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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Melvin Sanicas: Why is meningitis so dangerous? |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- hajj**
- n.* the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, that is a requirement for all non-disabled, financially capable Muslims who can make the journey; one of the Five Pillars of Islam
- synonym* : pilgrimage, pilgrimage to Mecca
- (1) mandatory **hajj**, (2) **hajj** rituals
- Every year, millions of Muslims make the **hajj** pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia.
- pilgrim**
- n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
- synonym* : traveler, wayfarer, sojourner
- (1) shrine for **pilgrims**, (2) **pilgrim** site
- The group of **pilgrims** walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.
- meningitis**
- n.* inflammation of the protective membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord, typically caused by a bacterial or viral infection and characterized by fever, headache, and a stiff neck
- synonym* : brain fever, cerebrospinal fever
- (1) **meningitis** outbreak, (2) acute **meningitis**
- The **meningitis** vaccination is recommended for individuals

at a high risk of contracting the illness, such as college students and military personnel.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym: pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus

Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

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.

fungus

n. a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive

synonym: mold, mildew, yeast

(1) **fungus** infection, (2) symbiotic **fungus**

Certain types of **fungus** can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.

mucus

n. a slimy liquid produced inside the nose and other body parts for lubrication, protection, etc.

synonym: secretion, slime, saliva

(1) airway **mucus**, (2) nasal **mucus**

When the body temperature drops, **mucus** secretion fails.

saliva

n. the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion

synonym: spit, drool, slobber

(1) dog's **saliva**, (2) dry mouth with little **saliva**

The dentist asked him to spit out the excess **saliva** into the

sink.

sneeze

v. to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants

synonym: exhale, whiff, blow

(1) **sneeze** into my hand, (2) **sneeze** loudly

Whenever I get a cold, I tend to **sneeze** a lot.

toothbrush

n. a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth

synonym: brush, scrubber, cleaner

(1) **toothbrush** stand, (2) power **toothbrush**

My **toothbrush** with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.

utensil

n. a tool used in the house

synonym: appliance, equipment, instrument

(1) cooking **utensils**, (2) cleaning **utensils**

This cuisine requires special kitchen **utensils**.

bloodstream

n. the blood flowing through the body

(1) **bloodstream** in an artery, (2) **bloodstream** to the brain

Cancer cells are often carried throughout the body by the **bloodstream**.

overdrive

n. a gear in a vehicle that allows the engine to operate at a higher speed than the vehicle's speed, resulting in greater fuel efficiency and smoother driving; (verb) to drive or work too hard

synonym: high gear, high speed, turbocharge

(1) at a **overdrive** pace, (2) go into **overdrive**

The car's **overdrive** function allows it to shift into a higher gear for better fuel efficiency on the highway.

swelling

n. an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury

synonym: bulge, bump, inflammation

(1) **swelling** of the ankle, (2) hard **swelling** on the body
After intensive icing by the trainer, the **swelling** went down.

worsen

v. to become or make something worse

synonym: languish, degenerate, degrade

(1) **worsen** a relation, (2) **worsen** the food problem

Unilateral import bans have **worsened** that country's terms of trade.

stiffen

v. to make or become stiff or rigid; to become inflexible or unyielding in one's attitude or behavior

synonym: harden, solidify, tense

(1) **stiffen** joints, (2) **stiffen** penalties

The cold weather made my muscles **stiffen** up.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym: interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

hallmark

n. a distinctive characteristic or attribute of a person or thing

synonym: symbol, authentication, indication

(1) the **hallmark** of a good scientist, (2) the **hallmark** of modern life

A clear and simple expression is the **hallmark** of good writing.

toxin

n. a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism

synonym: poison, venom, contaminant

(1) **toxin** exposure, (2) **toxin** production

Mold exposure can release dangerous **toxins** into the air.

septicemia

n. a life-threatening infection of the bloodstream that causes fever, chills, and other severe symptoms; also known as blood poisoning

synonym: blood poisoning, sepsis, infection

(1) **septicemia** treatment, (2) focal **septicemia**

The doctor prescribed antibiotics to treat the **septicemia** infection.

poisonous

adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

synonym: toxic, venomous, deadly

(1) **poisonous** plants, (2) **poisonous** chemicals

Some species of **poisonous snakes** can be deadly to humans if bitten.

seep

v. to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually

synonym: leak, ooze, trickle

(1) **seep** cool and moist air, (2) **seep** into paper

The rain began to **seep** through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.

discolor

v. to change color or become discolored, often as a result of exposure to sunlight, chemicals, or the aging process

synonym: stain, tint

(1) **discolor** urine, (2) cause teeth to **discolor**

The sun had **discolored** the curtains, making them look faded.

blot v. to soak up a liquid by using a piece of cloth, paper, etc.; to make a spot or spots onto paper

synonym: stain, smudge, mar

(1) **blot** my eyes, (2) **blot** anything out of existence

She tried to **blot** out the unpleasant memory with alcohol.

drastic *adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact

synonym: extreme, fierce, radical

(1) **drastic** measures, (2) make **drastic** revision

The global community is undergoing **drastic** changes at present.

untreated *adj.* not given medical care or treatment; not subjected to chemical or physical treatment

synonym: raw, unprocessed, coarse

(1) an **untreated** disease, (2) dispose of **untreated** formalin solution

Heat stroke is the result of **untreated** heat exhaustion.

amputation *n.* the act of cutting off a part of the body surgically

(1) **amputation** of leg, (2) hand **amputation**

Amputation of the limb is a last resort for the patient.

Session 2: Spelling

1. atrial ov_____ve pacing
n. a gear in a vehicle that allows the engine to operate at a higher speed than the vehicle's speed, resulting in greater fuel efficiency and smoother driving; (verb) to drive or work too hard
2. wo___n a relation
v. to become or make something worse
3. st_____n joints
v. to make or become stiff or rigid; to become inflexible or unyielding in one's attitude or behavior
4. s__p into paper
v. to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
5. shrine for pi_____ms
n. a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
6. po_____us plants
adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
7. power too_____sh
n. a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
8. cause teeth to di_____or
v. to change color or become discolored, often as a result of exposure to sunlight, chemicals, or the aging process
9. sn___e loudly
v. to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants

ANSWERS: 1. overdrive, 2. worsen, 3. stiffen, 4. seep, 5. pilgrim, 6. poisonous, 7. toothbrush, 8. discolor, 9. sneeze

10. make dr____c revision *adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact
11. s__p cool and moist air *v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
12. in___t a computer with a virus *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
13. focal sep_____ia *n.* a life-threatening infection of the bloodstream that causes fever, chills, and other severe symptoms; also known as blood poisoning
14. cooking ut_____ls *n.* a tool used in the house
15. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
16. wo___n the food problem *v.* to become or make something worse
17. po_____us chemicals *adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
18. nasal mu__s *n.* a slimy liquid produced inside the nose and other body parts for lubrication, protection, etc.
19. to__n exposure *n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism

ANSWERS: 10. drastic, 11. seep, 12. infect, 13. septicemia, 14. utensil, 15. invade, 16. worsen, 17. poisonous, 18. mucus, 19. toxin

31. fu___s infection *n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
32. dr_____c measures *adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact
33. sn___e into my hand *v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
34. dry mouth with little sa___a *n.* the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion
35. hand amp_____on *n.* the act of cutting off a part of the body surgically
36. hard sw_____ng on the body *n.* an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
37. the ha_____rk of modern life *n.* a distinctive characteristic or attribute of a person or thing
38. sep_____ia treatment *n.* a life-threatening infection of the bloodstream that causes fever, chills, and other severe symptoms; also known as blood poisoning
39. di_____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

ANSWERS: 31. fungus, 32. drastic, 33. sneeze, 34. saliva, 35. amputation, 36. swelling, 37. hallmark, 38. septicemia, 39. disrupt

40. to__n production *n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism
41. mandatory h__j *n.* the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, that is a requirement for all non-disabled, financially capable Muslims who can make the journey; one of the Five Pillars of Islam
42. blo_____am in an artery *n.* the blood flowing through the body
43. go into ov_____ve *n.* a gear in a vehicle that allows the engine to operate at a higher speed than the vehicle's speed, resulting in greater fuel efficiency and smoother driving; (verb) to drive or work too hard
44. pi_____m site *n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion
45. men_____is outbreak *n.* inflammation of the protective membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord, typically caused by a bacterial or viral infection and characterized by fever, headache, and a stiff neck
46. acute men_____is *n.* inflammation of the protective membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord, typically caused by a bacterial or viral infection and characterized by fever, headache, and a stiff neck

ANSWERS: 40. toxin, 41. hajj, 42. bloodstream, 43. overdrive, 44. pilgrim, 45. meningitis, 46. meningitis

47. airway mu__s *n.* a slimy liquid produced inside the nose and other body parts for lubrication, protection, etc.
48. dog's sa___a *n.* the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion
49. sw_____ng of the ankle *n.* an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
50. blo_____am to the brain *n.* the blood flowing through the body
51. an un_____ed disease *adj.* not given medical care or treatment; not subjected to chemical or physical treatment
52. di_____or urine *v.* to change color or become discolored, often as a result of exposure to sunlight, chemicals, or the aging process
53. dispose of un_____ed formalin solution *adj.* not given medical care or treatment; not subjected to chemical or physical treatment
54. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
55. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
56. b__t anything out of existence *v.* to soak up a liquid by using a piece of cloth, paper, etc.; to make a spot or spots onto paper

ANSWERS: 47. mucus, 48. saliva, 49. swelling, 50. bloodstream, 51. untreated, 52. discolor, 53. untreated, 54. confuse, 55. invade, 56. blot

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The group of _____ walked in silence, deep in thought and prayer.
 - n.* a person who journeys, especially a long distance, to a sacred place as an act of religious devotion

2. The _____ vaccination is recommended for individuals at a high risk of contracting the illness, such as college students and military personnel.
 - n.* inflammation of the protective membranes surrounding the brain and spinal cord, typically caused by a bacterial or viral infection and characterized by fever, headache, and a stiff neck

3. The car's _____ function allows it to shift into a higher gear for better fuel efficiency on the highway.
 - n.* a gear in a vehicle that allows the engine to operate at a higher speed than the vehicle's speed, resulting in greater fuel efficiency and smoother driving; (verb) to drive or work too hard

4. When the body temperature drops, _____ secretion fails.
 - n.* a slimy liquid produced inside the nose and other body parts for lubrication, protection, etc.

5. The cold weather made my muscles _____ up.
 - v.* to make or become stiff or rigid; to become inflexible or unyielding in one's attitude or behavior

6. Mold exposure can release dangerous _____ into the air.
 - n.* a poisonous substance produced by a living organism, such as a plant, animal, or microorganism; a chemical compound that can cause harm or illness to a living organism

ANSWERS: 1. pilgrims, 2. meningitis, 3. overdrive, 4. mucus, 5. stiffen, 6. toxins

7. The dentist asked him to spit out the excess _____ into the sink.
- n.* the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion
8. Her remarks _____ the debate.
- v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
9. Certain types of _____ can be toxic to humans, causing severe illness if ingested.
- n.* a type of organism that includes yeasts, molds, and mushrooms, which are heterotrophic, meaning they do not produce their food and must consume organic matter to survive
10. Heat stroke is the result of _____ heat exhaustion.
- adj.* not given medical care or treatment; not subjected to chemical or physical treatment
11. The rain began to _____ through the roof, causing damage to the walls and floors.
- v.* to flow or leak slowly and gradually through small openings or spaces; to ooze or trickle out gradually
12. _____ of the limb is a last resort for the patient.
- n.* the act of cutting off a part of the body surgically
13. The sun had _____ the curtains, making them look faded.
- v.* to change color or become discolored, often as a result of exposure to sunlight, chemicals, or the aging process
14. Unilateral import bans have _____ that country's terms of trade.
- v.* to become or make something worse

ANSWERS: 7. saliva, 8. confused, 9. fungus, 10. untreated, 11. seep, 12. Amputation, 13. discolored, 14. worsened

15. Cancer cells are often carried throughout the body by the _____.
- n.* the blood flowing through the body
16. She tried to _____ out the unpleasant memory with alcohol.
- v.* to soak up a liquid by using a piece of cloth, paper, etc.; to make a spot or spots onto paper
17. Some species of _____ can be deadly to humans if bitten.
- adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
18. The global community is undergoing _____ changes at present.
- adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact
19. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.
- v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
20. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
- v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
21. A clear and simple expression is the _____ of good writing.
- n.* a distinctive characteristic or attribute of a person or thing
22. The doctor prescribed antibiotics to treat the _____ infection.
- n.* a life-threatening infection of the bloodstream that causes fever, chills, and other severe symptoms; also known as blood poisoning

ANSWERS: 15. bloodstream, 16. blot, 17. poisonous snakes, 18. drastic, 19. infect, 20. invade, 21. hallmark, 22. septicemia

23. Every year, millions of Muslims make the _____ pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia.
- n.* the annual pilgrimage to Mecca, Saudi Arabia, that is a requirement for all non-disabled, financially capable Muslims who can make the journey; one of the Five Pillars of Islam
24. This cuisine requires special kitchen _____.
- n.* a tool used in the house
25. Whenever I get a cold, I tend to _____ a lot.
- v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
26. My _____ with end-rounded bristles is excellent for gently cleaning my teeth and gums.
- n.* a small brush with a handle used for cleaning the teeth
27. After intensive icing by the trainer, the _____ went down.
- n.* an abnormal local enlargement of a part of your body, mainly because of illness or injury
28. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

ANSWERS: 23. hajj, 24. utensils, 25. sneeze, 26. toothbrush, 27. swelling, 28. disrupt