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Dropbox: How one team turned a sprint project into a marathon success | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/dropbox_how_one_team_t urned_a_sprint_project_into_a_marathon_success



All Words

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Session 1: Word List

haptic

adj. of or relating to or involving the sense of touch *synonym*: tactile, tactual

(1) haptic perception, (2) haptic feedback

The player controls the game with a joystick or other **haptic** device.

navigation

n. the act of directing a ship or airplane from place to place; advice or information intended to resolve a problem or challenge, especially as given by someone in authority

synonym: sailing, seafaring, pilotage

(1) navigation system, (2) visual navigation

The plane's **navigation** system had problems, which mechanics found.

device

 a piece of equipment, tool, or technology that serves a particular purpose or function, often mechanical or electronic

synonym: gadget, instrument, tool

(1) electronic device, (2) tracking device

I always carry a backup **device** in case my phone runs out of battery.

blind

adj. unable to see; unable or unwilling to perceive or understand the true nature of somethingsynonym: sightless, unseeing, random

(1) **blind** to the beauties, (2) **blind** spot

She was nearly **blind** due to severe diabetes.

visual

adj. relating to seeing or sightsynonym: optical, graphical, visible

visual navigation, (2) field of visual arts
 The building makes a remarkable visual impact.

impair

- v. to damage something or make it weaker or worse synonym: degrade, mar, deface
- (1) **impair** my health, (2) **impair** insulin sensitivity The accident made his vision **impaired**.

marathon

- n. a long-distance race of 42.195 kilometerssynonym: endurance, race, event
- (1) run a **marathon**, (2) watch a **marathon**She successfully completed her first **marathon** with a personal best time.

moonshot

an ambitious, risky, and innovative project or goal, especially one that is intended to bring about radical change or breakthroughs in a particular field or industry, often inspired by the lunar landing mission of Apollo 11 in 1969

synonym: initiative, endeavor, pursuit

(1) Al moonshot, (2) moonshot idea

The company's **moonshot** project aims to develop a revolutionary new technology within a tight deadline.

collaborate

v. to work with someone else to produce or achieve something

synonym: cooperate, unite, get together

(1) **collaborate** with the police, (2) **collaborate** on a press release

She agreed to **collaborate** with him in creating new artwork.

platform

n. the raised flat space close to the track at a train station where passengers get on or off the train; (technology) a computational or digital environment in which a piece of software is executed

synonym: stage, podium, forum

(1) an arrival **platform**, (2) a digital **platform** for enterprise The speaker mounted the **platform** and started to speak.

enlightened

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

synonym: educated, informed, aware

- (1) **enlightened** age, (2) make an **enlightened** decision The **enlightened** teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.
- v. to put money, effort, time, etc. into something to make a profit or achieve a result

synonym: fund, sponsor, support

(1) invest in stocks, (2) invest capital

The government should view children as national assets and actively **invest** in them.

achieve

invest

v. to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do

synonym: accomplish, attain, reach

(1) achieve success, (2) achieve milestones

I will work hard to **achieve** my goals and realize my dreams.

extraordinary

adj. exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual

synonym: exceptional, noteworthy, astonishing

(1) **extraordinary** ability, (2) **extraordinary** weather He narrated the **extraordinary** story of his adventure.

outcome

n. the result or effect of an action, event, etc.

synonym: result, consequence, effect

(1) improved student **outcomes**, (2) a desirable **outcome** They awaited news of the **outcome** of the election.

brook

n. a small stream

synonym: stream, creek, rivulet

(1) music of the **brook**, (2) **brook** trout

A **brook** babbled through the woods.

microcosm

 a miniature or small-scale version of something that represents the larger whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale

synonym: miniature, tiny world, little universe

(1) soil **microcosm**, (2) environmental **microcosm**The small town felt like a **microcosm** of the larger society.

macrocosm

- n. the entire universe, or a complex system or community seen as a whole rather than as individual elementssynonym: universe, cosmos, world
- (1) **macrocosm** of nature, (2) the **macrocosm** of the universe

The study aimed to understand the universe's **macrocosm** and how it operates.

emerging

adj. starting to exist, mature, or become well-known *synonym*: arising, occurring, state-of-the-art

(1) **emerging** country, (2) **emerging** technologies **Emerging** technologies have dramatically improved productivity in various industries.

fulfill

 to meet the requirements or expectations; to achieve or realize

synonym: satisfy, complete, accomplish

fulfill a contract, (2) fulfill a lifetime dream
 t was the first time for her, but she fulfilled the role of Priest.

individual

- n. a single person or thing, as distinct from a groupsynonym: person, being, self
- (1) a private **individual**, (2) **individual** freedom
 As an **individual**, he had the right to make his own decisions and live his life as he saw fit.

navigate

v. to plan and direct the way that a ship, plane, etc. will travel, often by using a map

synonym: guide, helm, voyage

(1) **navigate** the Pacific, (2) **navigate** through a document Our knowledge helps **navigate** our clients successfully.

strategy

 a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.

synonym: approach, procedure, scenario

(1) military **strategy**, (2) develop a **strategy**

Our plan includes a comprehensive marketing **strategy**.

remotely

adv. at a distance; not directly or easily accessiblesynonym: distantly, remotely, slightly

(1) remotely operate, (2) control remotely

The company can **remotely** access its employees' computers for troubleshooting purposes.

critic

 someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.

synonym: pundit, analyst, attacker

(1) art critic, (2) severe critic

Advocates for legal reform hear less harsh words from their **critics**.

stake

 a share or financial investment in something such as a business; a wooden or metal post set up to mark something

synonym: share, interest, post

(1) execution by burning at a **stake**, (2) buy the company's

stake

The **stake** of the company is too high nowadays.

communal

adj. belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use

synonym: collaborative, combined, collective

(1) **communal** swimming pool, (2) **communal** combination of funds

Communal elections were held in several European countries.

opposed

adj. being completely different from something or disagreeing strongly with something

synonym: anti, averse, hostile

(1) two **opposed** characters, (2) absolutely **opposed** to abortion

I'm strongly **opposed** to that plan.

conform

v. to act in accordance with a set of rules, standards, or expectations; to comply with the norms or customs of a particular group

synonym: comply, follow, adhere

(1) **conform** to standards, (2) **conform** in all its aspects The school requires students to **conform** to a strict dress code.

holistic

adj. relating to or dealing with the whole of something rather than just its parts

synonym: comprehensive, all-encompassing, total

(1) **holistic** education, (2) develop a **holistic** vision

The **holistic** approach to healthcare considers the person's physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

policy

a set of rules, guidelines, principles, or procedures that govern decision-making or action, often used in the context of business or government; a course of action or plan of action adopted or followed by an organization or individual to achieve a goal or objective

synonym: strategy, plan, guideline

(1) health **policy**, (2) foreign **policy**

The company's new **policy** on remote work has made it a more inclusive workplace.

flexible

adj. able to change or be changed to suit new conditions or situations; able to bend easily

synonym: adaptable, elastic, pliable

(1) **flexible** schedules, (2) a **flexible** wire

You can be more **flexible** and creative in your approach.

employ

v. to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of

synonym: hire, engage, use

(1) **employ** job seekers, (2) **employ** a new method When making arrests, police officers frequently **employ** excessive force.

ridiculous

adj. very silly or unreasonable and deserving to be laughed at

synonym: absurd, fatuous, foolish

(1) a **ridiculous** amount of money, (2) a **ridiculous** suggestion

Everyone regarded the theory he advocated as **ridiculous** but was later proven correct.

inherit

v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

synonym: obtain, gain, acquire

(1) **inherit** estate, (2) **inherit** ancestral property After his death, his sons **inherited** his business.

default

v. to fail to fulfill an obligation or pay a debt when it is due; to fail to meet expectations or perform as required; to choose or accept a predetermined option or condition

without making a deliberate selection or choice; (noun) a failure to fulfill an obligation or to meet a requirement; the pre-set or automatic settings that a system or program uses when the user has selected no other options

synonym: fail, neglect, omit

(1) **default** settings, (2) **default** on the mortgage If you don't specify a different option, the computer will **default** to its original settings.

decide

- v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
- synonym: choose, determine, settle
- (1) **decide** a question, (2) **decide** on a course of action She couldn't **decide** whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

sake

- n. purpose; reason for wanting something donesynonym: purpose, reason, interest
- (1) for your own **sake**, (2) for the **sake** of argument He got a new job for the **sake** of his family.

preserve

v. to keep or maintain a particular quality, feature, etc., especially to prevent it from decaying, being damaged, or being destroyed

synonym: conserve, care for, maintain

(1) **preserve** my strength, (2) **preserve** a country's heritage They worked hard to **preserve** the nature of their native lands.

sprint

v. to run at full speed over a short distance or period of time

synonym: dash, bolt, race

(1) sprint for a bus, (2) sprint towards the finish lineTop athletes can sprint 100 meters in less than 10 seconds.

sight

n. the ability to see; anything that is seen

synonym: vision, spectacle, view

(1) an unexpected sight, (2) dull sight

Many famous **sights** are within walking distance.

needle

 a thin, pointed object typically used for sewing or medical purposes; a metal or plastic instrument used for administering injections or drawing blood

synonym: thorn, spike, pin

(1) needle prick, (2) sewing needle

The acupuncturist inserted **needles** into specific points on my body to alleviate my pain.

embody

v. to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea

synonym: represent, exemplify, personify

(1) **embody** my goal, (2) **embody** a spirit of charity The company's new products **embody** the values of innovation and sustainability.

Session 2: Spelling

1. vi I navigation

2. develop a st___gy

3. fu____I a contract

4. develop a ho____ic vision

5. an unexpected si t

6. ac___e milestones

7. Al mo____ot

8. a digital pl___rm for enterprise

9. im r my health

10. de___e a question

adj. relating to seeing or sight

n. a detailed plan of action designed to achieve a long-term or overall goal.

v. to meet the requirements or expectations; to achieve or realize

adj. relating to or dealing with the whole of something rather than just its parts

n. the ability to see; anything that is seen

v. to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do

n. an ambitious, risky, and innovative project or goal, especially one that is intended to bring about radical change or breakthroughs in a particular field or industry, often inspired by the lunar landing mission of Apollo 11 in 1969

n. the raised flat space close to the track at a train station where passengers get on or off the train; (technology) a computational or digital environment in which a piece of software is executed

v. to damage something or make it weaker or worse

v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

ANSWERS: 1. visual, 2. strategy, 3. fulfill, 4. holistic, 5. sight, 6. achieve, 7. moonshot, 8. platform, 9. impair, 10. decide

ANSWERS: 11. haptic, 12. needle, 13. flexible, 14. policy, 15. decide, 16. impair, 17. employ, 18. navigation, 19. strategy

to run at full speed over a short distance 20. sp t towards the finish line ν. or period of time 21. a rid us suggestion adj. very silly or unreasonable and deserving to be laughed at 22. sp__t for a bus to run at full speed over a short distance ν. or period of time 23. co___al combination of funds adj. belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use 24. soil mi____sm a miniature or small-scale version of n. something that represents the larger whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale 25. co____m to standards to act in accordance with a set of rules, ν. standards, or expectations; to comply with the norms or customs of a particular group 26. tracking de___e a piece of equipment, tool, or technology that serves a particular purpose or function, often mechanical or electronic 27. pr___ve my strength to keep or maintain a particular quality, feature, etc., especially to prevent it from decaying, being damaged, or being destroyed 28. fu____I a lifetime dream to meet the requirements or expectations; to achieve or realize 29. in___t capital to put money, effort, time, etc. into ν. something to make a profit or achieve a

ANSWERS: 20. sprint, 21. ridiculous, 22. sprint, 23. communal, 24. microcosm, 25. conform, 26. device, 27. preserve, 28. fulfill, 29. invest

result

30. environmental mi sm

38. ac___e success

39. bl d to the beauties

40. em y a new method

			whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale
31.	a ridus amount of money	adj.	very silly or unreasonable and deserving to be laughed at
32.	for the se of argument	n.	purpose; reason for wanting something done
33.	extary weather	adj.	exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual
34.	bld spot	adj.	unable to see; unable or unwilling to perceive or understand the true nature of something
35.	int estate	<i>v</i> .	to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
36.	masm of nature	n.	the entire universe, or a complex system or community seen as a whole rather than as individual elements
37.	emy my goal	<i>v</i> .	to represent or exemplify something; to

v. to successfully complete a task or goal, often through hard work, perseverance, and dedication; to attain or accomplish something that one has set out to do

give tangible form to an abstract idea

n. a miniature or small-scale version of

- adj. unable to see; unable or unwilling to perceive or understand the true nature of something
- v. to give somebody a job and pay them for it; to make use of

ANSWERS: 30. microcosm, 31. ridiculous, 32. sake, 33. extraordinary, 34. blind, 35. inherit, 36. macrocosm, 37. embody, 38. achieve, 39. blind, 40. employ

ANSWERS: 41. individual, 42. critic, 43. default, 44. haptic, 45. navigate, 46. outcome, 47. device, 48. moonshot

landing mission of Apollo 11 in 1969

ANSWERS: 49. conform, 50. emerging, 51. brook, 52. enlightened, 53. needle, 54. brook, 55. invest, 56. macrocosm, 57. marathon, 58. individual, 59. enlightened, 60. collaborate

default, 67. marathon, 68. remotely

- 69. dull si__t
- 70. execution by burning at a st__e
- 71. two op____d characters
- 72. absolutely op____d to abortion
- 73. control re____ly
- 74. pr___ve a country's heritage
- 75. co___al swimming pool
- 76. field of vi I arts
- 77. fl____le schedules
- 78. in___t ancestral property
- 79. foreign po___y

- n. the ability to see; anything that is seen
- a share or financial investment in something such as a business; a wooden or metal post set up to mark something
- adj. being completely different from something or disagreeing strongly with something
- adj. being completely different from something or disagreeing strongly with something
- adv. at a distance; not directly or easily accessible
- v. to keep or maintain a particular quality, feature, etc., especially to prevent it from decaying, being damaged, or being destroyed
- adj. belonging to or used by a group rather than individuals; for common use
- adj. relating to seeing or sight
- adj. able to change or be changed to suit new conditions or situations; able to bend easily
- v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
- n. a set of rules, guidelines, principles, or procedures that govern decision-making or action, often used in the context of business or government; a course of action or plan of action adopted or followed by an organization or individual to achieve a goal or objective

ANSWERS: 69. sight, 70. stake, 71. opposed, 72. opposed, 73. remotely, 74. preserve, 75. communal, 76. visual, 77. flexible, 78. inherit, 79. policy

80.	buy the company's ste	n.	a share or financial investment in something such as a business; a wooden or metal post set up to mark something
81.	extary ability	adj.	exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual
82.	a desirable oue	n.	the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
83.	colte with the police	<i>v</i> .	to work with someone else to produce or achieve something
84.	art crc	n.	someone who expresses opinions about the quality of books, music, etc.
85.	nate through a document	<i>v</i> .	to plan and direct the way that a ship, plane, etc. will travel, often by using a map
86.	emng country	adj.	starting to exist, mature, or become well-known

ANSWERS: 80. stake, 81. extraordinary, 82. outcome, 83. collaborate, 84. critic, 85. navigate, 86. emerging

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1.	They awaited news of the of the election.
n.	the result or effect of an action, event, etc.
2. n.	The small town felt like a of the larger society. a miniature or small-scale version of something that represents the larger
	whole or system; a representation of society or culture on a smaller scale
3.	The plane's system had problems, which mechanics found.
n.	the act of directing a ship or airplane from place to place; advice or information intended to resolve a problem or challenge, especially as given by someone in authority
4.	He narrated the story of his adventure.
adj	exceptional, unexpected, very unusual; surpassing the ordinary or usual
5.	She successfully completed her first with a personal best time.
n.	a long-distance race of 42.195 kilometers
6.	It was the first time for her, but she the role of Priest.
<i>v</i> .	to meet the requirements or expectations; to achieve or realize
7.	Top athletes can 100 meters in less than 10 seconds.
ν.	to run at full speed over a short distance or period of time
8.	She agreed to with him in creating new artwork.
v.	to work with someone else to produce or achieve something
	SWERS: 1. outcome, 2. microcosm, 3. navigation, 4. extraordinary, 5. marathon, ulfilled, 7. sprint, 8. collaborate