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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mehdi Ordikhani-Seyedlar: What happens in your brain when you pay attention? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

overt

adj. open, evident, or clear, especially in a way that is not intended to be secret

synonym : open, unhidden, obvious

(1) **overt** hostility, (2) **overt** symptoms

His **overt** lack of enthusiasm was noticeable to everyone in the room.

covert

adj. kept secret or concealed; not openly practiced or engaged in

synonym : secretive, hidden, disguised

(1) **covert** negotiations, (2) **covert** mission

The government was conducting a **covert** operation to gather information on the enemy.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

brainwave

n. a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity

synonym : inspiration, brainstorm, revelation

(1) **brainwave** idea, (2) sudden **brainwave**

The engineer had a **brainwave** and redesigned the product to be more efficient.

flickering

adj. shining or flashing in an unsteady or irregular way; fluctuating or wavering, often with regards to light or flame

synonym : shining, flashing, twinkling

(1) **flickering** flames, (2) **flickering** hope

The **flickering** candlelight added a cozy ambiance to the room.

flicker

v. to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light

synonym : flash, spark, glimmer

(1) **flicker** every two seconds, (2) **flicker** out like a candle

The fireflies **flickered** in the darkness.

resonate

v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound

synonym : echo, reverberate, resound

(1) deeply **resonate** with the consumers, (2) **resonate** in the same frequency

The sound **resonates** well in this theater.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym : divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--|---|
| 1. co___t mission | <i>adj.</i> kept secret or concealed; not openly practiced or engaged in |
| 2. co___t negotiations | <i>adj.</i> kept secret or concealed; not openly practiced or engaged in |
| 3. re____te in the same frequency | <i>v.</i> to be filled with a deep echoing sound |
| 4. ill_____te population | <i>adj.</i> unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing |
| 5. the branch of neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 6. ov__t symptoms | <i>adj.</i> open, evident, or clear, especially in a way that is not intended to be secret |
| 7. br_____ve idea | <i>n.</i> a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity |
| 8. sudden br_____ve | <i>n.</i> a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity |
| 9. deeply re____te with the consumers | <i>v.</i> to be filled with a deep echoing sound |
| 10. di____ct attention from the real issue | <i>v.</i> to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do |
| 11. computer-ill_____te | <i>adj.</i> unable to read or write; lacking basic education and knowledge in reading and writing |
| 12. fl____r every two seconds | <i>v.</i> to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light |

ANSWERS: 1. covert, 2. covert, 3. resonate, 4. illiterate, 5. neuroscience, 6. overt, 7. brainwave, 8. brainwave, 9. resonate, 10. distract, 11. illiterate, 12. flicker

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|--|--|
| 13. di_____ct public opinion | <i>v.</i> to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do |
| 14. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 15. ov__t hostility | <i>adj.</i> open, evident, or clear, especially in a way that is not intended to be secret |
| 16. fli_____ng flames | <i>adj.</i> shining or flashing in an unsteady or irregular way; fluctuating or wavering, often with regards to light or flame |
| 17. fli_____ng hope | <i>adj.</i> shining or flashing in an unsteady or irregular way; fluctuating or wavering, often with regards to light or flame |
| 18. fl_____r out like a candle | <i>v.</i> to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light |

ANSWERS: 13. distract, 14. neuroscience, 15. overt, 16. flickering, 17. flickering, 18. flicker

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.
v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do
2. His _____ lack of enthusiasm was noticeable to everyone in the room.
adj. open, evident, or clear, especially in a way that is not intended to be secret
3. The _____ candlelight added a cozy ambiance to the room.
adj. shining or flashing in an unsteady or irregular way; fluctuating or wavering, often with regards to light or flame
4. The fireflies _____ in the darkness.
v. to shine unsteadily or intermittently, as if with a faint light
5. The sound _____ well in this theater.
v. to be filled with a deep echoing sound
6. 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
7. The engineer had a _____ and redesigned the product to be more efficient.
n. a sudden idea or inspiration; a moment of great insight or creativity
8. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

ANSWERS: 1. distract, 2. overt, 3. flickering, 4. flickered, 5. resonates, 6. illiterate, 7. brainwave, 8. neuroscience

9. The government was conducting a _____ operation to gather information on the enemy.

adj. kept secret or concealed; not openly practiced or engaged in

ANSWERS: 9. covert