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Asali DeVan Ecclesiastes: "Chasms" | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

chasm

n. a deep and wide crack or hole in the ground, especially one that is difficult or impossible to cross; a profound difference between two people or groups

synonym : gap, ravine, crevasse

(1) a deep and wide **chasm**, (2) **chasm** of death

The **chasm** of misunderstanding between the two sides seemed impossible to bridge.

caustic

adj. sharply critical or sarcastic, often in a way that is hurtful or damaging to others; capable of burning, corroding, dissolving, or eating away by chemical action

synonym : acidic, biting, sarcastic

(1) **caustic** comments, (2) **caustic** chemical

The **caustic** remarks made by the boss caused many employees to resign.

hesitation

n. the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous

synonym : unwillingness, indecision, uncertainty

(1) perform without **hesitation**, (2) after some **hesitation**

There was a **hesitation** in her speech.

scar

n. a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed

synonym: blemish, imperfection, blotch

(1) burn **scar**, (2) carry a **scar**

Even after the wound has healed, a **scar** remains.

coincide

v. to take place at or near the same time

synonym: overlap, coexist, concur

(1) partly **coincide**, (2) **coincide** with reality

These results **coincide** with our hypothesis.

collide

v. to hit something violently when moving

synonym: clash, slam, contradict

(1) **collide** head-on, (2) **collide** in midair

The interests of the two countries **collide**.

gulf

n. a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land

synonym: chasm, divide, abyss

(1) **gulf** war, (2) **gulf** stream

The **Gulf** of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym: compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

fathomable

adj. able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth

synonym: understandable, comprehensible, intelligible

(1) **fathomable** explanation, (2) **fathomable** solution

The scientific theories presented in the book were

fathomable even to non-experts.

fissure

n. a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization

synonym : crack, crevice, gap

(1) pulmonary **fissure**, (2) **fissure** in the relationship

The **fissure** in the rock was too narrow to squeeze through.

pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

synonym : presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

mend

v. to repair or fix something that is broken or damaged

synonym : fix, repair, rectify

(1) **mend** broken relationship, (2) **mend** my ways

He **mended** the torn shirt with a needle and thread.

mire

n. a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through

synonym : swamp, quagmire, bog

(1) stick in the **mire**, (2) **mire** of debt

The project was bogged down in a **mire** of bureaucracy.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym : demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

enlightened

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

synonym : educated, informed, aware

(1) **enlightened** age, (2) make an **enlightened** decision

The **enlightened** teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

tattered

adj. worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart

synonym : ripped, shabby, worn-out

(1) **tattered** clothes, (2) **tattered** umbrella

The **tattered** book was falling apart at the seams from being read too many times.

scatter

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions

synonym : disperse, spread, bestrew

(1) **scatter** seeds, (2) **scatter** around the internet

The hunter's approach **scattered** the geese.

enslave

v. to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

synonym : coerce, deprive, imprison

(1) **enslave** poor peasants, (2) **enslave** indigenous people

Her beauty **enslaved** me completely.

shackle

n. a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind

synonym : chains, fetters, handcuffs

(1) **shackle** chains, (2) metal **shackle**

The prisoner wore heavy **shackles** on his wrists and ankles.

widen

v. to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive

synonym : broaden, enlarge, extend

(1) **widen** in excitement, (2) **widen** a narrowed heart valve

He **widened** his investigation into a medical clinic.

rift

n. a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces

synonym : split, break, gap

(1) **rift** between friends, (2) geological **rift**

Their disagreement caused a **rift** in their friendship.

mindless

adj. lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed

synonym : senseless, thoughtless, irresponsible

(1) **mindless** task, (2) **mindless** entertainment

Mindless scrolling on social media can be a time waster.

restless

adj. unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy

synonym : agitated, anxious, disturbed

(1) a **restless** person, (2) **restless** waves

He felt **restless** and constantly changed his postures.

ingrained

adj. deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time

synonym : inborn, embedded, deep-seated

(1) **ingrained** habit, (2) **ingrained** prejudice

Her fear of dogs was **ingrained** after a traumatic experience in childhood.

foe

n. an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another

synonym : enemy, adversary, opponent

(1) a political **foe**, (2) bitter **foe**

The superhero's arch- **foe** was an evil mastermind who always got away.

trample

v. to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury

synonym : tread, stomp, crush

(1) **trample** down his feelings, (2) **trample** on the rights
The plants in this garden are precious, so you must not **trample** them.

adulterated

adj. made impure by adding extraneous, inferior, or fraudulent materials; debased

synonym : impure, corrupted, debased

(1) **adulterated** food, (2) **adulterated** with toxic substances
The food and drug administration warned consumers not to purchase **adulterated** medicine.

humility

n. the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

synonym : humbleness, modesty, unpretentiousness

(1) develop an attitude of **humility**, (2) lack of **humility**
We were filled with **humility** at the sight of the Queen.

energize

v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate

synonym : invigorate, animate, electrify

(1) **energize** the body, (2) **energize** a team

The motivational speaker **energized** the crowd with their words.

displace

v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

synonym : evict, exile, remove

(1) **displace** workers, (2) **displace** the explosive power

The construction of the new dam will **displace** hundreds of families living downstream.

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.

intergenerational

adj. relating to, involving, or affecting different generations

(1) **intergenerational** conflict, (2) promote **intergenerational** ties

The results of that survey clearly show **intergenerational** differences in attitudes toward LGBTQ.

unravel

v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
synonym: separate, unknot, ravel

(1) **unravel** a knit, (2) **unravel** a plot

Detectives are still attempting to **unravel** the mystery of his death.

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.

philanthropic

adj. characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy

synonym: charitable, benevolent, generous

(1) **philanthropic** donation, (2) **philanthropic** mission

The **philanthropic** organization donated millions of dollars to fund medical research.

disparity

n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things

synonym: difference, inequality, gap

(1) the **disparity** between theory and reality, (2) income **disparity**

There is a significant **disparity** in pay between men and women in the company.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. co_____e head-on | <i>v.</i> to hit something violently when moving |
| 2. pulmonary fi_____e | <i>n.</i> a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization |
| 3. ex____e rebellion | <i>v.</i> to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 4. ch__m of death | <i>n.</i> a deep and wide crack or hole in the ground, especially one that is difficult or impossible to cross; a profound difference between two people or groups |
| 5. en_____e indigenous people | <i>v.</i> to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action |
| 6. promote int_____nal ties | <i>adj.</i> relating to, involving, or affecting different generations |
| 7. the di_____ty between theory and reality | <i>n.</i> a significant difference or inequality between two or more things |
| 8. metal sh_____e | <i>n.</i> a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind |
| 9. burn s__r | <i>n.</i> a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed |
| 10. m__e of debt | <i>n.</i> a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through |

ANSWERS: 1. collide, 2. fissure, 3. excite, 4. chasm, 5. enslave, 6. intergenerational, 7. disparity, 8. shackle, 9. scar, 10. mire

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 11. carry a s__r | <i>n.</i> a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed |
| 12. g__f war | <i>n.</i> a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land |
| 13. m__d my ways | <i>v.</i> to repair or fix something that is broken or damaged |
| 14. r__t between friends | <i>n.</i> a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces |
| 15. g__f stream | <i>n.</i> a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land |
| 16. ca____c comments | <i>adj.</i> sharply critical or sarcastic, often in a way that is hurtful or damaging to others; capable of burning, corroding, dissolving, or eating away by chemical action |
| 17. in_____ed prejudice | <i>adj.</i> deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time |
| 18. de_____e his public image | <i>v.</i> to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others |
| 19. un_____l a plot | <i>v.</i> undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it |
| 20. co_____e in midair | <i>v.</i> to hit something violently when moving |
| 21. a re_____ss person | <i>adj.</i> unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy |

ANSWERS: 11. scar, 12. gulf, 13. mend, 14. rift, 15. gulf, 16. caustic, 17. ingrained, 18. degrade, 19. unravel, 20. collide, 21. restless

22. wi__n in excitement *v.* to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive
23. em____y for patients *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
24. adu____ed with toxic substances *adj.* made impure by adding extraneous, inferior, or fraudulent materials; debased
25. geological r__t *n.* a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces
26. a political f_e *n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
27. after some hes____on *n.* the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous
28. wi__n a narrowed heart valve *v.* to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive
29. full of em____y *n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
30. di____ce workers *v.* to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
31. a deep and wide ch__m *n.* a deep and wide crack or hole in the ground, especially one that is difficult or impossible to cross; a profound difference between two people or groups

ANSWERS: 22. widen, 23. empathy, 24. adulterated, 25. rift, 26. foe, 27. hesitation, 28. widen, 29. empathy, 30. displace, 31. chasm

32. mi____ss task *adj.* lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed
33. m__d broken relationship *v.* to repair or fix something that is broken or damaged
34. fat_____le explanation *adj.* able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth
35. in_____ed habit *adj.* deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
36. ta_____ed umbrella *adj.* worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart
37. stick in the m__e *n.* a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through
38. un_____l a knit *v.* undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
39. income di_____ty *n.* a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
40. lack of hu_____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
41. fi_____e in the relationship *n.* a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization
42. adu_____ed food *adj.* made impure by adding extraneous, inferior, or fraudulent materials; debased

ANSWERS: 32. mindless, 33. mend, 34. fathomable, 35. ingrained, 36. tattered, 37. mire, 38. unravel, 39. disparity, 40. humility, 41. fissure, 42. adulterated

43. bitter f_e *n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
44. de____e environmental quality *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
45. mi____ss entertainment *adj.* lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed
46. sh____e chains *n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind
47. perform without hes____on *n.* the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous
48. fat____le solution *adj.* able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth
49. re____ss waves *adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
50. co____de with reality *v.* to take place at or near the same time
51. 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: 43. foe, 44. degrade, 45. mindless, 46. shackle, 47. hesitation, 48. fathomable, 49. restless, 50. coincide, 51. disrupt

52. sc____r seeds *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
53. tr____e on the rights *v.* to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury
54. int_____nal conflict *adj.* relating to, involving, or affecting different generations
55. enl_____ed age *adj.* having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook
56. ca____c chemical *adj.* sharply critical or sarcastic, often in a way that is hurtful or damaging to others; capable of burning, corroding, dissolving, or eating away by chemical action
57. develop an attitude of hu____ty *n.* the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self
58. en____ze a team *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
59. pre_____on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
60. ta____ed clothes *adj.* worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart
61. partly co____de *v.* to take place at or near the same time
62. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 52. scatter, 53. trample, 54. intergenerational, 55. enlightened, 56. caustic, 57. humility, 58. energize, 59. pretension, 60. tattered, 61. coincide, 62. excite

63. en_____e poor peasants v. to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action
64. di_____t a well-ordered condition v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
65. tr_____e down his feelings v. to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury
66. phi_____pic donation *adj.* characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy
67. di_____ce the explosive power v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation
68. en_____ze the body v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
69. baseless pre_____on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
70. sc_____r around the internet v. to cause to separate and go in different directions
71. phi_____pic mission *adj.* characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy

ANSWERS: 63. enslave, 64. disrupt, 65. trample, 66. philanthropic, 67. displace, 68. energize, 69. pretension, 70. scatter, 71. philanthropic

72. make an enl_____ed decision

adj. having or showing a rational, modern,
and well-informed outlook

ANSWERS: 72. enlightened

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The food and drug administration warned consumers not to purchase _____ medicine.
adj. made impure by adding extraneous, inferior, or fraudulent materials; debased
2. These results _____ with our hypothesis.
v. to take place at or near the same time
3. The project was bogged down in a _____ of bureaucracy.
n. a wet, muddy ground or area that is difficult to walk or move through
4. The plants in this garden are precious, so you must not _____ them.
v. to step heavily on something or someone, causing damage or injury
5. There is a significant _____ in pay between men and women in the company.
n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
6. Her fear of dogs was _____ after a traumatic experience in childhood.
adj. deeply rooted in someone's mind or behavior; difficult to change due to being established for a long time
7. 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
8. Their disagreement caused a _____ in their friendship.
n. a break or fissure in a relationship, organization, or physical structure; a large crack in the ground, rock, or other surfaces

ANSWERS: 1. adulterated, 2. coincide, 3. mire, 4. trample, 5. disparity, 6. ingrained, 7. disrupt, 8. rift

9. The _____ of misunderstanding between the two sides seemed impossible to bridge.
- n.* a deep and wide crack or hole in the ground, especially one that is difficult or impossible to cross; a profound difference between two people or groups
10. The prisoner wore heavy _____ on his wrists and ankles.
- n.* a metal ring, bar, or other device used to confine, restrain, or limit freedom of movement; a restraint or impediment of any kind
11. Even after the wound has healed, a _____ remains.
- n.* a mark that remains on the skin after a wound has healed
12. The superhero's arch-_____ was an evil mastermind who always got away.
- n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
13. His _____ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
- n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
14. The motivational speaker _____ the crowd with their words.
- v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
15. He felt _____ and constantly changed his postures.
- adj.* unwilling or unable to stay still or relax because you are worried and uneasy
16. The scientific theories presented in the book were _____ even to non-experts.
- adj.* able to be understood or comprehended; able to be measured or explored to a certain depth

ANSWERS: 9. chasm, 10. shackles, 11. scar, 12. foe, 13. pretensions, 14. energized, 15. restless, 16. fathomable

17. _____ scrolling on social media can be a time waster.

adj. lacking in awareness, thought, or attention; done without thinking or consideration; pointless or empty-headed

18. There was a _____ in her speech.

n. the act of pausing or being slow before saying or doing something, especially because you feel uncertain or nervous

19. He _____ the torn shirt with a needle and thread.

v. to repair or fix something that is broken or damaged

20. Detectives are still attempting to _____ the mystery of his death.

v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it

21. The _____ book was falling apart at the seams from being read too many times.

adj. worn, torn, or ragged in appearance or condition, usually as a result of long use or hard wear; frayed or falling apart

22. The interests of the two countries _____.

v. to hit something violently when moving

23. The _____ remarks made by the boss caused many employees to resign.

adj. sharply critical or sarcastic, often in a way that is hurtful or damaging to others; capable of burning, corroding, dissolving, or eating away by chemical action

24. The _____ teacher taught the class about the importance of compassion and empathy.

adj. having or showing a rational, modern, and well-informed outlook

ANSWERS: 17. Mindless, 18. hesitation, 19. mended, 20. unravel, 21. tattered, 22. collide, 23. caustic, 24. enlightened

25. We were filled with _____ at the sight of the Queen.

n. the quality or condition of being humble; a low estimate of one's self

26. He _____ his investigation into a medical clinic.

v. to become or make something broader, wider, more extensive

27. The construction of the new dam will _____ hundreds of families living downstream.

v. to force someone or something to leave their home or place of origin, especially as a result of conflict, natural disaster, or manipulation

28. The _____ in the rock was too narrow to squeeze through.

n. a narrow opening or crack, especially in a rock or other hard substance; a division or splitting within a group or organization

29. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions

30. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

31. The results of that survey clearly show _____ differences in attitudes toward LGBTQ.

adj. relating to, involving, or affecting different generations

32. Her beauty _____ me completely.

v. to make someone a slave; to deprive someone of their freedom of choice or action

ANSWERS: 25. humility, 26. widened, 27. displace, 28. fissure, 29. scattered, 30. degrade, 31. intergenerational, 32. enslaved

33. The _____ of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.
n. a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
34. The _____ organization donated millions of dollars to fund medical research.
adj. characterized by a desire to promote the welfare of others, especially by donating money or providing charitable aid; of or relating to the practice of philanthropy
35. _____ is also necessary to understand history.
n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation
36. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 33. Gulf, 34. philanthropic, 35. Empathy, 36. excited