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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Luhan Yang: How to create a world where no one dies waiting for a transplant | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

lifesaving

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

(1) **lifesaving** efforts, (2) **lifesaving** device

The patient needs a **lifesaving** transplant operation.

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.

anew

adv. in a new or different way

synonym: again, once more, fresh

(1) arm **anew**, (2) review **anew**

He decided to start **anew** and leave his old life behind.

heartbreak

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

synonym: grief, sorrow, bitterness

(1) ease her **heartbreak**, (2) go through **heartbreak**

They had experienced the **heartbreak** of losing two children due to premature births.

disturb

v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
synonym: agitate, bother, intrude

(1) **disturb** the peace, (2) **disturb** his sleep

Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.

hurdle

n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
synonym: obstacle, barrier, challenge

(1) overcome **hurdles**, (2) **hurdle** race

The company faced several **hurdles** in the development of its new product.

benign

adj. kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious
synonym: kind, gentle, harmless

(1) **benign** tumor, (2) a **benign** smile

The lump was discovered to be **benign**, and no further treatment was needed.

porcine

adj. relating to or resembling pigs; having similar characteristics or habits as pigs
synonym: porky, piggy, swinish

(1) **porcine** epidemic diarrhea, (2) **porcine** herd

The chef prepared a delicious **porcine** meal with roasted pork and bacon-wrapped scallops.

endogenous

adj. originating or arising from within an organism, system, or process rather than from external factors; pertaining to internal causes or influences

synonym: endogenic, innate, internal

(1) **endogenous** growth, (2) **endogenous** opioid system

Endogenous factors like genetics and personality are key in determining our behavior.

retrovirus

n. a type of RNA virus that uses the enzyme reverse transcriptase to convert its RNA into DNA, which then inserts itself into the host cell's genome, which can cause a variety of diseases in humans and animals,

including HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)

(1) **retrovirus** infection, (2) feline **retrovirus**

The patient's condition improved after beginning a **retrovirus-targeted** treatment regimen.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym: divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

pathogen

n. a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease

synonym: germ, microbe, bacterium

(1) plant **pathogen**, (2) the **pathogen** in the air

mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated **pathogens**.

torment

n. unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress;
(verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering

synonym: pain, suffering, agony

(1) **torment** of jealousy, (2) economic **torment**

The torturers inflicted great **torment** upon the prisoners.

nerd

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

synonym: geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck

He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

mammal

n. any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body

(1) a primitive **mammal**, (2) a sort of **mammal**

Marine **mammal** populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.

scissor

v. (noun, usually "scissors") a cutting instrument consisting of a pair of metal blades; to cut or clip something with scissors; to move or position two things that cross each other like a pair of scissors

synonym: cut, clip, shear

(1) **scissor** paper, (2) kitchen **scissors**

I need to **scissor** my hair to even out the ends.

intrigue

v. to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone

synonym: attract, captivate, charm

(1) **intrigue** him, (2) **intrigue** against his rival

The artist's innovative style of work **intrigues** me.

uterus

n. a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth

synonym: womb

(1) **uterus** cancer, (2) bleeding from **uterus**

The physician prescribed medication to relieve the contraction of the **uterus**.

surrogate

adj. acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose

synonym: substitute, replacement, deputy

(1) **surrogate** pregnancy, (2) **surrogate** decision

The **surrogate** mother gave birth to a healthy baby for the couple who couldn't conceive independently.

piglet

n. a young or small pig

synonym: shoat, piggy, shote

(1) **piglet** racing, (2) hungry **piglet**

The farmer found a cute newborn **piglet** wandering in the field.

hundredfold

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

(1) rise nearly **hundredfold**, (2) improve **hundredfold**

The development team reported two **hundredfold** increases in performance.

genesis

n. the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind

synonym: beginning, creation, provenance

(1) the **genesis** of civilization, (2) in the Book of **Genesis**

The politician's remarks became the **genesis** of the clash between the two countries.

sibling

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

synonym: brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**

Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

pancreas

n. a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine

synonym: gland, organ, islet

(1) **pancreas** inflammation, (2) **pancreas** function

The endocrine function of the **pancreas** involves the secretion of hormones such as insulin.

dialysis

n. a medical treatment that removes waste and excess fluids from the blood of a patient with kidney failure

(1) **dialysis** nurse, (2) **dialysis** machine

Regular **dialysis** treatments are necessary for those with kidney failure.

yang

n. in Chinese philosophy, the masculine or active principle characterized as light and the sun and associated with hardness, dryness, and heat

synonym: masculine, positive, active

(1) the **yang** principle, (2) embody **yang** energy

He saw the balance between the yin and **yang** as crucial for a harmonious life.

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.

circumvent

v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

synonym: evade, bypass, outsmart

(1) **circumvent** rules, (2) **circumvent** authority

I took a back road to work on time to **circumvent** the traffic jam.

irresponsible

adj. not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable

synonym: careless, reckless, thoughtless

(1) **irresponsible** actions, (2) **irresponsible** behavior

It was **irresponsible** of him to drive home after drinking so much alcohol.

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.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym: buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

unmet

adj. describing a need, goal, or expectation that has not been satisfied or fulfilled

synonym: unsatisfied, unfulfilled, unmatched

(1) **unmet** demand, (2) **unmet** needs

The **unmet** expectations of the customers led to a decrease in sales.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 1. hu____g sound | <i>adj.</i> producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee |
| 2. in___e other tissues | <i>v.</i> to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation |
| 3. play with my si____gs | <i>n.</i> a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents |
| 4. ut___s cancer | <i>n.</i> a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth |
| 5. wo___n a relation | <i>v.</i> to become or make something worse |
| 6. in____ue him | <i>v.</i> to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone |
| 7. rise nearly hun_____ld | <i>adj.</i> a hundred times as great or as much |
| 8. lif_____ng device | <i>n.</i> the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning |
| 9. cir_____nt authority | <i>v.</i> to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle |
| 10. embody y__g energy | <i>n.</i> in Chinese philosophy, the masculine or active principle characterized as light and the sun and associated with hardness, dryness, and heat |

ANSWERS: 1. humming, 2. invade, 3. sibling, 4. uterus, 5. worsen, 6. intrigue, 7. hundredfold, 8. lifesaving, 9. circumvent, 10. yang

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 11. ex___e rebellion | <i>v.</i> | to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 12. have a si____g quarrel | <i>n.</i> | a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents |
| 13. hu___e race | <i>n.</i> | a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome |
| 14. in the Book of Ge____s | <i>n.</i> | the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind |
| 15. irr_____ble behavior | <i>adj.</i> | not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable |
| 16. irr_____ble actions | <i>adj.</i> | not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable |
| 17. su_____te pregnancy | <i>adj.</i> | acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose |
| 18. the ge____s of civilization | <i>n.</i> | the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind |
| 19. bleeding from ut____s | <i>n.</i> | a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth |
| 20. go through hea_____ak | <i>n.</i> | a feeling of great sadness or disappointment |

ANSWERS: 11. excite, 12. sibling, 13. hurdle, 14. genesis, 15. irresponsible, 16. irresponsible, 17. surrogate, 18. genesis, 19. uterus, 20. heartbreak

21. a sort of ma___l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
22. un__t demand *adj.* describing a need, goal, or expectation that has not been satisfied or fulfilled
23. po_____e epidemic diarrhea *adj.* relating to or resembling pigs; having similar characteristics or habits as pigs
24. kitchen sc_____rs *v.* (noun, usually "scissors") a cutting instrument consisting of a pair of metal blades; to cut or clip something with scissors; to move or position two things that cross each other like a pair of scissors
25. review a__w *adv.* in a new or different way
26. plant pa_____en *n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
27. the pa_____en in the air *n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
28. in_____ue against his rival *v.* to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone
29. wo___n the food problem *v.* to become or make something worse
30. di_____ct attention from the real issue *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
31. a primitive ma___l *n.* any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body

ANSWERS: 21. mammal, 22. unmet, 23. porcine, 24. scissor, 25. anew, 26. pathogen, 27. pathogen, 28. intrigue, 29. worsen, 30. distract, 31. mammal

32. su_____te decision *adj.* acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose
33. di_____is nurse *n.* a medical treatment that removes waste and excess fluids from the blood of a patient with kidney failure
34. di_____b his sleep *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
35. end_____us opioid system *adj.* originating or arising from within an organism, system, or process rather than from external factors; pertaining to internal causes or influences
36. ret_____us infection *n.* a type of RNA virus that uses the enzyme reverse transcriptase to convert its RNA into DNA, which then inserts itself into the host cell's genome, which can cause a variety of diseases in humans and animals, including HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)
37. pa_____as function *n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine
38. hungry pi____t *n.* a young or small pig
39. feline ret_____us *n.* a type of RNA virus that uses the enzyme reverse transcriptase to convert its RNA into DNA, which then inserts itself into the host cell's genome, which can cause a variety of diseases in humans and animals, including HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)

ANSWERS: 32. surrogate, 33. dialysis, 34. disturb, 35. endogenous, 36. retrovirus, 37. pancreas, 38. piglet, 39. retrovirus

40. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
41. sc_____r paper *v.* (noun, usually "scissors") a cutting instrument consisting of a pair of metal blades; to cut or clip something with scissors; to move or position two things that cross each other like a pair of scissors
42. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
43. hu_____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
44. improve hun_____ld *adj.* a hundred times as great or as much
45. the y__g principle *n.* in Chinese philosophy, the masculine or active principle characterized as light and the sun and associated with hardness, dryness, and heat
46. overcome hu___es *n.* a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
47. be___n tumor *adj.* kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious
48. cir_____nt rules *v.* to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

ANSWERS: 40. nerd, 41. scissor, 42. nerd, 43. humming, 44. hundredfold, 45. yang, 46. hurdle, 47. benign, 48. circumvent

49. ease her hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
50. un__t needs *adj.* describing a need, goal, or expectation that has not been satisfied or fulfilled
51. a be___n smile *adj.* kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious
52. pa_____as inflammation *n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine
53. arm a__w *adv.* in a new or different way
54. po_____e herd *adj.* relating to or resembling pigs; having similar characteristics or habits as pigs
55. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
56. di_____b the peace *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
57. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
58. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
59. pi___t racing *n.* a young or small pig
60. economic to_____t *n.* unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress; (verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering

ANSWERS: 49. heartbreak, 50. unmet, 51. benign, 52. pancreas, 53. anew, 54. porcine, 55. medicinal, 56. disturb, 57. excite, 58. medicinal, 59. piglet, 60. torment

61. di_____is machine *n.* a medical treatment that removes waste and excess fluids from the blood of a patient with kidney failure
62. di_____ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
63. in_____e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
64. lif_____ng efforts *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
65. to_____t of jealousy *n.* unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress; (verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering
66. end_____us growth *adj.* originating or arising from within an organism, system, or process rather than from external factors; pertaining to internal causes or influences

ANSWERS: 61. dialysis, 62. distract, 63. invade, 64. lifesaving, 65. torment, 66. endogenous

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Regular _____ treatments are necessary for those with kidney failure.
n. a medical treatment that removes waste and excess fluids from the blood of a patient with kidney failure

2. I took a back road to work on time to _____ the traffic jam.
v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

3. The _____ mother gave birth to a healthy baby for the couple who couldn't conceive independently.
adj. acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose

4. The physician prescribed medication to relieve the contraction of the _____.
n. a hollow muscular organ in the body of a woman or other female mammal in which a baby or young animal develops before birth

5. The artist's innovative style of work _____ me.
v. to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone

6. The torturers inflicted great _____ upon the prisoners.
n. unbearable physical pain or extreme mental distress; (verb) to cause severe physical or mental suffering to someone, or to be the victim of such suffering

7. The patient's condition improved after beginning a _____ treatment regimen.
n. a type of RNA virus that uses the enzyme reverse transcriptase to convert its RNA into DNA, which then inserts itself into the host cell's genome, which can cause a variety of diseases in humans and animals, including HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus)

ANSWERS: 1. dialysis, 2. circumvent, 3. surrogate, 4. uterus, 5. intrigues, 6. torment, 7. retrovirus-targeted

8. Children often copy their parents or elder _____.

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

9. _____ factors like genetics and personality are key in determining our behavior.

adj. originating or arising from within an organism, system, or process rather than from external factors; pertaining to internal causes or influences

10. The news of her promotion _____ her.

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

11. The patient needs a _____ transplant operation.

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

12. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

13. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.

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

14. He was, by nature, a cyber _____.

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

15. The development team reported two _____ increases in performance.

adj. a hundred times as great or as much

16. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

ANSWERS: 8. siblings, 9. Endogenous, 10. excited, 11. lifesaving, 12. humming, 13. invade, 14. nerd, 15. hundredfold, 16. heartbreak

17. Tourists frequently _____ the island's delicate natural balance.
v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
18. Marine _____ populations are declining worldwide due to ocean pollution.
n. any animal of which the female gives birth to live young, not eggs, and feeds her young on milk from her own body
19. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
20. Unilateral import bans have _____ that country's terms of trade.
v. to become or make something worse
21. The chef prepared a delicious _____ meal with roasted pork and bacon-wrapped scallops.
adj. relating to or resembling pigs; having similar characteristics or habits as pigs
22. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.
v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
23. He decided to start _____ and leave his old life behind.
adv. in a new or different way
24. The _____ expectations of the customers led to a decrease in sales.
adj. describing a need, goal, or expectation that has not been satisfied or fulfilled
25. The endocrine function of the _____ involves the secretion of hormones such as insulin.
n. a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine

ANSWERS: 17. disturb, 18. mammal, 19. medicinal, 20. worsened, 21. porcine, 22. distract, 23. anew, 24. unmet, 25. pancreas

26. mRNA vaccines are approved faster because they do not contain inactivated _____.
- n.* a bacterium, virus, or other microorganism that causes disease
27. I need to _____ my hair to even out the ends.
- v.* (noun, usually "scissors") a cutting instrument consisting of a pair of metal blades; to cut or clip something with scissors; to move or position two things that cross each other like a pair of scissors
28. The company faced several _____ in the development of its new product.
- n.* a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
29. It was _____ of him to drive home after drinking so much alcohol.
- adj.* not showing a proper sense of responsibility; not reliable
30. The politician's remarks became the _____ of the clash between the two countries.
- n.* the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind
31. The farmer found a cute newborn _____ wandering in the field.
- n.* a young or small pig
32. He saw the balance between the yin and _____ as crucial for a harmonious life.
- n.* in Chinese philosophy, the masculine or active principle characterized as light and the sun and associated with hardness, dryness, and heat
33. The lump was discovered to be _____ and no further treatment was needed.
- adj.* kind and gentle; not harmful or malicious

ANSWERS: 26. pathogens, 27. scissor, 28. hurdles, 29. irresponsible, 30. genesis, 31. piglet, 32. yang, 33. benign,

ANSWERS: