

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alvin Irby: How to inspire every child to be a lifelong reader | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

boredom

n. a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation

synonym: ennui, tedium, monotony

(1) **boredom** relief, (2) chronic **boredom**

The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off **boredom**.

drastic

adj. radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact

synonym: extreme, fierce, radical

(1) **drastic** measures, (2) make **drastic** revision

The global community is undergoing **drastic** changes at present.

rigor

n. strictness or severity in opinion, temper, or judgment
synonym: strictness, exactness, accuracy

(1) the **rigor** of the law, (2) academic **rigor**

When the dead body was found, **rigor** mortis had already begun.

spur

n. a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something

synonym: encouragement, motivation, stimulus

(1) **spur** of the moment, (2) **spur** a momentum of economic growth

The threat of losing his job was the **spur** he needed to work harder.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym: formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

rebellion

n. an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler

synonym: insurrection, uprising, revolt

(1) **rebellion** leader, (2) excite **rebellion**

The antigovernment **rebellion** was put down quickly by the government's military forces.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

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.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

synonym: bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

memorize

v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly

synonym: learn, remember, remind

(1) **memorize** musical scores, (2) try hard to **memorize** the lines

Lawyers need to **memorize** even the most minor provisions of the law.

illiterate

adj. unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing

synonym: unlettered, uneducated, unschooled

(1) **illiterate** population, (2) computer- **illiterate**

Despite attending school, he remained **illiterate** and unable to read or write.

proficient

adj. having a high level of skill or knowledge in a particular area

synonym: expert, skilled, adept

(1) **proficient** speaker, (2) **proficient** skill

She is **proficient** in Spanish and can communicate fluently.

moonlighting

n. the practice of working at a second job, often outside of regular business hours, in addition to one's primary job

synonym: second job, dual employment, working on the side

(1) **moonlighting** job, (2) **moonlighting** scandal

Her **moonlighting** gig as a bartender helps her save up for her dream vacation.

curate

n. a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

synonym: minister, caretaker, (verb) arrange

(1) perpetual **curate**, (2) **curate** an art website

The art museum has hired a **curate** to select and display pieces from its collection.

barber

n. a person who cuts men's hair and shaves beards as a profession; a shop or establishment where such services are offered

synonym: hairdresser, stylist, shaver

(1) favorite **barber**, (2) **barber** pole

The **barber** shop was closed on Monday, much to the disappointment of many customers.

scholastic

adj. relating to education or learning, particularly in an academic setting; marked by rigorous or formal adherence to academic rules and conventions; like that of a scholar or student

synonym: educational, academic, scholarly

(1) **scholastic** education, (2) **scholastic** competition

She received a **scholastic** award for her outstanding academic achievements.

dismantle

v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

synonym: take apart, demolish, take down

(1) **dismantle** a machine, (2) **dismantle** a system

The old building had to be **dismantled** because it was structurally unsound.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. academic ri__r | <i>n.</i> strictness or severity in opinion, temper, or judgment |
| 2. st____e financially | <i>v.</i> to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily |
| 3. di____e a letter to secretary | <i>v.</i> to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded |
| 4. favorite ba____r | <i>n.</i> a person who cuts men's hair and shaves beards as a profession; a shop or establishment where such services are offered |
| 5. s__r a momentum of economic growth | <i>n.</i> a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something |
| 6. re_____on leader | <i>n.</i> an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler |
| 7. sch_____ic education | <i>adj.</i> relating to education or learning, particularly in an academic setting; marked by rigorous or formal adherence to academic rules and conventions; like that of a scholar or student |
| 8. ins_____ize customary laws | <i>v.</i> to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.) |
| 9. di_____le a system | <i>v.</i> to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment |

ANSWERS: 1. rigor, 2. stumble, 3. dictate, 4. barber, 5. spur, 6. rebellion, 7. scholastic, 8. institutionalize, 9. dismantle

10. computer-ill_____te *adj.* unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing
11. dr_____c measures *adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact
12. chronic bo_____m *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
13. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
14. st_____e through life *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
15. perpetual cu_____e *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
16. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
17. moo_____ing job *n.* the practice of working at a second job, often outside of regular business hours, in addition to one's primary job
18. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

ANSWERS: 10. illiterate, 11. drastic, 12. boredom, 13. institutionalize, 14. stumble, 15. curate, 16. intellect, 17. moonlighting, 18. intellect

19. pro_____nt skill *adj.* having a high level of skill or knowledge in a particular area
20. 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
21. excite re_____on *n.* an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
22. pro_____nt speaker *adj.* having a high level of skill or knowledge in a particular area
23. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
24. me_____ze musical scores *v.* to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
25. make dr_____c revision *adj.* radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact
26. sch_____ic competition *adj.* relating to education or learning, particularly in an academic setting; marked by rigorous or formal adherence to academic rules and conventions; like that of a scholar or student
27. cu_____e an art website *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
28. di_____le a machine *v.* to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment

ANSWERS: 19. proficient, 20. dictate, 21. rebellion, 22. proficient, 23. improvisation, 24. memorize, 25. drastic, 26. scholastic, 27. curate, 28. dismantle

29. moo_____ing scandal *n.* the practice of working at a second job, often outside of regular business hours, in addition to one's primary job
30. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
31. s__r of the moment *n.* a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something
32. ill_____te population *adj.* unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing
33. ba____r pole *n.* a person who cuts men's hair and shaves beards as a profession; a shop or establishment where such services are offered
34. try hard to me_____ze the lines *v.* to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
35. bo_____m relief *n.* a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
36. the ri__r of the law *n.* strictness or severity in opinion, temper, or judgment

ANSWERS: 29. moonlighting, 30. improvisation, 31. spur, 32. illiterate, 33. barber, 34. memorize, 35. boredom, 36. rigor

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She is _____ in Spanish and can communicate fluently.
adj. having a high level of skill or knowledge in a particular area
2. The old building had to be _____ because it was structurally unsound.
v. to take apart or demolish (a structure, machine, system, or the like); to strip off fittings or equipment
3. The art museum has hired a _____ to select and display pieces from its collection.
n. a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
4. The _____ shop was closed on Monday, much to the disappointment of many customers.
n. a person who cuts men's hair and shaves beards as a profession; a shop or establishment where such services are offered
5. Lawyers need to _____ even the most minor provisions of the law.
v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
6. When the dead body was found, _____ mortis had already begun.
n. strictness or severity in opinion, temper, or judgment
7. Her _____ gig as a bartender helps her save up for her dream vacation.
n. the practice of working at a second job, often outside of regular business hours, in addition to one's primary job

ANSWERS: 1. proficient, 2. dismantled, 3. curate, 4. barber, 5. memorize, 6. rigor, 7. moonlighting

8. Despite attending school, he remained _____ and unable to read or write.
adj. unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing
9. The antigovernment _____ was put down quickly by the government's military forces.
n. an act of violent or open resistance to an established government or ruler
10. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
11. The threat of losing his job was the _____ he needed to work harder.
n. a thing that encourages someone to do something; any sharply pointed projection; (verb) to incite or stimulate someone or something
12. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
13. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
14. The long lecture on a topic I already knew left me struggling to fight off _____.
n. a state of weariness, restlessness, or impatience that arises from not being interested or engaged in an activity, task, or situation
15. She _____ over the tree root.
v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

ANSWERS: 8. illiterate, 9. rebellion, 10. intellect, 11. spur, 12. improvisation, 13. institutionalize, 14. boredom, 15. stumbled

16. She received a _____ award for her outstanding academic achievements.

adj. relating to education or learning, particularly in an academic setting; marked by rigorous or formal adherence to academic rules and conventions; like that of a scholar or student

17. The global community is undergoing _____ changes at present.

adj. radical and extreme; likely to have a significant or far-reaching impact

18. 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

ANSWERS: 16. scholastic, 17. drastic, 18. dictated