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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Trevor Maber: Rethinking thinking | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

microscopic

adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy

synonym : infinitesimal, tiny, atomic

(1) **microscopic** inquiry, (2) **microscopic** analysis

Inspectors noticed **microscopic** cracks in the submarine's hull.

subconscious

adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

synonym : unconscious, latent, hidden

(1) **subconscious** influence, (2) **subconscious** behavior

The **subconscious** mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

steer

v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

synonym : guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

covet

v. to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for

synonym : desire, yearn, crave

(1) **covet** wealth, (2) **covet** fame

She couldn't help but **covet** her friend's designer handbag.

slam

v. to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily

synonym : bang, crash, shut

(1) **slam** the door, (2) **slam** the book against a wall

She **slammed** the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.

chirp

n. a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

synonym : tweet, chirrup, peep

(1) the **chirp** of a bird, (2) the **chirp** of a cricket

The sound of the **chirp** woke me up early in the morning.

meaningless

adj. having no meaning, direction, or purpose

synonym : pointless, absurd, senseless

(1) a **meaningless** endeavor, (2) do a **meaningless** task

This experiment's results are **meaningless** because the other conditions are not identical.

squeal

v. to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure

synonym : scream, shriek, yelp

(1) **squeal** with delight, (2) **squeal** in agony

The children were playing and **squealing** with excitement in the park.

inconsiderate

adj. not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others

synonym : thoughtless, selfish, rude

(1) **inconsiderate** remarks, (2) **inconsiderate** actions

It was incredibly **inconsiderate** of him to cancel plans at the last minute without giving any notice.

vindictive

adj. showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment

synonym : vengeful, retaliatory, spiteful

(1) **vindictive** disposition, (2) **vindictive** comments

Her **vindictive** attitude towards her ex is causing unnecessary drama.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

synonym : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

honk

n. a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention

synonym : beep, toot, blare

(1) **honk** sound, (2) **honk** for attention

The incessant **honk** of the car's horn woke me from sleep.

profuse

adj. abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something

synonym : abundant, plentiful, excessive

(1) **profuse** growth, (2) **profuse** apologies

The flu caused a **profuse** amount of sweating and fever.

Session 2: Spelling

1. inc_____ate remarks
adj. not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others
2. mic_____ic analysis
adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
3. sub_____ous behavior
adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
4. p__e a smoother road
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
5. inc_____ate actions
adj. not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others
6. sq___l in agony
v. to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure
7. st__r a conversation
v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
8. p__e a new path
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

ANSWERS: 1. inconsiderate, 2. microscopic, 3. subconscious, 4. pave, 5. inconsiderate, 6. squeal, 7. steer, 8. pave

9. h__k sound *n.* a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention
10. do a mea_____ss task *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
11. vin_____ve comments *adj.* showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment
12. sq___l with delight *v.* to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure
13. pr_____e apologies *adj.* abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
14. a mea_____ss endeavor *adj.* having no meaning, direction, or purpose
15. co__t wealth *v.* to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
16. b__r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
17. s__m the door *v.* to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
18. the ch__p of a bird *n.* a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

ANSWERS: 9. honk, 10. meaningless, 11. vindictive, 12. squeal, 13. profuse, 14. meaningless, 15. covet, 16. blur, 17. slam, 18. chirp

19. the ch__p of a cricket
n. a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers
20. pr____e growth
adj. abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
21. st__r a steady course
v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
22. mic____ic inquiry
adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
23. co__t fame
v. to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
24. s__m the book against a wall
v. to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
25. vin____ve disposition
adj. showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment
26. motion b__r
n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
27. sub____ous influence
adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

ANSWERS: 19. chirp, 20. profuse, 21. steer, 22. microscopic, 23. covet, 24. slam, 25. vindictive, 26. blur, 27. subconscious

28. h__k for attention

n. a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention

ANSWERS: 28. honk

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.
adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
2. She _____ the door shut, angry at the person on the other side.
v. to shut a door or window noisily; to strike something violently or noisily
3. This experiment's results are _____ because the other conditions are not identical.
adj. having no meaning, direction, or purpose
4. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
5. The flu caused a _____ amount of sweating and fever.
adj. abundant or plentiful in quantity or degree; excessive or extravagant; exhibiting a great amount of something
6. The incessant _____ of the car's horn woke me from sleep.
n. a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention
7. The children were playing and _____ with excitement in the park.
v. to make a high-pitched, shrill sound, usually as a result of pain, excitement, or surprise; to reveal something secret or incriminating to an authority figure

ANSWERS: 1. subconscious, 2. slammed, 3. meaningless, 4. blur, 5. profuse, 6. honk, 7. squealing

8. Inspectors noticed _____ cracks in the submarine's hull.
adj. tiny; exceedingly precise and detail-oriented; of or used in microscopy
9. She couldn't help but _____ her friend's designer handbag.
v. to strongly desire or crave something, particularly something that belongs to someone else; to have an excessive or envious desire for
10. Her _____ attitude towards her ex is causing unnecessary drama.
adj. showing or motivated by a desire to seek revenge or cause harm to someone, often in response to perceived wrongdoing or mistreatment
11. It was incredibly _____ of him to cancel plans at the last minute without giving any notice.
adj. not showing concern or care for the feelings, needs, or well-being of others; thoughtless; lacking consideration for others
12. The captain told him to _____ the ship north.
v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
13. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
14. The sound of the _____ woke me up early in the morning.
n. a short, sharp sound that is made by birds or insects or by electronic devices such as alarms or beepers

ANSWERS: 8. microscopic, 9. covet, 10. vindictive, 11. inconsiderate, 12. steer, 13. paved, 14. chirp