of shock and fear.
 - n. a large, carnivorous reptile with powerful jaws and a long, scaly body; native to tropical regions and often found in rivers and freshwater habitats

6. The company installed a _____ harvesting system to collect and reuse it for manufacturing.
 - n. water that falls from the clouds in the form of rain and is collected

7. The room was only one _____ wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.
 - n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

ANSWERS: 1. electrify, 2. megacity, 3. incline, 4. capita, 5. crocodile, 6. rainwater, 7. centimeter

8. Aging _____ up slowly with time.
v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
9. The country celebrated its _____ with parades and fireworks.
n. a hundredth anniversary or celebration of a hundred years
10. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
11. The couple decided to use the non-husband sperm to _____ a wife.
v. to cause an egg, female animal, or plant to develop by joining sperm from the male with them; to add a natural or chemical substance to land to make plants grow well
12. The new resort was built along the _____ offering stunning ocean views from every room.
n. the particular shape of the coast (= the shore of a sea or ocean) as seen from the sea
13. The city plans to _____ the park with new flowers and trees.
v. to enhance the physical appearance of something by making it more attractive or aesthetically pleasing; to make something more attractive or appealing in general
14. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
15. The construction of the new dam will _____ hundreds of families living downstream.
v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

ANSWERS: 8. creeps, 9. centenary, 10. paved, 11. fertilize, 12. coastline, 13. beautify, 14. opportune, 15. displace

16. The _____ vehicle seamlessly transitioned from land to water.
adj. able to function both on land and in water; able to live in or move between two different environments or settings
17. The children tried to _____ out and eat the candy.
v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
18. It would be best not to _____ your associates into doing complex tasks.
v. to frighten someone very much
19. The lack of funds has resulted in a _____ for our university system.
n. a sudden event that causes extreme ruin and misfortune
20. The _____ of the ocean breeze was refreshing on a hot summer day.
n. a strong, sharp taste or smell; a perceptible or distinctive flavor or aftertaste; a metallic ringing or sound
21. 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
22. The _____ thief slipped into the house through an unlocked window.
adj. behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness
23. Rapid _____ has led to many environmental and social issues in cities.
n. the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture

ANSWERS: 16. amphibious, 17. sneak, 18. terrify, 19. catastrophe, 20. tang, 21. commute, 22. sneaky, 23. urbanization

ANSWERS: