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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Joanne Chory: How supercharged plants could slow climate change | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

epiphany

n. a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

synonym: revelation, enlightenment, insight

(1) **epiphany** about life, (2) Feast of **Epiphany**

She had an **epiphany** while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.

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.

pollutant

n. a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil

synonym: contaminant, toxic substance

(1) noxious **pollutant**, (2) water **pollutant**

The factory's use of chemicals has made it a significant **pollutant** in the area.

villain

n. a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel

synonym : scoundrel, rogue, antagonist

(1) evil **villain**, (2) authoritarian **villain**

The **villain** in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.

photosynthesis

n. the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.

(1) oxygenic **photosynthesis**, (2) process of **photosynthesis**

In **photosynthesis**, plants use carbon dioxide to feed themselves.

microbe

n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease

synonym : germ, microorganism, bacterium

(1) pathogenic **microbe**, (2) **microbes** sterilizer

Microbes thrive on the surface of the human skin.

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

decompose

v. to break down or cause to break down over time into simpler substances or elements

synonym : break down, rot, spoil

(1) **decompose** matter, (2) **decompose** into simpler molecules

After the earthquake, many of the buildings in the city were left in ruins and began to **decompose**.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym: brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

eukaryotic

n. organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope

(1) **eukaryotic** algae, (2) **eukaryotic** genome

Mitochondria exist in every **eukaryotic** cell.

converge

v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

synonym: congregate, assemble, concentrate

(1) **converge** of a series, (2) **converge** from different points

The two rivers **converge** into one near this area.

trait

n. a particular feature of your nature

synonym: attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

synonym: entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

meander

v. to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road

synonym: wander, zigzag, twist

(1) **meander** down the river, (2) **meander** aimlessly

We decided to **meander** through the park and enjoy the scenery.

sequester

v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.

synonym: isolate, set apart, segregate

- (1) **sequester** ten percent of the annual carbon emissions,
(2) **sequester** myself from the world

He approved their requests to **sequester** the jury.

deplete

- v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

synonym: exhaust, consume, use up

- (1) **deplete** customer confidence, (2) **deplete** glycogen stores

If we continue to **deplete** the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.

enrich

- v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else

synonym: enhance, improve, augment

- (1) **enrich** a gas with a balloon, (2) **enrich** public services

Reading not only increases knowledge but also **enriches** life.

salesperson

- n. a person whose job is to sell goods in a shop or directly to customers

synonym: dealer, seller, vendor

- (1) a **salesperson** in a store, (2) a drapery **salesperson**

He received the title of the best **salesperson** in all our branches worldwide.

fertile

- adj. capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive

synonym: fruitful, productive, rich

- (1) **fertile** ground, (2) **fertile** market

Herbs require **fertile** soil in a sunny, sheltered location.

astonishing

- adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym: surprising, shocking, astounding

- (1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone

who knew her.

audacious

adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness

synonym : bold, daring, fearless

(1) **audacious** stunt, (2) **audacious** decision

The young entrepreneur had an **audacious** plan to start his own company.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. process of pho_____sis
n. the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
2. fe_____e market
adj. capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
3. 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
4. au_____us stunt
adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
5. euk_____ic genome
n. organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope
6. en___h a gas with a balloon
v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
7. se_____er myself from the world
v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
8. water po_____nt
n. a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil
9. evil vi_____n
n. a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel

ANSWERS: 1. photosynthesis, 2. fertile, 3. pave, 4. audacious, 5. eukaryotic, 6. enrich, 7. sequester, 8. pollutant, 9. villain

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| 10. a sal_____on in a store | <i>n.</i> a person whose job is to sell goods in a shop or directly to customers |
| 11. in_____t estate | <i>v.</i> to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died |
| 12. pathogenic mi_____e | <i>n.</i> a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease |
| 13. euk_____ic algae | <i>n.</i> organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope |
| 14. chemical tr__t | <i>n.</i> a particular feature of your nature |
| 15. make ast_____ng gains | <i>adj.</i> surprising or shocking; difficult to believe |
| 16. se_____er ten percent of the annual carbon emissions | <i>v.</i> to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid. |
| 17. co_____ge of a series | <i>v.</i> to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet |
| 18. de_____se into simpler molecules | <i>v.</i> to break down or cause to break down over time into simpler substances or elements |
| 19. me_____r aimlessly | <i>v.</i> to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road |
| 20. Feast of Ep_____ny | <i>n.</i> a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus |

ANSWERS: 10. salesperson, 11. inherit, 12. microbe, 13. eukaryotic, 14. trait, 15. astonishing, 16. sequester, 17. converge, 18. decompose, 19. meander, 20. epiphany

21. personality tr__ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature
22. ep____ny about life *n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
23. in____t ancestral property *v.* to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died
24. a drapery sal_____on *n.* a person whose job is to sell goods in a shop or directly to customers
25. de____e glycogen stores *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
26. fe____e ground *adj.* capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
27. au____us decision *adj.* showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
28. en____h public services *v.* to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
29. noxious po_____nt *n.* a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil
30. authoritarian vi____n *n.* a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel

ANSWERS: 21. trait, 22. epiphany, 23. inherit, 24. salesperson, 25. deplete, 26. fertile, 27. audacious, 28. enrich, 29. pollutant, 30. villain

31. rise nearly hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
32. b__y emotion *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
33. oxygenic pho_____sis *n.* the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
34. 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
35. me_____r down the river *v.* to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road
36. st_____ze blood sugar levels *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
37. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
38. st_____ze prices *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
39. improve hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
40. mi_____es sterilizer *n.* a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
41. co_____ge from different points *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

ANSWERS: 31. hundredfold, 32. bury, 33. photosynthesis, 34. pave, 35. meander, 36. stabilize, 37. bury, 38. stabilize, 39. hundredfold, 40. microbe, 41. converge

42. de_____e customer confidence

v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

43. ast_____ng achievement

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

44. de_____se matter

v. to break down or cause to break down over time into simpler substances or elements

ANSWERS: 42. deplete, 43. astonishing, 44. decompose

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Herbs require _____ soil in a sunny, sheltered location.
adj. capable of producing abundant vegetation or crops; intellectually productive
2. In _____ plants use carbon dioxide to feed themselves.
n. the process through which plants and other organisms transform light energy into chemical energy, which is then released through cellular respiration to power the organism's activities.
3. The factory's use of chemicals has made it a significant _____ in the area.
n. a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil
4. After the earthquake, many of the buildings in the city were left in ruins and began to _____.
v. to break down or cause to break down over time into simpler substances or elements
5. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
6. She had an _____ while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.
n. a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
7. After his death, his sons _____ his business.
v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

ANSWERS: 1. fertile, 2. photosynthesis, 3. pollutant, 4. decompose, 5. astonishing, 6. epiphany, 7. inherited

8. The two rivers _____ into one near this area.
v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
9. Mitochondria exist in every _____ cell.
n. organisms whose cell nuclei are surrounded by a nuclear envelope
10. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.
adj. a hundred times as great or as much
11. We decided to _____ through the park and enjoy the scenery.
v. to wander or roam aimlessly or leisurely; to follow a winding or circuitous course, as a river or road
12. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
13. He approved their requests to _____ the jury.
v. to take temporary possession of someone's property until a debt is paid.
14. Reading not only increases knowledge but also _____ life.
v. to make better or improve in quality by adding something else
15. The _____ in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.
n. a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
16. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.
v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

ANSWERS: 8. converge, 9. eukaryotic, 10. hundredfold, 11. meander, 12. stabilizes, 13. sequester, 14. enriches, 15. villain, 16. bury

17. _____ thrive on the surface of the human skin.
n. a tiny living thing that can only be seen with a microscope and that may cause disease
18. If we continue to _____ the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.
v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
19. The young entrepreneur had an _____ plan to start his own company.
adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
20. He received the title of the best _____ in all our branches worldwide.
n. a person whose job is to sell goods in a shop or directly to customers
21. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.
n. a particular feature of your nature
22. 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

ANSWERS: 17. Microbes, 18. deplete, 19. audacious, 20. salesperson, 21. traits, 22. paved