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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Gabby Rivera: The story of Marvel's first queer Latina superhero | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

superhero

n. a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

(1) **superhero** movies, (2) **superhero** comics

Superman is a classic **superhero** known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.

phenomenal

adj. extremely good or impressive; outstanding

synonym: extraordinary, remarkable, impressive

(1) **phenomenal** success, (2) **phenomenal** growth

The athlete's **phenomenal** performance broke all previous records.

frizz

v. to become or make something become fuzzy or curly, often about hair; to cause to become chaotic or disordered; (noun) a mass of tight curls or waves in hair, often creating a fluffy or fuzzy appearance

synonym: curl, kink, frizzle

(1) **frizz** due to the high temperatures, (2) **frizz** prevention feature

The humidity made my hair **frizz**, so I used an anti-frizz serum.

bully

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

synonym: tormentor, intimidator, aggressor

(1) **bully** bystander, (2) **bully** the weak

The schoolyard **bully** terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

paramedic

n. a healthcare professional who is trained to provide emergency medical care to patients in the pre-hospital setting, often in ambulances or other emergency vehicles

synonym: emergency medical technician, ambulance attendant, medical responder

(1) **paramedic** ambulance, (2) emergency **paramedic**

The **paramedic** team worked together efficiently to stabilize the patient's vital signs.

seamstress

n. a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing

synonym: sewer, needleworker, dressmaker

(1) **seamstress** shop, (2) skilled **seamstress**

My grandmother is a talented **seamstress** and can sew anything from curtains to dresses.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

rambunctious

adj. marked by uncontrollable exuberance or high spirits; boisterous and unruly; difficult to control or restrain

synonym: boisterous, rowdy, unruly

(1) **rambunctious** behavior, (2) **rambunctious** children

The **rambunctious** puppies played in the yard until they fell asleep.

soaked

adj. completely wet; saturated or drenched with a liquid
synonym : drenched, saturated, wet

(1) **soaked** clothes, (2) **soaked** sponge

The hiker's boots were **soaked** from walking through the stream.

gravitation

n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

synonym : attraction, pull, gravity

(1) terrestrial **gravitation**, (2) universal **gravitation**

The force of **gravitation** keeps the planets in our solar system in orbit around the sun.

goofy

adj. silly or foolish

synonym : silly, crazy, dopey

(1) wore a **goofy** hat, (2) with a **goofy** expression

He made a **goofy** face as he recalled this morning's events.

marvel

n. someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise

synonym : wonder, phenomenon, amazement

(1) a **marvel** of beauty, (2) technical **marvel**

The space shuttle is a modern engineering **marvel**.

vengeance

n. the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done

synonym : retaliation, retribution, revenge

(1) **vengeance** justice, (2) wreak **vengeance**

He sought **vengeance** for the wrongs done to him.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym : thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

crumble

v. to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support

synonym: disintegrate, collapse, deteriorate

(1) **crumble** to dust, (2) began to **crumble** under financial pressure

The old building was starting to **crumble** due to years of neglect and lack of maintenance.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

sabbatical

n. a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions

synonym: leave, vacation, break

(1) **sabbatical** leave, (2) **sabbatical** year

After ten years of teaching, she took a **sabbatical** to travel the world.

liberate

v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression

synonym: emancipate, release, set free

(1) **liberate** people from oppression, (2) **liberate** potential

The prisoners were **liberated** after the war ended.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

nominate

v. to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor

synonym: appoint, designate, elect

(1) **nominate** him for an award, (2) **nominate** government representatives

The organization **nominated** her to be the next president.

intergalactic

adj. existing or occurring between different galaxies (= an independent group of stars)

synonym: extragalactic, cosmic, interstellar

(1) **intergalactic** travel, (2) **intergalactic** matter

The **intergalactic** spaceship traveled to distant planets.

revere

v. to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem

synonym: worship, venerate, admire

(1) **revere** a hero, (2) **revere** a deity

Many people **revere** their religious leaders and look up to them for guidance.

ancestor

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

synonym: forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**

My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

ancestral

adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past

synonym: hereditary, inherited, patrimonial

(1) an **ancestral** graveyard, (2) **ancestral** roots

The **ancestral** home has been in the family for generations.

invade

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

synonym: intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

ancestry

n. the family or the ethnic descent that you come from
synonym : ancestor, family, descent

(1) a distinguished **ancestry**, (2) prehuman **ancestry**

He looked down on the royal **ancestry** of the neighboring country.

cower

v. to crouch or curl up in fear or apprehension; to shrink or recoil from something threatening, usually physically or mentally

synonym : crouch, tremble, cringe

(1) **cower** in fear, (2) **cower** under pressure

The actress **cowered** in humiliation as the audience booed her performance.

wreck

n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

synonym : collapse, destruction, devastation

(1) the house was a **wreck**, (2) a worthless **wreck**

The divers accidentally discovered a **wreck** on the ocean floor.

sinister

adj. giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen

synonym : ominous, foreboding, evil

(1) **sinister** look, (2) in **sinister** terms

The dark clouds in the sky gave off a **sinister** feeling.

reclaim

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

synonym : recoup, regain, retake

(1) **reclaim** a competitive position, (2) **reclaim** land from the sea

You may be entitled to **reclaim** some tax.

transcend

v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

synonym: surpass, exceed, overcome

(1) **transcend** boundaries, (2) **transcend** limits

The music **transcended** cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

majestic

adj. impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner;
stately

synonym: grand, stately, regal

(1) a **majestic** figure, (2) a **majestic** sense of purpose

The **majestic** mountain range was a sight to behold.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. phe_____al success | <i>adj.</i> extremely good or impressive; outstanding |
| 2. li_____te potential | <i>v.</i> to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression |
| 3. co__r in fear | <i>v.</i> to crouch or curl up in fear or apprehension; to shrink or recoil from something threatening, usually physically or mentally |
| 4. courtroom sto_____ing | <i>n.</i> the act or art of narrating or writing stories |
| 5. su_____ro comics | <i>n.</i> a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public |
| 6. wreak ve_____ce | <i>n.</i> the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done |
| 7. sab_____al year | <i>n.</i> a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions |
| 8. a distinguished an_____ry | <i>n.</i> the family or the ethnic descent that you come from |
| 9. bu__y the weak | <i>n.</i> a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful |

ANSWERS: 1. phenomenal, 2. liberate, 3. cower, 4. storytelling, 5. superhero, 6. vengeance, 7. sabbatical, 8. ancestry, 9. bully

10. pa_____ic ambulance *n.* a healthcare professional who is trained to provide emergency medical care to patients in the pre-hospital setting, often in ambulances or other emergency vehicles
11. began to cr_____e under financial pressure *v.* to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support
12. wore a go__y hat *adj.* silly or foolish
13. de_____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
14. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
15. an an_____al graveyard *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
16. fr__z prevention feature *v.* to become or make something become fuzzy or curly, often about hair; to cause to become chaotic or disordered; (noun) a mass of tight curls or waves in hair, often creating a fluffy or fuzzy appearance
17. the house was a wr__k *n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
18. no_____te him for an award *v.* to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor

ANSWERS: 10. paramedic, 11. crumble, 12. goofy, 13. dedicate, 14. invade, 15. ancestral, 16. frizz, 17. wreck, 18. nominate

19. cr_____e to dust *v.* to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support
20. sab_____al leave *n.* a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions
21. re_____m land from the sea *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
22. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
23. ram_____ous children *adj.* marked by uncontrollable exuberance or high spirits; boisterous and unruly; difficult to control or restrain
24. so_____d clothes *adj.* completely wet; saturated or drenched with a liquid
25. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
26. no_____te government representatives *v.* to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
27. ex_____e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
28. su_____ro movies *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
29. so_____d sponge *adj.* completely wet; saturated or drenched with a liquid

ANSWERS: 19. crumble, 20. sabbatical, 21. reclaim, 22. dedicate, 23. rambunctious, 24. soaked, 25. quitter, 26. nominate, 27. excite, 28. superhero, 29. soaked

30. with a go__y expression *adj.* silly or foolish
31. si____er look *adj.* giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
32. re___e a hero *v.* to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem
33. a ma____ic sense of purpose *adj.* impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner; stately
34. int_____tic matter *adj.* existing or occurring between different galaxies (= an independent group of stars)
35. co__r under pressure *v.* to crouch or curl up in fear or apprehension; to shrink or recoil from something threatening, usually physically or mentally
36. ram_____ous behavior *adj.* marked by uncontrollable exuberance or high spirits; boisterous and unruly; difficult to control or restrain
37. skilled sea_____ss *n.* a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing
38. terrestrial gra_____on *n.* the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass
39. phe_____al growth *adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
40. universal gra_____on *n.* the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

ANSWERS: 30. goofy, 31. sinister, 32. revere, 33. majestic, 34. intergalactic, 35. cower, 36. rambunctious, 37. seamstress, 38. gravitation, 39. phenomenal, 40. gravitation

41. re___e a deity *v.* to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem
42. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
43. serial qu____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
44. a ma___l of beauty *n.* someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise
45. technical ma___l *n.* someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise
46. in si____er terms *adj.* giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
47. sto____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
48. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
49. an____al roots *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
50. int____tic travel *adj.* existing or occurring between different galaxies (= an independent group of stars)
51. earliest human an____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
52. tr____nd limits *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

ANSWERS: 41. revere, 42. excite, 43. quitter, 44. marvel, 45. marvel, 46. sinister, 47. storytelling, 48. invade, 49. ancestral, 50. intergalactic, 51. ancestor, 52. transcend

53. ve_____ce justice *n.* the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done
54. tr_____nd boundaries *v.* to rise above or go beyond the limits of something
55. prehuman an_____ry *n.* the family or the ethnic descent that you come from
56. sea_____ss shop *n.* a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing
57. bu__y bystander *n.* a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful
58. li_____te people from oppression *v.* to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
59. fr__z due to the high temperatures *v.* to become or make something become fuzzy or curly, often about hair; to cause to become chaotic or disordered; (noun) a mass of tight curls or waves in hair, often creating a fluffy or fuzzy appearance
60. re_____m a competitive position *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
61. a worthless wr__k *n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
62. an_____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

ANSWERS: 53. vengeance, 54. transcend, 55. ancestry, 56. seamstress, 57. bully, 58. liberate, 59. frizz, 60. reclaim, 61. wreck, 62. ancestor

63. a ma____ic figure

adj. impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner; stately

64. emergency pa_____ic

n. a healthcare professional who is trained to provide emergency medical care to patients in the pre-hospital setting, often in ambulances or other emergency vehicles

ANSWERS: 63. majestic, 64. paramedic

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The actress _____ in humiliation as the audience booed her performance.
 - v. to crouch or curl up in fear or apprehension; to shrink or recoil from something threatening, usually physically or mentally

2. After ten years of teaching, she took a _____ to travel the world.
 - n. a period of leave granted to a person for rest, travel, or other pursuits, often in academia or other professions

3. Superman is a classic _____ known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.
 - n. a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

4. He sought _____ for the wrongs done to him.
 - n. the act of punishing or harming someone in return for something harmful that they have done

5. The humidity made my hair _____ so I used an anti-frizz serum.
 - v. to become or make something become fuzzy or curly, often about hair; to cause to become chaotic or disordered; (noun) a mass of tight curls or waves in hair, often creating a fluffy or fuzzy appearance

6. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.
 - n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather

7. My grandmother is a talented _____ and can sew anything from curtains to dresses.
 - n. a woman who sews, especially one who earns her living by sewing

ANSWERS: 1. cowered, 2. sabbatical, 3. superhero, 4. vengeance, 5. frizz, 6. ancestor, 7. seamstress

8. The hiker's boots were _____ from walking through the stream.

adj. completely wet; saturated or drenched with a liquid

9. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

10. Many people _____ their religious leaders and look up to them for guidance.

v. to feel deep and profound respect or admiration for someone or something; to hold in high esteem

11. The _____ spaceship traveled to distant planets.

adj. existing or occurring between different galaxies (= an independent group of stars)

12. The schoolyard _____ terrorized the other children and made their lives miserable.

n. a person who uses strength or power to harm or intimidate those who are weaker; (verb) to intimidate, harass, or mistreat someone weaker or less powerful

13. He _____ his life to helping others.

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

14. The old building was starting to _____ due to years of neglect and lack of maintenance.

v. to break or fall apart into small pieces or fragments, especially due to age, decay, or lack of support

ANSWERS: 8. soaked, 9. quitter, 10. revere, 11. intergalactic, 12. bully, 13. dedicated, 14. crumble

15. The news of her promotion _____ her.

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

16. He made a _____ face as he recalled this morning's events.

adj. silly or foolish

17. You may be entitled to _____ some tax.

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

18. The divers accidentally discovered a _____ on the ocean floor.

n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

19. The _____ team worked together efficiently to stabilize the patient's vital signs.

n. a healthcare professional who is trained to provide emergency medical care to patients in the pre-hospital setting, often in ambulances or other emergency vehicles

20. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

21. The music _____ cultural barriers and reached audiences globally.

v. to rise above or go beyond the limits of something

22. The _____ puppies played in the yard until they fell asleep.

adj. marked by uncontrollable exuberance or high spirits; boisterous and unruly; difficult to control or restrain

ANSWERS: 15. excited, 16. goofy, 17. reclaim, 18. wreck, 19. paramedic, 20. invade, 21. transcended, 22. rambunctious

23. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories
24. The dark clouds in the sky gave off a _____ feeling.
adj. giving the impression that something bad or evil is happening or will happen
25. The space shuttle is a modern engineering _____.
n. someone something that causes feelings of wonder or surprise
26. The athlete's _____ performance broke all previous records.
adj. extremely good or impressive; outstanding
27. The _____ home has been in the family for generations.
adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past
28. The _____ mountain range was a sight to behold.
adj. impressive or grand in appearance, size, or manner; stately
29. The organization _____ her to be the next president.
v. to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
30. The prisoners were _____ after the war ended.
v. to set free; to release or rescue from captivity or oppression
31. The force of _____ keeps the planets in our solar system in orbit around the sun.
n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

ANSWERS: 23. storytelling, 24. sinister, 25. marvel, 26. phenomenal, 27. ancestral, 28. majestic, 29. nominated, 30. liberated, 31. gravitation

32. He looked down on the royal _____ of the neighboring country.

n. the family or the ethnic descent that you come from

ANSWERS: 32. ancestry