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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

David Rockwell: The hidden ways stairs shape your life | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

tread

v. to step or walk on something

synonym : step, walk, pace

(1) **tread** water, (2) **tread** a similar path

He **treads** carefully on the slippery ice.

staircase

n. a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side

synonym : stairway, stairwell

(1) spiral **staircase**, (2) beetle up the **staircase**

She walked urgently down the emergency **staircase**.

stairway

n. a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety

synonym : staircase, steps

(1) **stairway** railing, (2) narrow **stairway**

The grand entrance hall had a magnificent marble **stairway** that curved gracefully upwards.

dictate

v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

synonym : read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

monumental

adj. great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity;
massive

synonym : massive, awesome, enormous

(1) **monumental** task, (2) **monumental** sculpture

Everyone, even non-scholars, knows Einstein's **monumental** contributions to physics.

heroic

adj. courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring

synonym : brave, courageous, daring

(1) a **heroic** poem, (2) **heroic** explorers

The **heroic** actions of individuals are now easily spread worldwide by SNS.

dub

v. to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language

synonym : name, designate, nickname

(1) **dub** the film in English, (2) **dub** data

We **dubbed** him Ironman because of his toughness.

stoop

v. to bend forward and downward from the waist, often to pick something up or gain a better view; to lower oneself morally or socially

synonym : bend, crouch, bow

(1) **stoop** forward in the chair, (2) **stoop** to conquer

I had to **stoop** down to pick up the coin that had rolled under the couch.

inhabit

v. to live in a specific location; to reside

synonym : settle, occupy, populate

(1) **inhabit** a cave, (2) **inhabit** the stomach

I have no idea what sort of folks **inhabit** the neighborhood.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|---|
| 1. di____e a letter to secretary | v. | to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded |
| 2. di____e to the associate | v. | to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded |
| 3. st__p to conquer | v. | to bend forward and downward from the waist, often to pick something up or gain a better view; to lower oneself morally or socially |
| 4. spiral st_____se | n. | a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side |
| 5. st__p forward in the chair | v. | to bend forward and downward from the waist, often to pick something up or gain a better view; to lower oneself morally or socially |
| 6. narrow st_____ay | n. | a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety |
| 7. mon_____al task | adj. | great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive |
| 8. beetle up the st_____se | n. | a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side |
| 9. d_b data | v. | to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language |

ANSWERS: 1. dictate, 2. dictate, 3. stoop, 4. staircase, 5. stoop, 6. stairway, 7. monumental, 8. staircase, 9. dub

10. tr__d water *v.* to step or walk on something
11. he___c explorers *adj.* courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring
12. in____t the stomach *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
13. mon_____al sculpture *adj.* great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive
14. tr__d a similar path *v.* to step or walk on something
15. in____t a cave *v.* to live in a specific location; to reside
16. d_b the film in English *v.* to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language
17. st_____ay railing *n.* a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety
18. a he___c poem *adj.* courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring

ANSWERS: 10. tread, 11. heroic, 12. inhabit, 13. monumental, 14. tread, 15. inhabit, 16. dub, 17. stairway, 18. heroic

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She walked urgently down the emergency _____.
n. a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side

2. I had to _____ down to pick up the coin that had rolled under the couch.
v. to bend forward and downward from the waist, often to pick something up or gain a better view; to lower oneself morally or socially

3. He _____ carefully on the slippery ice.
v. to step or walk on something

4. Everyone, even non-scholars, knows Einstein's _____ contributions to physics.
adj. great in importance or influence, size, extent, or solidity; massive

5. We _____ him Ironman because of his toughness.
v. to give someone or something an unofficial name or nickname; to provide movies with a voice of a foreign language

6. The allies _____ the terms of surrender to the country.
v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

7. I have no idea what sort of folks _____ the neighborhood.
v. to live in a specific location; to reside

8. The grand entrance hall had a magnificent marble _____ that curved gracefully upwards.
n. a set of stairs that connects two floors or levels of a building, often with a handrail or banister for safety

ANSWERS: 1. staircase, 2. stoop, 3. treads, 4. monumental, 5. dubbed, 6. dictated, 7. inhabit, 8. stairway

9. The _____ actions of individuals are now easily spread worldwide by SNS.

adj. courageous and daring; having or displaying qualities appropriate for legendary figures that is courage and daring

ANSWERS: 9. heroic