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Ghada Wali: How I'm using LEGO to teach Arabic |
TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

rebellion

n. an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler

synonym: insurrection, uprising, revolt

(1) **rebellion** leader, (2) excite **rebellion**

The antigovernment **rebellion** was put down quickly by the government's military forces.

downfall

n. a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure

synonym: demise, collapse, ruin

(1) a **downfall** earthquake, (2) **downfall** government

The company's financial mismanagement was the **downfall** of the once-successful business.

disbeliever

n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

synonym: non-believer, skeptic, doubter

(1) persuade a **disbeliever**, (2) stubborn **disbeliever**

Despite the evidence, she remained a **disbeliever** in the theory of evolution.

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.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
synonym: bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life
She **stumbled** over the tree root.

Arabic

n. the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language

(1) **Arabic** cuisine, (2) **Arabic** language
I'm studying **Arabic** calligraphy as part of my art class.

overthrow

v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

synonym: defeat, destroy, conquer

(1) **overthrow** the government, (2) **overthrow** the theory
The group aims to **overthrow** the military regime.

dictator

n. a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force

synonym: autocrat, tyrant, despot

(1) military **dictator**, (2) a **dictator** with enormous powers
A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the **dictator**.

undeniable

adj. not possible to deny; true or certain

synonym: absolute, definite, indubitable

(1) an **undeniable** fact, (2) an **undeniable** masterpiece
Her influence on teenagers is **undeniable**.

graffiti

n. writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place

synonym: street art, tagging, vandalism

(1) **graffiti** art, (2) **graffiti** tag

The city spent a lot of money cleaning up the **graffiti** on the buildings downtown.

erode

v. to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

synonym: wear away, deteriorate, corrode

(1) **erode** coast, (2) **erode** trust

The ongoing budget cuts have **eroded** the quality of education in many schools.

ache

v. to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain

synonym: hurt, throb, smart

(1) **ache** abominably, (2) **ache** all the time

I **ache** all over after running a marathon yesterday.

portray

v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

synonym: depict, describe, illustrate

(1) **portray** feelings in words, (2) accurately **portray** the condition

We often **portray** political problems as religious issues.

deem

v. to consider or decide something in a particular way

synonym: believe, consider, suppose

(1) **deem** socially responsible, (2) **deem** wrong or inappropriate

Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were **deemed** unsafe.

impart

v. to expose or inform; to provide a portion of

synonym: pass on, give, bestow

(1) **impart** a secret, (2) **impart** basic knowledge
She had knowledge she couldn't wait to **impart**.

resonate

v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

synonym: echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

eureka

n. exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight

synonym: discovery, breakthrough, aha moment

(1) have a **eureka** moment, (2) shout "**eureka!**"

"**Eureka!**" he exclaimed, finally solving the problem.

calligraphy

n. the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one

synonym: penmanship, handwriting, script

(1) **calligraphy** art, (2) **calligraphy** script

The **calligraphy** on the scroll was intricate and beautiful.

punctuate

v. to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically

synonym: emphasize, accent, mark

(1) **punctuate** a sentence, (2) **punctuate** his talk

Strikes had also **punctuated** the preceding weeks.

diacritical

adj. relating to or concerned with markings, such as accents or other symbols, used to distinguish one character from another in written or printed language; highlighting distinctions or differences

synonym: accented, marked, distinguishing

(1) **diacritical** point, (2) **diacritical** symbol

The **diacritical** marks above certain letters change the pronunciation of the word.

medial

adj. referencing or situated in the middle of something;
pertaining to or located near the axis of the body

synonym : central, intermediate, midmost

(1) **medial** thigh, (2) **medial** approach

The **medial** side of the knee is prone to injury in certain sports like soccer and basketball.

transliterate

v. to write or spell out words or text in a different script or alphabet while retaining the pronunciation and meaning of the original words

synonym : transcribe, transliterate, rewrite

(1) **transliterate** script, (2) **transliterate** names

I need to **transliterate** this text from Cyrillic to Latin script.

retouch

v. to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools

synonym : edit, revise, touch up

(1) **retouch** photo, (2) **retouch** painting

She had her portrait **retouched** to remove blemishes.

typewriter

n. a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over

(1) **typewriter** keys, (2) electronic **typewriter**

I found an old **typewriter** at a thrift store and used it to write my novel.

tumble

v. to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance

synonym : fall, stumble, plummet

(1) **tumble** down the hill, (2) confidence **tumbles** as unemployment rates rose

The value of the currency **tumbled** against major international currencies.

discotheque

n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance

synonym: nightclub, dance club, disco

(1) **discotheque** party, (2) **discotheque** scene

He couldn't wait to hit the **discotheque** and dance the night away.

Session 2: Spelling

1. re_____on leader *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
2. an und_____le fact *adj.* not possible to deny; true or certain
3. a do_____ll earthquake *n.* a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure
4. military di_____or *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
5. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
6. tra_____ate names *v.* to write or spell out words or text in a different script or alphabet while retaining the pronunciation and meaning of the original words
7. persuade a dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
8. dia_____al symbol *adj.* relating to or concerned with markings, such as accents or other symbols, used to distinguish one character from another in written or printed language; highlighting distinctions or differences
9. dia_____al point *adj.* relating to or concerned with markings, such as accents or other symbols, used to distinguish one character from another in written or printed language; highlighting distinctions or differences

ANSWERS: 1. rebellion, 2. undeniable, 3. downfall, 4. dictator, 5. storytelling, 6. transliterate, 7. disbeliever, 8. diacritical, 9. diacritical

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 10. an und_____le masterpiece | <i>adj.</i> not possible to deny; true or certain |
| 11. me___l thigh | <i>adj.</i> referencing or situated in the middle of something; pertaining to or located near the axis of the body |
| 12. accurately po_____y the condition | <i>v.</i> to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work |
| 13. cal_____hy script | <i>n.</i> the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one |
| 14. a__e abominably | <i>v.</i> to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain |
| 15. dis_____ue scene | <i>n.</i> a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance |
| 16. excite re_____on | <i>n.</i> an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler |
| 17. Ar___c language | <i>n.</i> the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language |
| 18. ov_____ow the government | <i>v.</i> to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force |
| 19. im___t basic knowledge | <i>v.</i> to expose or inform; to provide a portion of |
| 20. re_____h photo | <i>v.</i> to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools |

ANSWERS: 10. undeniable, 11. medial, 12. portray, 13. calligraphy, 14. ache, 15. discotheque, 16. rebellion, 17. Arabic, 18. overthrow, 19. impart, 20. retouch

21. st____e financially *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
22. pu_____te a sentence *v.* to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically
23. typ_____er keys *n.* a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over
24. Ar____c cuisine *n.* the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language
25. re_____h painting *v.* to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools
26. shout "eu___a!" *n.* exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight
27. stubborn dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
28. me___l approach *adj.* referencing or situated in the middle of something; pertaining to or located near the axis of the body
29. d__m wrong or inappropriate *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way
30. d__m socially responsible *v.* to consider or decide something in a particular way

ANSWERS: 21. stumble, 22. punctuate, 23. typewriter, 24. Arabic, 25. retouch, 26. eureka, 27. disbeliever, 28. medial, 29. deem, 30. deem

31. tra_____ate script *v.* to write or spell out words or text in a different script or alphabet while retaining the pronunciation and meaning of the original words
32. a di_____or with enormous powers *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
33. cal_____hy art *n.* the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one
34. ov_____ow the theory *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
35. deeply re_____te with the consumers *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
36. im____t a secret *v.* to expose or inform; to provide a portion of
37. confidence tu____es as unemployment rates rose *v.* to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance
38. er__e coast *v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
39. a__e all the time *v.* to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain
40. gr_____ti art *n.* writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place

ANSWERS: 31. transliterate, 32. dictator, 33. calligraphy, 34. overthrow, 35. resonate, 36. impart, 37. tumble, 38. erode, 39. ache, 40. graffiti

41. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
42. po_____y feelings in words *v.* to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work
43. re_____te in the same frequency *v.* to be filled with a deep echoing sound
44. tu____e down the hill *v.* to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance
45. electronic typ_____er *n.* a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over
46. dis_____ue party *n.* a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
47. have a eu____a moment *n.* exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight
48. er__e trust *v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
49. gr_____ti tag *n.* writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place

ANSWERS: 41. storytelling, 42. portray, 43. resonate, 44. tumble, 45. typewriter, 46. discotheque, 47. eureka, 48. erode, 49. graffiti

50. do_____ll government *n.* a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure
51. pu_____te his talk *v.* to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically
52. st_____e through life *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

ANSWERS: 50. downfall, 51. punctuate, 52. stumble

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The sound _____ well in this theater.
v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

2. I need to _____ this text from Cyrillic to Latin script.
v. to write or spell out words or text in a different script or alphabet while retaining the pronunciation and meaning of the original words

3. We often _____ political problems as religious issues.
v. to depict or describe someone or something in a painting, film, book, or other artistic work

4. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

5. Regarding earthquakes, some commercial buildings were _____ unsafe.
v. to consider or decide something in a particular way

6. " _____ he exclaimed, finally solving the problem.
n. exclamation of triumph on discovering something; realization or sudden insight

7. The ongoing budget cuts have _____ the quality of education in many schools.
v. to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

8. She had her portrait _____ to remove blemishes.
v. to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools

ANSWERS: 1. resonates, 2. transliterate, 3. portray, 4. storytelling, 5. deemed, 6. Eureka!", 7. eroded, 8. retouched

9. I _____ all over after running a marathon yesterday.
- v. to experience a dull, persistent pain or discomfort, typically of moderate or low intensity; to feel a continuous dull pain
10. The city spent a lot of money cleaning up the _____ on the buildings downtown.
- n. writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place
11. The group aims to _____ the military regime.
- v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
12. He couldn't wait to hit the _____ and dance the night away.
- n. a nightclub or restaurant where recorded music is played, and people dance
13. The value of the currency _____ against major international currencies.
- v. to fall suddenly, often uncontrollably; to topple or turn over; to decline sharply and quickly in value, quality, or performance
14. Her influence on teenagers is _____.
- adj. not possible to deny; true or certain
15. Strikes had also _____ the preceding weeks.
- v. to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically
16. I found an old _____ at a thrift store and used it to write my novel.
- n. a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over

ANSWERS: 9. ache, 10. graffiti, 11. overthrow, 12. discotheque, 13. tumbled, 14. undeniable, 15. punctuated, 16. typewriter

17. Despite the evidence, she remained a _____ in the theory of evolution.
n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
18. The antigovernment _____ was put down quickly by the government's military forces.
n. an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
19. She _____ over the tree root.
v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
20. The _____ marks above certain letters change the pronunciation of the word.
adj. relating to or concerned with markings, such as accents or other symbols, used to distinguish one character from another in written or printed language; highlighting distinctions or differences
21. She had knowledge she couldn't wait to _____.
v. to expose or inform; to provide a portion of
22. The _____ side of the knee is prone to injury in certain sports like soccer and basketball.
adj. referencing or situated in the middle of something; pertaining to or located near the axis of the body
23. I'm studying _____ calligraphy as part of my art class.
n. the Semitic language of the Arab people, widely spoken throughout the Middle East and North Africa; of or relating to Arab peoples, culture, or language
24. The _____ on the scroll was intricate and beautiful.
n. the art of writing letters, especially an elegant or decorative one

ANSWERS: 17. disbeliever, 18. rebellion, 19. stumbled, 20. diacritical, 21. impart, 22. medial, 23. Arabic, 24. calligraphy

25. A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the _____.

- n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force

26. The company's financial mismanagement was the _____ of the once-successful business.

- n.* a sudden or catastrophic decline or failure

ANSWERS: 25. dictator, 26. downfall