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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Tim Kruger: Can we stop climate change by removing CO2 from the air? | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/tim_kruger_can_we_stop_climate_change_by_removing_co2_from_the_air

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

contentious

adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

synonym : antagonistic, combative, confrontational

(1) **contentious** subject, (2) **contentious** debate

There are many **contentious** issues in claiming a patent.

munch

v. to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching

synonym : chew, nibble, gnaw

(1) **munch** on an apple, (2) **munch** away on crisps

I love to **munch** on popcorn while I watch a movie.

scrub

v. to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent

synonym : clean, wash, sanitize

(1) **scrub** off graffiti, (2) **scrub** dirt from potatoes

She decided to **scrub** the kitchen floor to remove all the dirt and grime.

trade-off

n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

synonym : compromise, balance, exchange

(1) **trade-off** problem, (2) environmental **trade-off**

There was a **trade-off** between speed and accuracy in the task.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

limestone

n. a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite

synonym: calcareous rock, chalk

(1) sheer **limestone** cliffs, (2) **limestone** pavement

The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of **limestone**.

kiln

n. an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas

synonym: oven, furnace, hearth

(1) brick **kiln**, (2) electric **kiln**

The pottery was fired in the **kiln** for several hours to harden it.

emit

v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.

synonym: give off, radiate, expel

(1) **emit** a gamma ray, (2) **emit** air pollution

During the unloading, the container box **emits** a clicking sound.

seawater

n. water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

synonym : saltwater, brine, ocean water

(1) **seawater** pollution, (2) **seawater** bacteria

The desalination plant turned **seawater** into drinking water through a complex process.

counteract

v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it

synonym : balance, offset, compensate

(1) **counteract** the effect of poison, (2) **counteract** global warming

Our body's immune system produces antibodies to **counteract** disease.

acidification

n. the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid

(1) **acidification** of soil, (2) stream **acidification**

Ocean **acidification** leads to a decrease in tiny sea snails.

thorny

adj. full of or covered with thorns; prickly; (of a problem) difficult to deal with

synonym : prickly, spiky, bristly

(1) the **thorny** path of life, (2) **thorny** problem

The rose bush had **thorny** branches.

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.

speculate

v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

synonym : assume, conjecture, infer

(1) **speculate** about the reason, (2) **speculate** on the outcome

He **speculated** that this investment would lead to success.

arrogance

n. excessive self-confidence or self-importance

synonym: hubris, haughtiness, conceit

(1) brazen **arrogance**, (2) **arrogance** of power

He acted with **arrogance** and was not well-liked by his colleagues.

cathedral

n. the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area

synonym: church, basilica, temple

(1) **cathedral** school, (2) **cathedral** choir

The **cathedral's** stained glass windows depicted scenes from the Bible.

outset

n. the beginning of something

synonym: beginning, start, initiation

(1) month's **outset**, (2) the **outset** of the crisis

At the **outset** of the project, we encountered several obstacles.

spire

n. a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal

synonym: spike, turret, pinnacle

(1) **spire** cathedral, (2) gilded **spire**

The church's **spire** towered over the small village, visible from miles away.

descendant

n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal

synonym: child, offspring, heir

(1) **descendant** of a pioneer, (2) third-generation

descendant

Those warriors' **descendants** are still skilled archers.

beforehand

adv. ahead of time; in advance

synonym: in advance, preceding, earlier

(1) take a seat **beforehand**, (2) three months **beforehand**

She packed her sunscreen **beforehand** to remember it on the beach trip.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. brazen ar_____ce | <i>n.</i> excessive self-confidence or self-importance |
| 2. sc__b off graffiti | <i>v.</i> to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent |
| 3. ar_____ce of power | <i>n.</i> excessive self-confidence or self-importance |
| 4. electric k__n | <i>n.</i> an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas |
| 5. ca_____al school | <i>n.</i> the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area |
| 6. three months bef_____nd | <i>adv.</i> ahead of time; in advance |
| 7. sc__b dirt from potatoes | <i>v.</i> to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent |
| 8. sp_____te about the reason | <i>v.</i> to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence |
| 9. the th___y path of life | <i>adj.</i> full of or covered with thorns; prickly; (of a problem) difficult to deal with |
| 10. sp_____te on the outcome | <i>v.</i> to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence |
| 11. gilded sp__e | <i>n.</i> a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal |

ANSWERS: 1. arrogance, 2. scrub, 3. arrogance, 4. kiln, 5. cathedral, 6. beforehand, 7. scrub, 8. speculate, 9. thorny, 10. speculate, 11. spire

12. sp__e cathedral *n.* a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal
13. mu__h on an apple *v.* to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching
14. the lord pa_____nt *adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position
15. e__t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
16. brick k__n *n.* an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas
17. month's ou__t *n.* the beginning of something
18. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
19. con_____us subject *adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
20. tr_____ff problem *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
21. third-generation des_____nt *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal

ANSWERS: 12. spire, 13. munch, 14. paramount, 15. emit, 16. kiln, 17. outset, 18. electrify, 19. contentious, 20. trade-off, 21. descendant

22. li_____ne pavement *n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
23. pa_____nt to all the others *adj.* more important than anything else; having superior power and influence or the highest position
24. mu__h away on crisps *v.* to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching
25. ca_____al choir *n.* the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
26. the ou__t of the crisis *n.* the beginning of something
27. se_____er bacteria *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
28. cou_____ct global warming *v.* to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
29. sheer li_____ne cliffs *n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
30. stream aci_____ion *n.* the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid
31. con_____us debate *adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
32. se_____er pollution *n.* water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals

ANSWERS: 22. limestone, 23. paramount, 24. munch, 25. cathedral, 26. outset, 27. seawater, 28. counteract, 29. limestone, 30. acidification, 31. contentious, 32. seawater

33. aci_____ion of soil *n.* the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid
34. des_____nt of a pioneer *n.* children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
35. take a seat bef_____nd *adv.* ahead of time; in advance
36. environmental tr_____ff *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
37. e__t air pollution *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
38. cou_____ct the effect of poison *v.* to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
39. th___y problem *adj.* full of or covered with thorns; prickly; (of a problem) difficult to deal with
40. el_____fy a manufacturing process *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something

ANSWERS: 33. acidification, 34. descendant, 35. beforehand, 36. trade-off, 37. emit, 38. counteract, 39. thorny, 40. electrify

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of _____.
n. a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
2. He acted with _____ and was not well-liked by his colleagues.
n. excessive self-confidence or self-importance
3. Our body's immune system produces antibodies to _____ disease.
v. to act against something to reduce its bad or harmful effects or neutralize it
4. She packed her sunscreen _____ to remember it on the beach trip.
adv. ahead of time; in advance
5. The desalination plant turned _____ into drinking water through a complex process.
n. water from the sea or ocean, typically containing salt and various other dissolved minerals
6. Those warriors' _____ are still skilled archers.
n. children or offspring of a specific person, plant, or animal
7. Ocean _____ leads to a decrease in tiny sea snails.
n. the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid
8. 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

ANSWERS: 1. limestone, 2. arrogance, 3. counteract, 4. beforehand, 5. seawater, 6. descendants, 7. acidification, 8. paramount

9. The _____ stained glass windows depicted scenes from the Bible.
n. the main Christian church of a bishop's diocese, which is often the largest and most important church in the area
10. The church's _____ towered over the small village, visible from miles away.
n. a tall, pointed structure on a building or landscape; a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on a plant or an animal
11. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
12. The pottery was fired in the _____ for several hours to harden it.
n. an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas
13. I love to _____ on popcorn while I watch a movie.
v. to chew or eat something noisily, often with the sound of crunching or crunching
14. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
15. There are many _____ issues in claiming a patent.
adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
16. She decided to _____ the kitchen floor to remove all the dirt and grime.
v. to clean something thoroughly, typically with a brush and soap or detergent

ANSWERS: 9. cathedral's, 10. spire, 11. emits, 12. kiln, 13. munch, 14. electrify, 15. contentious, 16. scrub

17. At the _____ of the project, we encountered several obstacles.

n. the beginning of something

18. The rose bush had _____ branches.

adj. full of or covered with thorns; prickly; (of a problem) difficult to deal with

19. There was a _____ between speed and accuracy in the task.

n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

20. He _____ that this investment would lead to success.

v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

ANSWERS: 17. outset, 18. thorny, 19. trade-off, 20. speculated