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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Shunan Teng: The Chinese myth of the immortal white snake | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

victorious

adj. being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.

synonym : triumphant, winning

(1) the **victorious** entry, (2) the **victorious** army

The **victorious** troops marched back to their homeland.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym : curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

resentful

adj. feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly

synonym : bitter, indignant, angry

(1) **resentful** attitude, (2) grow bitter and **resentful**

She was **resentful** of her ex-partner's new relationship, feeling that he had unfairly replaced her.

rot

v. to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

synonym : perish, decay, corrode

(1) begin to **rot**, (2) **rot** with age

Please refrigerate the meat, or it will **rot**.

monk

n. a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience

synonym: friar, cleric, brother

(1) **monk** lifestyle, (2) cloistered **monk**

The ascetic **monk** spent his days in prayer and contemplation in the monastery.

kind-hearted

adj. having a caring and sympathetic nature; characterized by concern for the well-being and happiness of others

synonym: compassionate, kind, sympathetic

(1) **kind-hearted** person, (2) **kind-hearted** gesture

The volunteer organization is full of **kind-hearted** people who donate their time to help others.

resourceful

adj. showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems

synonym: inventive, imaginative, clever

(1) **resourceful** thinker, (2) **resourceful** cook in town

She was **resourceful** and found a solution to the problem on her own.

realgar

n. a bright orange-red mineral consisting of arsenic sulfide, often used as a pigment or in traditional herbal medicines

synonym: red arsenic, ruby sulfur, arsenic sulfide

(1) **realgar** powder, (2) **realgar** mines

The crystals of **realgar** have a bright orange color and a metallic luster.

politely

adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others

synonym: courteously, respectfully, graciously

(1) **politely** ask, (2) nodded **politely**

She **politely** declined the invitation to the party, saying she

had other plans.

serpent

n. a large snake

synonym : snake, viper, reptile

(1) the feathered **serpent** god, (2) **Serpent** Bearer

That mythical chimera has a lion's body, a bird's wings, and a **serpent's** tail.

immortal

adj. having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance

synonym : eternal, everlasting, undying

(1) **immortal** soul, (2) **immortal** love

Legends often describe mythical creatures as **immortal** beings.

formidable

adj. causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

synonym : daunting, intimidating, fearful

(1) **formidable** challenge, (2) **formidable** competitor

The mountain range was a **formidable** obstacle for the hikers.

revive

v. to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore

synonym : reanimate, rejuvenate, renew

(1) **revive** my energy, (2) **revive** an old friendship

They **revived** the tradition of holding a parade on the main street every year.

longevity

n. the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service

synonym : seniority, endurance

(1) **longevity** crisis, (2) **longevity** genes

He is proud of the **longevity** of the business.

disciple

n. a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others

synonym : student, follower, apprentice

(1) enthusiastic **disciple**, (2) **disciple** of Buddha

He became a **disciple** of a well-known spiritual leader.

disguise

v. to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others

synonym : mask, misinterpret, cloak

(1) **disguise** my feelings, (2) **disguise** his voice

Later it turned out that the politician **disguised** the fact from the public.

pluck

v. to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers

synonym : grab, pull out, pick

(1) **pluck** a gray hair, (2) **pluck** out weeds

She **plucked** the flowers off the bush.

beak

n. the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird

synonym : nib, pecker, snoot

(1) sharp **beak**, (2) a tip of the **beak**

The bird's **beak** evolves according to the type of prey it can take on the area.

clamp

v. to fasten or secure something tightly, often using a tool or device called a clamp; to restrict something or someone's freedom or movement; (noun) a device used to secure, fasten, or hold objects together; a mass or group of things that are held or gathered tightly together

synonym : fasten, secure, hold tight

(1) **clamp** down on extremism, (2) **clamp** coupling

He used a wrench to **clamp** down the pipes tightly.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym : cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

karma

n. a concept that originated in Hinduism and Buddhism and referred to the idea that a person's actions in the present moment will affect their future experiences and circumstances

synonym : destiny, fate, providence

(1) bad **karma**, (2) **karma** yoga

Some people believe that if you do good deeds, you will accumulate positive **karma** that will benefit you in the future.

beggar

n. a person who asks for money or food from others, particularly as a means of survival due to poverty or homelessness

synonym : pauper, mendicant, panhandler

(1) homeless **beggar**, (2) give alms to a **beggar**

The **beggar's** rags barely covered his body as he shivered in the cold.

passerby

n. a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way

synonym : spectator, onlooker

(1) curious **passerby**, (2) **passerby** in the street

The police officer questioned the **passerby** for any information they had about the suspect

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
2. pl__k a gray hair *v.* to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers
3. for_____le challenge *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
4. nodded po_____ly *adv.* in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
5. grow bitter and re_____ul *adj.* feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly
6. curious pa_____by *n.* a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way
7. the vic_____us entry *adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
8. kin_____ted gesture *adj.* having a caring and sympathetic nature; characterized by concern for the well-being and happiness of others
9. a tip of the b__k *n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird

ANSWERS: 1. medicinal, 2. pluck, 3. formidable, 4. politely, 5. resentful, 6. passerby, 7. victorious, 8. kind-hearted, 9. beak

10. ka__a yoga *n.* a concept that originated in Hinduism and Buddhism and referred to the idea that a person's actions in the present moment will affect their future experiences and circumstances
11. re___e my energy *v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore
12. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
13. lo_____ty crisis *n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
14. cl__p down on extremism *v.* to fasten or secure something tightly, often using a tool or device called a clamp; to restrict something or someone's freedom or movement; (noun) a device used to secure, fasten, or hold objects together; a mass or group of things that are held or gathered tightly together
15. enthusiastic di_____le *n.* a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others
16. m__k lifestyle *n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
17. lo_____ty genes *n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
18. pa_____by in the street *n.* a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way

ANSWERS: 10. karma, 11. revive, 12. rot, 13. longevity, 14. clamp, 15. disciple, 16. monk, 17. longevity, 18. passerby

19. bad ka__a *n.* a concept that originated in Hinduism and Buddhism and referred to the idea that a person's actions in the present moment will affect their future experiences and circumstances
20. begin to r_t *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
21. im____al love *adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
22. te____y people *v.* to frighten someone very much
23. im____al soul *adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
24. Se____t Bearer *n.* a large snake
25. cloistered m__k *n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
26. kin____ted person *adj.* having a caring and sympathetic nature; characterized by concern for the well-being and happiness of others
27. the vic____us army *adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
28. environmental det____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
29. give alms to a be____r *n.* a person who asks for money or food from others, particularly as a means of survival due to poverty or homelessness

ANSWERS: 19. karma, 20. rot, 21. immortal, 22. terrify, 23. immortal, 24. serpent, 25. monk, 26. kind-hearted, 27. victorious, 28. determinant, 29. beggar

30. re_____ul attitude *adj.* feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly
31. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
32. re_____r powder *n.* a bright orange-red mineral consisting of arsenic sulfide, often used as a pigment or in traditional herbal medicines
33. pl__k out weeds *v.* to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers
34. the feathered se_____t god *n.* a large snake
35. po_____ly ask *adv.* in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
36. sharp b__k *n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird
37. di_____le of Buddha *n.* a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others
38. homeless be____r *n.* a person who asks for money or food from others, particularly as a means of survival due to poverty or homelessness
39. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
40. res_____ul thinker *adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems

ANSWERS: 30. resentful, 31. medicinal, 32. realgar, 33. pluck, 34. serpent, 35. politely, 36. beak, 37. disciple, 38. beggar, 39. determinant, 40. resourceful

41. di____se my feelings *v.* to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
42. re___e an old friendship *v.* to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore
43. the threats te____y him *v.* to frighten someone very much
44. re____r mines *n.* a bright orange-red mineral consisting of arsenic sulfide, often used as a pigment or in traditional herbal medicines
45. di____se his voice *v.* to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
46. cl__p coupling *v.* to fasten or secure something tightly, often using a tool or device called a clamp; to restrict something or someone's freedom or movement; (noun) a device used to secure, fasten, or hold objects together; a mass or group of things that are held or gathered tightly together
47. res____ul cook in town *adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
48. for____le competitor *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

ANSWERS: 41. disguise, 42. revive, 43. terrify, 44. realgar, 45. disguise, 46. clamp, 47. resourceful, 48. formidable

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She _____ the flowers off the bush.
v. to pull or draw something, especially with sudden force or effort; to strip of feathers
2. She _____ declined the invitation to the party, saying she had other plans.
adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
3. She was _____ of her ex-partner's new relationship, feeling that he had unfairly replaced her.
adj. feeling or expressing bitterness or anger because you have been treated unfairly
4. He became a _____ of a well-known spiritual leader.
n. a person who learns from another, especially one who then teaches others
5. Some people believe that if you do good deeds, you will accumulate positive _____ that will benefit you in the future.
n. a concept that originated in Hinduism and Buddhism and referred to the idea that a person's actions in the present moment will affect their future experiences and circumstances
6. The volunteer organization is full of _____ people who donate their time to help others.
adj. having a caring and sympathetic nature; characterized by concern for the well-being and happiness of others
7. They _____ the tradition of holding a parade on the main street every year.
v. to bring back to life, consciousness, or strength; to restore

ANSWERS: 1. plucked, 2. politely, 3. resentful, 4. disciple, 5. karma, 6. kind-hearted, 7. revived

8. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will ____.
- v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
9. It would be best not to _____ your associates into doing complex tasks.
- v.* to frighten someone very much
10. The bird's _____ evolves according to the type of prey it can take on the area.
- n.* the hard and pointed or curved mouse of a bird
11. The mountain range was a _____ obstacle for the hikers.
- adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
12. That mythical chimera has a lion's body, a bird's wings, and a _____ tail.
- n.* a large snake
13. The ascetic _____ spent his days in prayer and contemplation in the monastery.
- n.* a member of a religious community of men living under vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience
14. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
- adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
15. The _____ troops marched back to their homeland.
- adj.* being the winner in a game, competition, election, war, etc.
16. The police officer questioned the _____ for any information they had about the suspect
- n.* a person who is walking by or happens to be in the vicinity of a particular place or event, often without necessarily being involved in it in any way

ANSWERS: 8. rot, 9. terrify, 10. beak, 11. formidable, 12. serpent's, 13. monk, 14. medicinal, 15. victorious, 16. passerby

17. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
18. Legends often describe mythical creatures as _____ beings.
- adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
19. The crystals of _____ have a bright orange color and a metallic luster.
- n.* a bright orange-red mineral consisting of arsenic sulfide, often used as a pigment or in traditional herbal medicines
20. He is proud of the _____ of the business.
- n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
21. She was _____ and found a solution to the problem on her own.
- adj.* showing creativity and ability to find quick and practical solutions to problems
22. The _____ rags barely covered his body as he shivered in the cold.
- n.* a person who asks for money or food from others, particularly as a means of survival due to poverty or homelessness
23. Later it turned out that the politician _____ the fact from the public.
- v.* to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
24. He used a wrench to _____ down the pipes tightly.
- v.* to fasten or secure something tightly, often using a tool or device called a clamp; to restrict something or someone's freedom or movement; (noun) a device used to secure, fasten, or hold objects together; a mass or group of things that are held or gathered tightly together

ANSWERS: 17. determinant, 18. immortal, 19. realgar, 20. longevity, 21. resourceful, 22. beggar's, 23. disguised, 24. clamp

ANSWERS: