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Diane Wolk-Rogers: A Parkland teacher's homework for us all | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

gunfire

n. the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time

synonym: gunshots, firing, shooting

(1) lethal **gunfire**, (2) burst of **gunfire**

The journalist heard the sound of **gunfire** while reporting in a war zone.

insensitive

adj. not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others

synonym: unfeeling, unaware, indifferent

(1) an **insensitive** heart, (2) **insensitive** behavior

His **insensitive** comments made her feel hurt and unimportant.

senseless

adj. lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational

synonym: meaningless, pointless, absurd

(1) **senseless** terror attack, (2) **senseless** slaughter

The **senseless** act of violence left the community in shock and mourning.

militia

n. a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs

synonym : reserves

(1) **militia** groups, (2) armed **militia**

Militia suddenly occupied the presidential palace.

infringe

v. to violate or break a rule, law, or agreement, often by trespassing or infringing on someone else's rights or property

synonym : violate, trespass, breach

(1) **infringe** a copyright, (2) **infringe** on our property

The company promised not to **infringe** on any of its competitor's patents.

shoddy

adj. of poor quality or artistry; badly made or constructed; inferior or substandard

synonym : inferior, poor quality, substandard

(1) **shoddy** construction, (2) **shoddy** products

The **shoddy** craftsmanship of the new building caused it to start falling apart in just a few months.

marksman

n. a skilled and accurate shooter, especially one who excels in shooting targets or hunting

synonym : sharpshooter, sniper, shooter

(1) **marksman** sniper, (2) skilled **marksman**

The sniper proved an exceptional **marksman**, taking down his targets from a distance.

pivotal

adj. relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something

synonym : crucial, essential, important

(1) **pivotal** moment, (2) **pivotal** role

The CEO's decision was **pivotal** in the success of the company's expansion plans.

firearm

n. a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell

synonym : gun, weapon

(1) stolen **firearm**, (2) legal **firearms**

I am a responsible **firearm** owner who follows all safety protocols.

bipartisan

adj. involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country

synonym: neutral, impartial, nonpartisan

(1) promote **bipartisan** cooperation, (2) **bipartisan** agreement

The legislation was passed with **bipartisan** support from both parties.

entrust

v. to delegate or assign responsibility or authority to someone else; to put trust or confidence in someone's abilities or judgment

synonym: trust, delegate, hand over

(1) **entrust** with responsibility, (2) **entrust** money to him
I **entrusted** my keys to my neighbor while I was on vacation.

lawmaker

n. a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws

synonym: lawgiver, legislator, solon

(1) female **lawmaker**, (2) incumbent **lawmaker**

This company has increased political contributions to federal **lawmakers**.

commonsense

adj. exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share

synonym: balanced, pragmatic, judicious

(1) **commonsense** scholarship, (2) **commonsense** reforms
Innovative companies often question **commonsense** practices and break them.

upkeep

n. the process of maintaining something in good condition or ensuring its proper functioning, especially a building,

vehicle, or equipment

synonym : maintenance, care, preservation

(1) **upkeep** of a house, (2) equipment **upkeep**

Regular **upkeep** of your car can prolong its lifespan and prevent costly repairs.

well-being

n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous

synonym : health, welfare, happiness

(1) the **well-being** of a nation, (2) a sense of **well-being**

We are responsible for the care and **well-being** of all our employees.

maniac

adj. behaving in an extremely wild or violent way; (noun) a person who is extremely enthusiastic about or devoted to a particular thing

synonym : lunatic, maniacal, mad

(1) **maniac** about things, (2) a homicidal **maniac**

He was a **maniac** for collecting stamps.

psychopath

n. a person with an extreme personality disorder characterized by a lack of empathy, remorse, and ethical values; often associated with manipulative and deceitful behavior, impulsivity, and risk-taking tendencies

synonym : sociopath, antisocial, monster

(1) **psychopath** tendencies, (2) violent **psychopath**

The detective identified the **psychopath** who had been terrorizing the city for months.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

embarrass

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

synonym :

disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project
He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
synonym: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

spectator

n. someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it

synonym: onlooker, observer, viewer

(1) mass **spectator** sport, (2) **spectator** seat

She enjoyed watching the game as a **spectator**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. in_____ge a copyright
v. to violate or break a rule, law, or agreement, often by trespassing or infringing on someone else's rights or property
2. en_____t with responsibility
v. to delegate or assign responsibility or authority to someone else; to put trust or confidence in someone's abilities or judgment
3. the wel_____ng of a nation
n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
4. stolen fi_____m
n. a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell
5. a homicidal ma____c
adj. behaving in an extremely wild or violent way; (noun) a person who is extremely enthusiastic about or devoted to a particular thing
6. bip_____an agreement
adj. involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country
7. armed mi_____a
n. a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs
8. com_____se scholarship
adj. exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share

ANSWERS: 1. infringe, 2. entrust, 3. well-being, 4. firearm, 5. maniac, 6. bipartisan, 7. militia, 8. commonsense

9. sh___y construction *adj.* of poor quality or artistry; badly made or constructed; inferior or substandard
10. female la_____er *n.* a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws
11. skilled ma_____an *n.* a skilled and accurate shooter, especially one who excels in shooting targets or hunting
12. violent psy_____th *n.* a person with an extreme personality disorder characterized by a lack of empathy, remorse, and ethical values; often associated with manipulative and deceitful behavior, impulsivity, and risk-taking tendencies
13. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
14. an ins_____ve heart *adj.* not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others
15. com_____se reforms *adj.* exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share
16. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
17. pi_____l role *adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something

ANSWERS: 9. shoddy, 10. lawmaker, 11. marksman, 12. psychopath, 13. sham, 14. insensitive, 15. commonsense, 16. empower, 17. pivotal

18. pi____l moment *adj.* relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something
19. legal fi_____ms *n.* a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell
20. em_____ss my project *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
21. lethal gu_____e *n.* the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time
22. a sense of wel_____ng *n.* the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
23. mi_____a groups *n.* a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs
24. incumbent la_____er *n.* a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws
25. ma___c about things *adj.* behaving in an extremely wild or violent way; (noun) a person who is extremely enthusiastic about or devoted to a particular thing
26. em_____ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
27. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

ANSWERS: 18. pivotal, 19. firearm, 20. embarrass, 21. gunfire, 22. well-being, 23. militia, 24. lawmaker, 25. maniac, 26. embarrass, 27. sham

28. ins_____ve behavior *adj.* not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others
29. equipment up___p *n.* the process of maintaining something in good condition or ensuring its proper functioning, especially a building, vehicle, or equipment
30. promote bip_____an cooperation *adj.* involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country
31. sh___y products *adj.* of poor quality or artistry; badly made or constructed; inferior or substandard
32. mass sp_____or sport *n.* someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it
33. se_____ss terror attack *adj.* lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational
34. up___p of a house *n.* the process of maintaining something in good condition or ensuring its proper functioning, especially a building, vehicle, or equipment
35. psy_____th tendencies *n.* a person with an extreme personality disorder characterized by a lack of empathy, remorse, and ethical values; often associated with manipulative and deceitful behavior, impulsivity, and risk-taking tendencies
36. en_____t money to him *v.* to delegate or assign responsibility or authority to someone else; to put trust or confidence in someone's abilities or judgment

ANSWERS: 28. insensitive, 29. upkeep, 30. bipartisan, 31. shoddy, 32. spectator, 33. senseless, 34. upkeep, 35. psychopath, 36. entrust

37. se_____ss slaughter *adj.* lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational
38. ma_____an sniper *n.* a skilled and accurate shooter, especially one who excels in shooting targets or hunting
39. in_____ge on our property *v.* to violate or break a rule, law, or agreement, often by trespassing or infringing on someone else's rights or property
40. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
41. sp_____or seat *n.* someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it
42. burst of gu_____e *n.* the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time

ANSWERS: 37. senseless, 38. marksman, 39. infringe, 40. empower, 41. spectator, 42. gunfire

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Innovative companies often question _____ practices and break them.
adj. exhibiting sound, practical judgment concerning everyday matters; (noun) a basic ability to perceive, understand, and judge in a manner that nearly all people share
2. This company has increased political contributions to federal _____.
n. a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws
3. We are responsible for the care and _____ of all our employees.
n. the state of being happy and healthy and prosperous
4. He was a _____ for collecting stamps.
adj. behaving in an extremely wild or violent way; (noun) a person who is extremely enthusiastic about or devoted to a particular thing
5. The CEO's decision was _____ in the success of the company's expansion plans.
adj. relating to or acting as a pivot or central point; crucial or essential to the success or outcome of something
6. Regular _____ of your car can prolong its lifespan and prevent costly repairs.
n. the process of maintaining something in good condition or ensuring its proper functioning, especially a building, vehicle, or equipment
7. The detective identified the _____ who had been terrorizing the city for months.
n. a person with an extreme personality disorder characterized by a lack of empathy, remorse, and ethical values; often associated with manipulative and deceitful behavior, impulsivity, and risk-taking tendencies

ANSWERS: 1. commonsense, 2. lawmakers, 3. well-being, 4. maniac, 5. pivotal, 6. upkeep, 7. psychopath

8. The legislation was passed with _____ support from both parties.
adj. involving or supported by both of the main political parties in a country
9. I am a responsible _____ owner who follows all safety protocols.
n. a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell
10. The _____ act of violence left the community in shock and mourning.
adj. lacking meaning, purpose, or reason; without sense or sensibility; foolish or irrational
11. The company promised not to _____ on any of its competitor's patents.
v. to violate or break a rule, law, or agreement, often by trespassing or infringing on someone else's rights or property
12. I _____ my keys to my neighbor while I was on vacation.
v. to delegate or assign responsibility or authority to someone else; to put trust or confidence in someone's abilities or judgment
13. The _____ craftsmanship of the new building caused it to start falling apart in just a few months.
adj. of poor quality or artistry; badly made or constructed; inferior or substandard
14. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
15. His _____ comments made her feel hurt and unimportant.
adj. not showing or feeling concern for the needs and feelings of others

ANSWERS: 8. bipartisan, 9. firearm, 10. senseless, 11. infringe, 12. entrusted, 13. shoddy, 14. empowered, 15. insensitive

16. The sniper proved an exceptional _____ taking down his targets from a distance.
- n.* a skilled and accurate shooter, especially one who excels in shooting targets or hunting
17. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.
- v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
18. She enjoyed watching the game as a _____.
- n.* someone present at an event, such as a sports game, play, or concert, to watch or observe it
19. _____ suddenly occupied the presidential palace.
- n.* a military force comprised of trained soldiers who are usually a citizen or have other jobs
20. The data he prepared was completely _____.
- n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
21. The journalist heard the sound of _____ while reporting in a war zone.
- n.* the sound or act of shooting a firearm; the noise created by multiple guns firing at the same time

ANSWERS: 16. marksman, 17. embarrass, 18. spectator, 19. Militia, 20. sham, 21. gunfire