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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Richard Reeves: How to solve the education crisis for boys and men | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

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.

synonymous

adj. having the same or a similar meaning as another word or phrase

synonym : equivalent, interchangeable, similar

(1) **synonymous** terms, (2) non- **synonymous** mutation

The phrase "big shot" and "important person" are **synonymous**.

disorient

v. to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go

synonym : confuse, flummox, perplex

(1) **disorient** his audience, (2) **disorient** and wrong-foot viewers

Several studies have indicated that human activity at sea might **disorient** dolphins and whales.

stark

adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications

synonym : crude, blunt, desolate

(1) **stark** landscape, (2) **stark** truth

The scenery of the battlefield was **stark** and grey.

affluent

adj. rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth

synonym : wealthy, rich, prosperous

(1) **affluent** society, (2) live in **affluent** circumstances

She lived in an **affluent** neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.

overtake

v. to catch up to and pass by someone or something that is in front of you, usually about moving vehicles; to come to a point where you become more successful, important, or influential than someone or something else

synonym : surpass, outstrip, catch up with

(1) **overtake** a rival, (2) **overtake** a milestone

The race car driver knew he had to **overtake** the other drivers to win the race.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

prefrontal

adj. in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain

(1) **prefrontal** bone, (2) **prefrontal** region

Research shows that damage to the **prefrontal** cortex leads to increased aggression.

etcetera

n. used to indicate that some other unspecified items or things could be included besides those already mentioned; and so on

synonym : and so on, and the like, and others

(1) tools, hardware, **etcetera**, (2) meetings, appointments, and **etcetera**

The museum contains a variety of artifacts, from ancient pottery to medieval armor, **etcetera**.

entice

v. to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting

synonym : lure, tempt, attract

(1) **entice** foreign investment, (2) **entice** shoppers

The salesperson tried to **entice** the customer into buying a new car.

dispel

v. to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea

synonym : chase away, allay, disperse

(1) **dispel** a painful feeling, (2) **dispel** baseless rumors

This program aims to **dispel** certain misconceptions about the disease.

peg

n. a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object

synonym : pin, dowel, spike

(1) **peg** in the ground, (2) **peg** an exchange rate

The sheep were tagged with numbered plastic **pegs** in their ears.

medic

n. a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency

synonym : paramedic, medical professional

(1) **medic** unit, (2) military **medic**

The army **medic** arrived on the scene to provide medical assistance.

inadvertently

adv. unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent

synonym: unknowingly, unintentionally, accidentally

(1) **inadvertently** deleted, (2) **inadvertently** omitted

I **inadvertently** left my phone at home this morning and felt lost.

malfunction

v. to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate

synonym: malfunction, break down, fail

(1) **malfunction** alarm, (2) **malfunction** and start moving unpredictably

The car's engine **malfunctioned** on the highway, so we had to call for a tow truck.

loneliness

n. a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people

synonym: isolation, alienation, desolation

(1) a strong sense of **loneliness**, (2) remedy **loneliness**

I realize the **loneliness** of a single life.

irresponsible

adj. not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable

synonym: careless, reckless, thoughtless

(1) **irresponsible** actions, (2) **irresponsible** behavior

It was **irresponsible** of him to drive home after drinking so much alcohol.

flourish

v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

synonym: boom, advance, succeed

(1) **flourish** economically, (2) **flourish** worldwide

The Ottoman Empire **flourished** for over five centuries.

feminism

n. the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression

of women in society

synonym : women's rights, gender equality

(1) radical **feminism**, (2) liberal **feminism**

She is a strong advocate for **feminism** and works tirelessly for women's rights.

Session 2: Spelling

1. di___l baseless rumors
v. to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea
2. r_v up the crowd
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
3. st__k truth
adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
4. ov_____ke a milestone
v. to catch up to and pass by someone or something that is in front of you, usually about moving vehicles; to come to a point where you become more successful, important, or influential than someone or something else
5. liberal fe_____sm
n. the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression of women in society
6. fl_____sh worldwide
v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
7. mal_____on and start moving unpredictably
v. to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate

ANSWERS: 1. dispel, 2. rev, 3. stark, 4. overtake, 5. feminism, 6. flourish, 7. malfunction

8. ina_____tly deleted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
9. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
10. fl_____sh economically *v.* to grow or develop vigorously or successfully
11. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
12. di_____nt his audience *v.* to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
13. di___l a painful feeling *v.* to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea
14. ov_____ke a rival *v.* to catch up to and pass by someone or something that is in front of you, usually about moving vehicles; to come to a point where you become more successful, important, or influential than someone or something else
15. irr_____ble actions *adj.* not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable
16. p_g in the ground *n.* a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object

ANSWERS: 8. inadvertently, 9. opportune, 10. flourish, 11. rev, 12. disorient, 13. dispel, 14. overtake, 15. irresponsible, 16. peg

17. live in af____nt circumstances *adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
18. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
19. pre_____al bone *adj.* in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain
20. irr_____ble behavior *adj.* not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable
21. remedy lon_____ss *n.* a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people
22. syn_____us terms *adj.* having the same or a similar meaning as another word or phrase
23. en___e shoppers *v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
24. non-syn_____us mutation *adj.* having the same or a similar meaning as another word or phrase
25. st__k landscape *adj.* empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications
26. military me__c *n.* a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency
27. p_g an exchange rate *n.* a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object

ANSWERS: 17. affluent, 18. opportune, 19. prefrontal, 20. irresponsible, 21. loneliness, 22. synonymous, 23. entice, 24. synonymous, 25. stark, 26. medic, 27. peg

28. af____nt society *adj.* rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth
29. pre_____al region *adj.* in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain
30. ina_____tly omitted *adv.* unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent
31. tools, hardware, et____ra *n.* used to indicate that some other unspecified items or things could be included besides those already mentioned; and so on
32. mal_____on alarm *v.* to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate
33. meetings, appointments, and et____ra *n.* used to indicate that some other unspecified items or things could be included besides those already mentioned; and so on
34. radical fe____sm *n.* the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression of women in society
35. en___e foreign investment *v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
36. di_____nt and wrong-foot viewers *v.* to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
37. me__c unit *n.* a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency

ANSWERS: 28. affluent, 29. prefrontal, 30. inadvertently, 31. etcetera, 32. malfunction, 33. etcetera, 34. feminism, 35. entice, 36. disorient, 37. medic

38. a strong sense of lon_____ss

n. a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people

ANSWERS: 38. loneliness

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The salesperson tried to _____ the customer into buying a new car.
v. to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting

2. The sheep were tagged with numbered plastic _____ in their ears.
n. a small cylindrical or tapered pin used to fasten or secure something, such as clothing, on a line, or in carpentry and woodworking; (verb) to fasten or secure something using a peg or similar object; to mark or indicate a level or position using a peg or similar object

3. The army _____ arrived on the scene to provide medical assistance.
n. a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency

4. The scenery of the battlefield was _____ and grey.
adj. empty, simple, or apparent; devoid of any qualifications

5. She is a strong advocate for _____ and works tirelessly for women's rights.
n. the belief in and advocacy of equal rights, opportunities, and treatment for all genders, particularly women, and the recognition of the systematic and cultural oppression of women in society

6. The car's engine _____ on the highway, so we had to call for a tow truck.
v. to fail to operate or work properly; to break down or stop functioning as expected or intended; (noun) a failure or defect in the way a machine, system, or device is supposed to operate

7. I realize the _____ of a single life.
n. a state or feeling of being unhappy because you have no connection with other people

ANSWERS: 1. entice, 2. pegs, 3. medic, 4. stark, 5. feminism, 6. malfunctioned, 7. loneliness

8. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

9. Several studies have indicated that human activity at sea might _____ dolphins and whales.

v. to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go

10. The phrase "big shot" and "important person" are _____.

adj. having the same or a similar meaning as another word or phrase

11. The race car driver knew he had to _____ the other drivers to win the race.

v. to catch up to and pass by someone or something that is in front of you, usually about moving vehicles; to come to a point where you become more successful, important, or influential than someone or something else

12. The museum contains a variety of artifacts, from ancient pottery to medieval armor, _____.

n. used to indicate that some other unspecified items or things could be included besides those already mentioned; and so on

13. Research shows that damage to the _____ cortex leads to increased aggression.

adj. in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain

14. It was _____ of him to drive home after drinking so much alcohol.

adj. not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable

15. She lived in an _____ neighborhood surrounded by wealth and luxury.

adj. rich and wealthy; having a lot of money and material wealth

ANSWERS: 8. opportune, 9. disorient, 10. synonymous, 11. overtake, 12. etcetera, 13. prefrontal, 14. irresponsible, 15. affluent

16. I _____ left my phone at home this morning and felt lost.

adv. unintentionally; accidentally; without purpose or deliberate intent

17. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

18. The Ottoman Empire _____ for over five centuries.

v. to grow or develop vigorously or successfully

19. This program aims to _____ certain misconceptions about the disease.

v. to remove something, especially a feeling of fear, doubt, and false idea

ANSWERS: 16. inadvertently, 17. rev, 18. flourished, 19. dispel