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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jennifer Lu: Can you solve the counterfeit coin riddle?

| TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

emperor

n. the male ruler of an empire

synonym: ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor**

The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

dungeon

n. a room or cell in which prisoners are held, especially underground

synonym: prison, cell, lockup

(1) medieval **dungeon**, (2) a murky **dungeon**

The prisoner has been languishing for years in the castle **dungeon**.

convict

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime;
(noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

synonym: condemn, sentence, judge

(1) **convict** him of manslaughter, (2) **convict** in a jail

He was **convicted** on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

counterfeit

adj. made in imitation of something else to deceive or defraud; not genuine or authentic

synonym: fake, false, imitation

(1) **counterfeit** document, (2) **counterfeit** money

The company hired a team of experts to identify **counterfeit** products in their supply chain.

treasury

n. the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual

synonym : coffer, exchequer, bank

(1) **treasury** bonds, (2) **treasury** money

The protracted war nearly depleted the country's **treasury**.

impostor

n. someone who pretends to be someone or something else to deceive others; a fraud

synonym : fraud, phony, charlatan

(1) **impostor** syndrome, (2) detect an **impostor**

The online marketplace warned customers to beware of **impostor** sellers trying to scam them.

ambiguity

n. the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning

synonym : uncertainty, vagueness, obscurity

(1) free from **ambiguity**, (2) avoid **ambiguity** in writing

The **ambiguity** in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.

nod

v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym : respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

approvingly

adv. in a manner indicating agreement or satisfaction; with an affirmative or positive attitude or response

synonym : favorably

(1) respond **approvingly**, (2) smile **approvingly**

He nodded **approvingly** at his friend's impressive performance on stage.

Session 2: Spelling

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. em_____r of Rome | <i>n.</i> the male ruler of an empire |
| 2. im_____or syndrome | <i>n.</i> someone who pretends to be someone or something else to deceive others; a fraud |
| 3. n_d courteously | <i>v.</i> to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation |
| 4. avoid am_____ty in writing | <i>n.</i> the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning |
| 5. tr_____ry money | <i>n.</i> the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual |
| 6. medieval du_____n | <i>n.</i> a room or cell in which prisoners are held, especially underground |
| 7. co_____t in a jail | <i>v.</i> to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison |
| 8. n_d at each other | <i>v.</i> to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation |
| 9. free from am_____ty | <i>n.</i> the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning |

ANSWERS: 1. emperor, 2. impostor, 3. nod, 4. ambiguity, 5. treasury, 6. dungeon, 7. convict, 8. nod, 9. ambiguity

10. co_____t him of manslaughter *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
11. smile app_____ly *adv.* in a manner indicating agreement or satisfaction; with an affirmative or positive attitude or response
12. cou_____it money *adj.* made in imitation of something else to deceive or defraud; not genuine or authentic
13. tr_____ry bonds *n.* the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual
14. detect an im_____or *n.* someone who pretends to be someone or something else to deceive others; a fraud
15. former em_____r *n.* the male ruler of an empire
16. cou_____it document *adj.* made in imitation of something else to deceive or defraud; not genuine or authentic
17. respond app_____ly *adv.* in a manner indicating agreement or satisfaction; with an affirmative or positive attitude or response
18. a murky du_____n *n.* a room or cell in which prisoners are held, especially underground

ANSWERS: 10. convict, 11. approvingly, 12. counterfeit, 13. treasury, 14. impostor, 15. emperor, 16. counterfeit, 17. approvingly, 18. dungeon

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The protracted war nearly depleted the country's _____.
n. the government department in charge of managing public funds; the funds of a government or institution or individual

2. The company hired a team of experts to identify _____ products in their supply chain.
adj. made in imitation of something else to deceive or defraud; not genuine or authentic

3. The _____ in the instructions made it difficult for her to complete the task.
n. the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; the uncertainty of meaning

4. He was _____ on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.
v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

5. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

6. He nodded _____ at his friend's impressive performance on stage.
adv. in a manner indicating agreement or satisfaction; with an affirmative or positive attitude or response

7. The online marketplace warned customers to beware of _____ sellers trying to scam them.
n. someone who pretends to be someone or something else to deceive others; a fraud

ANSWERS: 1. treasury, 2. counterfeit, 3. ambiguity, 4. convicted, 5. nodded, 6. approvingly, 7. impostor

8. The prisoner has been languishing for years in the castle _____.

n. a room or cell in which prisoners are held, especially underground

9. The _____ once lived in the vast palace.

n. the male ruler of an empire

ANSWERS: 8. dungeon, 9. Emperor