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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Luke Sital-Singh: "Afterneath" "Killing Me" | TED Talk
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

singe

v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

synonym: sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric

I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

benediction

n. a prayer or blessing given at the end of a religious service or ceremony; an expression of good wishes or approval

synonym: blessing, invocation, prayer

(1) **benediction** prayer, (2) **benediction** ceremony

The priest gave a **benediction** at the end of the church service.

depress

v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active

synonym: sadden, discourage, deflate

(1) **depress** their spirits, (2) **depress** crop prices

The economic recession **depressed** the housing market.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

linger

v. to stay in a place or exist longer than expected

synonym : dawdle, tarry, loiter

(1) **linger** in the mind, (2) **linger** over your work

She **lingered** for a moment before leaving the room.

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**.

catharsis

n. a release or purging of emotional or psychological tension, often through artistic or creative experiences or expressions

synonym : cleansing, purification, purging

(1) **catharsis** of grief, (2) spiritual **catharsis**

Many people find that physical exercise provides a sense of **catharsis**, helping to relieve stress and anxiety.

bittersweet

adj. having a mixture of both positive and negative emotions or experiences; simultaneously pleasant and painful

synonym : semisweet, ambivalent, mixed

(1) **bittersweet** ending, (2) a **bittersweet** memory

The graduation ceremony was **bittersweet** as the students said goodbye to their classmates and teachers.

poignancy

n. a quality or state of being emotionally moving, especially in a way that makes you feel sad; evoking a sense of sadness, sorrow, or sympathy

synonym : emotion, pathos, acridness

(1) the **poignancy** of the memory, (2) the **poignancy** of the story

The **poignancy** of the character's death brought the audience to tears.

pathos

n. quality in a work of art, literature, or drama that evokes feelings of sadness, pity, or deep emotion, often related to human suffering or adversity that is presented in a sympathetic or poignant manner

synonym: empathy, sympathy, pity

(1) **pathos** appeals, (2) **pathos** inducing scene

The movie was full of **pathos**, making the audience feel emotional and teary-eyed.

impermanent

adj. not lasting or enduring; temporary, transitory, or fleeting

synonym: temporary, fleeting

(1) **impermanent** tattoo, (2) **impermanent** hair color

The **impermanent** nature of life should remind us to cherish every moment.

lingering

adj. continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave

synonym: prolonged, persistent, enduring

(1) **lingering** illness, (2) **lingering** doubts

The **lingering** smell of smoke clung to his clothes even after he left the campfire.

blossom

n. the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success

synonym: flower, bloom, bud

(1) apple **blossom**, (2) **blossom** garden

The cherry **blossom** trees in the park were in full bloom, creating a beautiful sight.

brevity

n. the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time

synonym : briefness, shortness, conciseness

(1) for the sake of **brevity**, (2) **brevity** of life

Unnecessary information has been omitted for **brevity**.

whisk

v. to move something somewhere suddenly and quickly

synonym : whip, hasten, wipe

(1) **whisk** flies away, (2) **whisk** people from entrance to exit

Whisk rapidly until egg whites are foamy.

fragility

n. the quality of being easily broken, damaged, or destroyed; the state of being delicate or vulnerable

synonym : delicacy, weakness, frailty

(1) **fragility** of life, (2) emotional **fragility**

The **fragility** of the glass required careful handling during shipping.

chap

n. a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind

synonym : fellow, guy, crack

(1) **chap** stick, (2) nice **chap**

He suffered a painful **chap** on his hand after working with chemicals.

kinship

n. the state or fact of being related to someone

synonym : family, relationship, connection

(1) **kinship** ties, (2) **kinship** relations

She felt a sense of **kinship** with her new colleagues.

exemplify

v. to serve as a typical example of something

synonym : illustrate, show, demonstrate

(1) **exemplify** the importance, (2) **exemplify** the solution

The example of a successful startup serves to **exemplify** the

potential of the industry.

grandchild

n. a child of someone's son or daughter

synonym: offspring, descendant, progeny

(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development

The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

sweetheart

n. an affectionate term for a person, often a romantic partner, who is loved or cherished

synonym: darling, beloved, love

(1) **sweetheart** deal, (2) **sweetheart** romance

I can always rely on my **sweetheart** to lift my mood when feeling down.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. ex_____fy the importance | <i>v.</i> to serve as a typical example of something |
| 2. fr_____ty of life | <i>n.</i> the quality of being easily broken, damaged, or destroyed; the state of being delicate or vulnerable |
| 3. de_____s their spirits | <i>v.</i> to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active |
| 4. gra_____ld development | <i>n.</i> a child of someone's son or daughter |
| 5. pa___s appeals | <i>n.</i> quality in a work of art, literature, or drama that evokes feelings of sadness, pity, or deep emotion, often related to human suffering or adversity that is presented in a sympathetic or poignant manner |
| 6. pa___s inducing scene | <i>n.</i> quality in a work of art, literature, or drama that evokes feelings of sadness, pity, or deep emotion, often related to human suffering or adversity that is presented in a sympathetic or poignant manner |
| 7. a bit_____et memory | <i>adj.</i> having a mixture of both positive and negative emotions or experiences; simultaneously pleasant and painful |
| 8. si__e off the hair over the flames | <i>v.</i> to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake |

ANSWERS: 1. exemplify, 2. fragility, 3. depress, 4. grandchild, 5. pathos, 6. pathos, 7. bittersweet, 8. singe

9. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
10. ki_____p relations *n.* the state or fact of being related to someone
11. emotional fr_____ty *n.* the quality of being easily broken, damaged, or destroyed; the state of being delicate or vulnerable
12. spiritual ca_____is *n.* a release or purging of emotional or psychological tension, often through artistic or creative experiences or expressions
13. swe_____rt romance *n.* an affectionate term for a person, often a romantic partner, who is loved or cherished
14. imp_____nt hair color *adj.* not lasting or enduring; temporary, transitory, or fleeting
15. swe_____rt deal *n.* an affectionate term for a person, often a romantic partner, who is loved or cherished
16. li_____ng illness *adj.* continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave
17. li_____ng doubts *adj.* continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave
18. wh__k people from entrance to exit *v.* to move something somewhere suddenly and quickly
19. ben_____on prayer *n.* a prayer or blessing given at the end of a religious service or ceremony; an expression of good wishes or approval

ANSWERS: 9. grandchild, 10. kinship, 11. fragility, 12. catharsis, 13. sweetheart, 14. impermanent, 15. sweetheart, 16. lingering, 17. lingering, 18. whisk, 19. benediction

20. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
21. li___r in the mind *v.* to stay in a place or exist longer than expected
22. c__p stick *n.* a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind
23. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
24. for the sake of br____y *n.* the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time
25. r_t with age *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
26. ex_____fy the solution *v.* to serve as a typical example of something
27. wh__k flies away *v.* to move something somewhere suddenly and quickly
28. the po_____cy of the story *n.* a quality or state of being emotionally moving, especially in a way that makes you feel sad; evoking a sense of sadness, sorrow, or sympathy
29. si__e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

ANSWERS: 20. sham, 21. linger, 22. chap, 23. sham, 24. brevity, 25. rot, 26. exemplify, 27. whisk, 28. poignancy, 29. singe

30. nice c__p *n.* a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind
31. apple bl____m *n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success
32. ki____p ties *n.* the state or fact of being related to someone
33. begin to r_t *v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually
34. bl____m garden *n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success
35. ca____is of grief *n.* a release or purging of emotional or psychological tension, often through artistic or creative experiences or expressions
36. imp____nt tattoo *adj.* not lasting or enduring; temporary, transitory, or fleeting
37. de____s crop prices *v.* to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active

ANSWERS: 30. chap, 31. blossom, 32. kinship, 33. rot, 34. blossom, 35. catharsis, 36. impermanent, 37. depress

38. br____y of life *n.* the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time
39. li____r over your work *v.* to stay in a place or exist longer than expected
40. the po_____cy of the memory *n.* a quality or state of being emotionally moving, especially in a way that makes you feel sad; evoking a sense of sadness, sorrow, or sympathy
41. bit_____et ending *adj.* having a mixture of both positive and negative emotions or experiences; simultaneously pleasant and painful
42. ben_____on ceremony *n.* a prayer or blessing given at the end of a religious service or ceremony; an expression of good wishes or approval

ANSWERS: 38. brevity, 39. linger, 40. poignancy, 41. bittersweet, 42. benediction

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The cherry _____ trees in the park were in full bloom, creating a beautiful sight.
 - n.* the reproductive structure on a flowering plant that consists of usually colorful petals and a typically green calyx (merging of sepals); the state or time of flowering; the peak of a person's or thing's development or success

2. Many people find that physical exercise provides a sense of _____ helping to relieve stress and anxiety.
 - n.* a release or purging of emotional or psychological tension, often through artistic or creative experiences or expressions

3. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
 - n.* a child of someone's son or daughter

4. She felt a sense of _____ with her new colleagues.
 - n.* the state or fact of being related to someone

5. The data he prepared was completely _____.
 - n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

6. The _____ smell of smoke clung to his clothes even after he left the campfire.
 - adj.* continuing for a long time; persistent; remaining in a place or situation for longer than is usual or necessary; unwilling to leave

7. Please refrigerate the meat, or it will _____.
 - v.* to decay, or cause something to decay, naturally and gradually

ANSWERS: 1. blossom, 2. catharsis, 3. grandchild, 4. kinship, 5. sham, 6. lingering, 7. rot

8. The _____ of the character's death brought the audience to tears.
n. a quality or state of being emotionally moving, especially in a way that makes you feel sad; evoking a sense of sadness, sorrow, or sympathy
9. He suffered a painful _____ on his hand after working with chemicals.
n. a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind
10. The _____ of the glass required careful handling during shipping.
n. the quality of being easily broken, damaged, or destroyed; the state of being delicate or vulnerable
11. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and _____ my dress.
v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
12. The _____ nature of life should remind us to cherish every moment.
adj. not lasting or enduring; temporary, transitory, or fleeting
13. Unnecessary information has been omitted for _____.
n. the quality of using only a few words or lasting only a short time
14. She _____ for a moment before leaving the room.
v. to stay in a place or exist longer than expected
15. The economic recession _____ the housing market.
v. to make someone feel sad, low in spirits, or without hope; to make markets, businesses, etc., less active

ANSWERS: 8. poignancy, 9. chap, 10. fragility, 11. singed, 12. impermanent, 13. brevity, 14. lingered, 15. depressed

16. The graduation ceremony was _____ as the students said goodbye to their classmates and teachers.

adj. having a mixture of both positive and negative emotions or experiences; simultaneously pleasant and painful

17. I can always rely on my _____ to lift my mood when feeling down.

n. an affectionate term for a person, often a romantic partner, who is loved or cherished

18. _____ rapidly until egg whites are foamy.

v. to move something somewhere suddenly and quickly

19. The example of a successful startup serves to _____ the potential of the industry.

v. to serve as a typical example of something

20. The movie was full of _____ making the audience feel emotional and teary-eyed.

n. quality in a work of art, literature, or drama that evokes feelings of sadness, pity, or deep emotion, often related to human suffering or adversity that is presented in a sympathetic or poignant manner

21. The priest gave a _____ at the end of the church service.

n. a prayer or blessing given at the end of a religious service or ceremony; an expression of good wishes or approval

ANSWERS: 16. bittersweet, 17. sweetheart, 18. Whisk, 19. exemplify, 20. pathos, 21. benediction