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Mei Lin Neo: The fascinating secret lives of giant clams | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

clam

n. a marine mollusk that burrows and lives on sand or mud, the shell closes with viselike firmness

(1) giant **clam**, (2) shuck a **clam**

The **clam** digs through the sand to a significant depth.

nonstop

adj. without intermediate stops between source and destination

synonym: continuous, ceaseless, endless

(1) a **nonstop** run, (2) **nonstop** talk

We tend to choose **nonstop** flights when we travel.

man-eater

n. an animal, typically a big cat or crocodile, that is known to attack and eat humans; a seductive woman who is seen as a danger to men

synonym: predator, carnivore, hunter

(1) **man-eater** shark, (2) notorious **man-eater**

The villagers lived in fear of the **man-eater** lurking in the jungle.

seabed

n. the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms

synonym: ocean floor, sea bottom

(1) **seabed** mining, (2) **seabed** habitat

The dense coral reefs on the **seabed** provide a home for various marine life.

unsuspecting

adj. unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious

synonym: unaware, unassuming, gullible

(1) **unsuspecting** boys and girls, (2) **unsuspecting** victim

The thief stole the wallet from the **unsuspecting** tourist.

diver

n. a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey

synonym: plunger, frogman, loon

(1) professional **diver**, (2) deep-sea **diver**

The search and rescue team sent a team of **divers** to search for the missing plane wreckage.

adductor

n. a muscle responsible for bringing a body part closer to the midline or the main axis of the body, often used to refer to certain muscles involved in the movement of limbs or fingers

synonym: adducting muscle, inner thigh muscle

(1) **adductor** exercises, (2) **adductor** tendinitis

During the game, the athlete strained his **adductor** muscle and had to be taken off the field.

hinge

n. a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close

synonym: joint, pivot

(1) a stiff **hinge**, (2) insecure **hinge**

His involvement is the **hinge** of our plan.

ornamental

adj. describing something that is intended to be decorative or add beauty; serving as a decoration or adornment

synonym: decorative, embellished, fancy

(1) **ornamental** ironwork, (2) **ornamental** design

The garden is filled with **ornamental** plants and flowers.

fossilized

adj. transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible

synonym : petrified, ossified, preserved

(1) obsolete **fossilized** ways, (2) a **fossilized** grove

The dinosaur bones were so old that they had been wholly **fossilized**, turning to stone over millions of years.

carve

v. to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply

synonym : sculpt, engrave, cut

(1) **carve** a statue, (2) **carve** my name on the plate

This statue is **carved** from a single tree trunk.

ivory

n. a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items

synonym : elephant tusk, bone, tooth

(1) tower of **ivory**, (2) **ivory** carving

The intricate carvings on the **ivory** tusk were a work of art.

handicraft

n. a skill or trade that involves making things by hand, often using traditional methods and materials, which include activities such as woodworking, sewing, pottery, and weaving

synonym : craft, handmade, artisanry

(1) **handicraft** workshop, (2) traditional **handicrafts**

She spent her free time making **handicrafts** like pottery and crocheting to sell at the local market.

charismatic

adj. having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others

synonym : mesmerizing, alluring, captivating

(1) **charismatic** chairman, (2) **charismatic** personality

He was a **charismatic** leader and could persuade others to follow his ideas.

fascination

n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

synonym: allure, attraction, charm

(1) rapt in **fascination**, (2) the **fascination** with classical music

I looked at the painting in **fascination**.

seafloor

n. the bottom of the ocean

synonym: ocean floor, benthic zone, abyssal plain

(1) **seafloor** exploration, (2) **seafloor** mapping

The oceanographer studied the **seafloor** topography to understand how it had changed over time.

predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

synonym: vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because of the **predator's** arrival.

conserve

v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

synonym: preserve, save, maintain

(1) means to **conserve** energy, (2) **conserve** coal resources

Children must be taught to **conserve** our natural environment.

multitasking

n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

synonym: juggling, multihandling, parallelism

(1) computer **multitasking**, (2) **multitasking** ability

She could finish all her work on time because of her **multitasking** skills.

nutshell

n. the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something

synonym: summary, essence, covering

(1) move into a **nutshell**, (2) **nutshell** version

Can you explain your argument in a **nutshell**?

deplete

v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

synonym: exhaust, consume, use up

(1) **deplete** customer confidence, (2) **deplete** glycogen stores

If we continue to **deplete** the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.

paramount

adj. more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position

synonym: central, major, crucial

(1) the lord **paramount**, (2) **paramount** to all the others

This country became a country of **paramount** geostrategic importance to us.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ad____or tendinitis
n. a muscle responsible for bringing a body part closer to the midline or the main axis of the body, often used to refer to certain muscles involved in the movement of limbs or fingers
2. cha_____ic personality
adj. having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others
3. uns_____ing victim
adj. unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious
4. professional di__r
n. a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey
5. shuck a c__m
n. a marine mollusk that burrows and lives on sand or mud, the shell closes with viselike firmness
6. a stiff hi__e
n. a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
7. means to co____ve energy
v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
8. orn_____al ironwork
adj. describing something that is intended to be decorative or add beauty; serving as a decoration or adornment
9. the fas_____on with classical music
n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

ANSWERS: 1. adductor, 2. charismatic, 3. unsuspecting, 4. diver, 5. clam, 6. hinge, 7. conserve, 8. ornamental, 9. fascination

10. iv__y carving *n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items
11. uns_____ing boys and girls *adj.* unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious
12. ad_____or exercises *n.* a muscle responsible for bringing a body part closer to the midline or the main axis of the body, often used to refer to certain muscles involved in the movement of limbs or fingers
13. tower of iv__y *n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items
14. insecure hi__e *n.* a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close
15. nu_____ll version *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
16. ca__e a statue *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
17. han_____ft workshop *n.* a skill or trade that involves making things by hand, often using traditional methods and materials, which include activities such as woodworking, sewing, pottery, and weaving

ANSWERS: 10. ivory, 11. unsuspecting, 12. adductor, 13. ivory, 14. hinge, 15. nutshell, 16. carve, 17. handicraft

18. de____e glycogen stores *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
19. move into a nu_____ll *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
20. a fos_____ed grove *adj.* transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible
21. se_____or exploration *n.* the bottom of the ocean
22. ma_____er shark *n.* an animal, typically a big cat or crocodile, that is known to attack and eat humans; a seductive woman who is seen as a danger to men
23. computer mul_____ing *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
24. co_____ve coal resources *v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
25. mul_____ing ability *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
26. rapt in fas_____on *n.* the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction

ANSWERS: 18. deplete, 19. nutshell, 20. fossilized, 21. seafloor, 22. man-eater, 23. multitasking, 24. conserve, 25. multitasking, 26. fascination

27. giant c__m *n.* a marine mollusk that burrows and lives on sand or mud, the shell closes with viselike firmness
28. notorious ma_____er *n.* an animal, typically a big cat or crocodile, that is known to attack and eat humans; a seductive woman who is seen as a danger to men
29. a no_____p run *adj.* without intermediate stops between source and destination
30. se____d mining *n.* the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms
31. traditional han_____fts *n.* a skill or trade that involves making things by hand, often using traditional methods and materials, which include activities such as woodworking, sewing, pottery, and weaving
32. ca__e my name on the plate *v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
33. pa_____nt to all the others *adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position
34. orn_____al design *adj.* describing something that is intended to be decorative or add beauty; serving as a decoration or adornment
35. apex pr____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
36. sexual pr____ors *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

ANSWERS: 27. clam, 28. man-eater, 29. nonstop, 30. seabed, 31. handicraft, 32. carve, 33. paramount, 34. ornamental, 35. predator, 36. predator

37. no____p talk *adj.* without intermediate stops between source and destination
38. se____d habitat *n.* the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms
39. cha____ic chairman *adj.* having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others
40. deep-sea di__r *n.* a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey
41. de____e customer confidence *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
42. se____or mapping *n.* the bottom of the ocean
43. obsolete fos____ed ways *adj.* transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible
44. the lord pa____nt *adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position

ANSWERS: 37. nonstop, 38. seabed, 39. charismatic, 40. diver, 41. deplete, 42. seafloor, 43. fossilized, 44. paramount

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. This country became a country of _____ geostrategic importance to us.
adj. more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position
2. The dinosaur bones were so old that they had been wholly _____ turning to stone over millions of years.
adj. transformed into a fossil (= something preserved in rock for a very long period) or preserved in the form of a fossil; antiquated or inflexible
3. Children must be taught to _____ our natural environment.
v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
4. We tend to choose _____ flights when we travel.
adj. without intermediate stops between source and destination
5. I looked at the painting in _____.
n. the state of being intensely interested in someone or something, or a powerful attraction
6. She could finish all her work on time because of her _____ skills.
n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
7. His involvement is the _____ of our plan.
n. a joint that holds the edge of a door, window, lid, etc. and allows it to open or close

ANSWERS: 1. paramount, 2. fossilized, 3. conserve, 4. nonstop, 5. fascination, 6. multitasking, 7. hinge

8. During the game, the athlete strained his _____ muscle and had to be taken off the field.
- n.* a muscle responsible for bringing a body part closer to the midline or the main axis of the body, often used to refer to certain muscles involved in the movement of limbs or fingers
9. The oceanographer studied the _____ topography to understand how it had changed over time.
- n.* the bottom of the ocean
10. The dense coral reefs on the _____ provide a home for various marine life.
- n.* the bottom of a sea or ocean; the surface of the sea's bed, which can be rocky, sandy, muddy, or covered with coral or other organisms
11. The search and rescue team sent a team of _____ to search for the missing plane wreckage.
- n.* a person who dives, especially one who does so professionally or as a sport; a bird that dives into the water to catch fish or other prey
12. The thief stole the wallet from the _____ tourist.
- adj.* unaware of the presence of danger; not suspicious
13. She spent her free time making _____ like pottery and crocheting to sell at the local market.
- n.* a skill or trade that involves making things by hand, often using traditional methods and materials, which include activities such as woodworking, sewing, pottery, and weaving
14. The garden is filled with _____ plants and flowers.
- adj.* describing something that is intended to be decorative or add beauty; serving as a decoration or adornment

ANSWERS: 8. adductor, 9. seafloor, 10. seabed, 11. divers, 12. unsuspecting, 13. handicrafts, 14. ornamental

15. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
- n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
16. The villagers lived in fear of the _____ lurking in the jungle.
- n.* an animal, typically a big cat or crocodile, that is known to attack and eat humans; a seductive woman who is seen as a danger to men
17. The _____ digs through the sand to a significant depth.
- n.* a marine mollusk that burrows and lives on sand or mud, the shell closes with viselike firmness
18. Can you explain your argument in a _____
- n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
19. This statue is _____ from a single tree trunk.
- v.* to create something by cutting wood or stone; to turn sharply
20. If we continue to _____ the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.
- v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
21. The intricate carvings on the _____ tusk were a work of art.
- n.* a hard, creamy-white substance that comes from the tusks of elephants, walruses, and some other animals and is used to make ornaments and other decorative items

ANSWERS: 15. predator's, 16. man-eater, 17. clam, 18. nutshell?, 19. carved, 20. deplete, 21. ivory

22. He was a _____ leader and could persuade others to follow his ideas.
adj. having a strong and magnetic personality that attracts and influences others

ANSWERS: 22. charismatic