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Shohini Ghose: The genius of Marie Curie | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

coffin

n. a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin

synonym : casket, box, chest

(1) **coffin** lid, (2) wooden **coffin**

The priest prayed over the **coffin** before it was lowered into the ground.

defiance

n. behavior characterized by an open refusal to obey someone or something

synonym : disobedience, disregard, confrontation

(1) fierce **defiance**, (2) adopt an attitude of **defiance**

He acted in **defiance** of our decision.

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.

clandestine

adj. done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed

synonym : secret, hidden, covert

(1) non- **clandestine** expenses, (2) a **clandestine** location
The spy carried out the mission in a **clandestine** manner.

reputed

adj. widely believed to be a certain way or to have a certain quality, without necessarily being proven or confirmed; having a certain reputation or status based on hearsay or common belief

synonym : alleged, supposed, rumored

(1) **reputed** company, (2) **reputed** author

He was a **reputed** expert in his field, known for his groundbreaking research.

starvation

n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death

synonym : hunger, malnutrition, emaciation

(1) die of **starvation**, (2) **starvation** wages

The drought led to widespread **starvation** in the region.

physicist

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

lorn

adj. feeling abandoned, neglected, or desolate; being in a state of mourning or bereavement

synonym : desolate, forsaken, abandoned

(1) **lorn** lover, (2) **lorn** soldier

She was left **lorn** and heartbroken after her long-term relationship ended.

formidable

adj. causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

synonym : daunting, intimidating, fearful

(1) **formidable** challenge, (2) **formidable** competitor

The mountain range was a **formidable** obstacle for the hikers.

spontaneously

adv. in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden

synonym : impromptu, automatically, immediately

(1) recover **spontaneously** after five days, (2) this shift occurs **spontaneously**

The electrical cord **spontaneously** combusted.

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.

thorium

n. a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Th and atomic number 90 that is silvery-white in color and is used as fuel in some nuclear reactors

synonym : Th, radioactive element

(1) **thorium** deposit, (2) **thorium** reactor

Certain isotopes of **thorium** are used in medicine for treating liver cancer.

disprove

v. to show that something is not true or correct

synonym : refute, discredit, invalidate

(1) **disprove** global warming, (2) **disprove** the conjecture

The researchers were unable to **disprove** the theory.

indivisible

adj. unable to be divided or separated; not subject to alteration or change

synonym : undividable, inseparable

(1) **indivisible** identity, (2) **indivisible** parts

Liberty and justice for all are **indivisible** concepts.

pitchblende

n. a brown to black mineral that is the main source of uranium and radium typically found in veins associated with certain types of radioactive ores

synonym : uraninite, uranium ore, uranophane

(1) **pitchblende** ore, (2) radium from **pitchblende**

The miners discovered a significant deposit of **pitchblende** in the deep shaft.

polonium

n. a highly radioactive chemical element with the symbol Po and atomic number 84 that belongs to the group of rare heavy metals, known for its high toxicity and is typically produced in nuclear reactors

synonym : Po

(1) **polonium** isotope, (2) **polonium** poisoning

The traces of **polonium** in the environment usually come from the decay of natural radioactive elements.

radium

n. a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Ra and atomic number 88, often used in the treatment of some diseases such as cancer

synonym : Ra, radioactive material

(1) **radium** isotope, (2) **radium** decay

The medical field has found various applications for **radium** in cancer treatment.

nominate

v. to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor

synonym : appoint, designate, elect

(1) **nominate** him for an award, (2) **nominate** government representatives

The organization **nominated** her to be the next president.

overlook

v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

synonym : disregard, look down, supervise

(1) **overlook** a street, (2) **overlook** that fact

We cannot **overlook** an opportunity for great success.

laureate

n. a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the

highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work

(1) Oscar **laureate**, (2) poet **laureate**

The Nobel **laureate** delivered an inspiring speech to the graduating class.

devastate

v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage

synonym: demolish, destroy, crush

(1) **devastate** an area, (2) **devastate** the economy

Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which **devastate** coastal areas.

immerse

v. to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered

synonym: dip, inundate, submerge

(1) **immerse** the cloth in the dye, (2) completely **immerse** the ingredient

He **immersed** himself in his research.

radiology

n. the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries

synonym: medical imaging, radiography, radioscopy

(1) interventional **radiology**, (2) diagnostic **radiology**

The patient underwent a **radiology** scan to diagnose their medical condition.

groundwork

n. the basic or preparatory work or steps that provide a foundation for something

synonym: foundation, base, cornerstone

(1) **groundwork** foundation, (2) **groundwork** study

They laid the **groundwork** for the new project by conducting thorough research.

blazing

adj. burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive

synonym : burning, fiery, scorching

(1) **blazing** fury, (2) **blazing** fire

The **blazing** sun beat down on the desert.

oncology

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies

synonym : cancer treatment, study of tumors

(1) **oncology** center, (2) modern **oncology** treatment

The pharmaceutical company unveiled its latest breakthrough drug for the **oncology** market.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym : curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

unearth

v. to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown

synonym : discover, uncover, expose

(1) **unearth** burial mound, (2) **unearth** a mystery

The detective **unearthed** a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.

Session 2: Spelling

1. im____e the cloth in the dye
v. to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered
2. modern on____gy treatment
n. the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies
3. Oscar la____te
n. a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work
4. no____te government representatives
v. to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
5. non-cla____ne expenses
adj. done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed
6. ra____m decay
n. a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Ra and atomic number 88, often used in the treatment of some diseases such as cancer
7. l__n lover
adj. feeling abandoned, neglected, or desolate; being in a state of mourning or bereavement
8. di____ve the conjecture
v. to show that something is not true or correct

ANSWERS: 1. immerse, 2. oncology, 3. laureate, 4. nominate, 5. clandestine, 6. radium, 7. lorn, 8. disprove

9. diagnostic ra_____gy *n.* the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries
10. bl_____g fury *adj.* burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive
11. radium from pit_____de *n.* a brown to black mineral that is the main source of uranium and radium typically found in veins associated with certain types of radioactive ores
12. fierce de_____ce *n.* behavior characterized by an open refusal to obey someone or something
13. th_____m deposit *n.* a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Th and atomic number 90 that is silvery-white in color and is used as fuel in some nuclear reactors
14. wooden co_____n *n.* a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
15. de_____te an area *v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
16. ind_____le identity *adj.* unable to be divided or separated; not subject to alteration or change
17. talented ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
18. th_____m reactor *n.* a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Th and atomic number 90 that is silvery-white in color and is used as fuel in some nuclear reactors

ANSWERS: 9. radiology, 10. blazing, 11. pitchblende, 12. defiance, 13. thorium, 14. coffin, 15. devastate, 16. indivisible, 17. physicist, 18. thorium

19. ov____ok that fact *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
20. un____h burial mound *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
21. a cla_____ne location *adj.* done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed
22. po____um poisoning *n.* a highly radioactive chemical element with the symbol Po and atomic number 84 that belongs to the group of rare heavy metals, known for its high toxicity and is typically produced in nuclear reactors
23. po____um isotope *n.* a highly radioactive chemical element with the symbol Po and atomic number 84 that belongs to the group of rare heavy metals, known for its high toxicity and is typically produced in nuclear reactors
24. pit_____de ore *n.* a brown to black mineral that is the main source of uranium and radium typically found in veins associated with certain types of radioactive ores
25. poet la____te *n.* a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work

ANSWERS: 19. overlook, 20. unearth, 21. clandestine, 22. polonium, 23. polonium, 24. pitchblende, 25. laureate

26. de_____te the economy *v.* to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
27. on_____gy center *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies
28. this shift occurs spo_____sly *adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
29. recover spo_____sly after five days *adv.* in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
30. for_____le competitor *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
31. no_____te him for an award *v.* to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
32. di_____ve global warming *v.* to show that something is not true or correct
33. ra___m isotope *n.* a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Ra and atomic number 88, often used in the treatment of some diseases such as cancer
34. co___n lid *n.* a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
35. theoretical ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
36. l___n soldier *adj.* feeling abandoned, neglected, or desolate; being in a state of mourning or bereavement

ANSWERS: 26. devastate, 27. oncology, 28. spontaneously, 29. spontaneously, 30. formidable, 31. nominate, 32. disprove, 33. radium, 34. coffin, 35. physicist, 36. lorn

37. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
38. adopt an attitude of de_____ce *n.* behavior characterized by an open refusal to obey someone or something
39. bl_____g fire *adj.* burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive
40. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
41. e__t a gamma ray *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
42. sta_____on wages *n.* a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
43. die of sta_____on *n.* a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
44. completely im_____e the ingredient *v.* to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered
45. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
46. re_____d company *adj.* widely believed to be a certain way or to have a certain quality, without necessarily being proven or confirmed; having a certain reputation or status based on hearsay or common belief
47. for_____le challenge *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

ANSWERS: 37. medicinal, 38. defiance, 39. blazing, 40. institutionalize, 41. emit, 42. starvation, 43. starvation, 44. immerse, 45. institutionalize, 46. reputed, 47. formidable

48. re____d author *adj.* widely believed to be a certain way or to have a certain quality, without necessarily being proven or confirmed; having a certain reputation or status based on hearsay or common belief
49. e__t air pollution *v.* to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
50. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
51. gro_____rk study *n.* the basic or preparatory work or steps that provide a foundation for something
52. ind_____le parts *adj.* unable to be divided or separated; not subject to alteration or change
53. gro_____rk foundation *n.* the basic or preparatory work or steps that provide a foundation for something
54. un_____h a mystery *v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
55. ov_____ok a street *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
56. interventional ra_____gy *n.* the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries

ANSWERS: 48. reputed, 49. emit, 50. medicinal, 51. groundwork, 52. indivisible, 53. groundwork, 54. unearth, 55. overlook, 56. radiology

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The priest prayed over the _____ before it was lowered into the ground.
n. a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
2. He was a _____ expert in his field, known for his groundbreaking research.
adj. widely believed to be a certain way or to have a certain quality, without necessarily being proven or confirmed; having a certain reputation or status based on hearsay or common belief
3. She was left _____ and heartbroken after her long-term relationship ended.
adj. feeling abandoned, neglected, or desolate; being in a state of mourning or bereavement
4. Liberty and justice for all are _____ concepts.
adj. unable to be divided or separated; not subject to alteration or change
5. They laid the _____ for the new project by conducting thorough research.
n. the basic or preparatory work or steps that provide a foundation for something
6. During the unloading, the container box _____ a clicking sound.
v. to give off or send out something such as light, heat, sound, gas, etc.
7. The miners discovered a significant deposit of _____ in the deep shaft.
n. a brown to black mineral that is the main source of uranium and radium typically found in veins associated with certain types of radioactive ores
8. He acted in _____ of our decision.
n. behavior characterized by an open refusal to obey someone or something

ANSWERS: 1. coffin, 2. reputed, 3. lorn, 4. indivisible, 5. groundwork, 6. emits, 7. pitchblende, 8. defiance

9. He _____ himself in his research.
v. to become fully involved in a particular activity; to dip or submerge in a liquid, especially so that they or it are entirely covered
10. The drought led to widespread _____ in the region.
n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
11. The electrical cord _____ combusted.
adv. in a way that is natural, not planned or forced, and often sudden
12. The spy carried out the mission in a _____ manner.
adj. done or kept in secret, especially because it is illegal or not allowed
13. The researchers were unable to _____ the theory.
v. to show that something is not true or correct
14. The organization _____ her to be the next president.
v. to propose someone for a position, especially in politics or an organization, or some honor
15. Earthquakes can also trigger tsunamis, which _____ coastal areas.
v. to wreck a place or an area or cause significant damage
16. The medical field has found various applications for _____ in cancer treatment.
n. a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Ra and atomic number 88, often used in the treatment of some diseases such as cancer
17. The _____ sun beat down on the desert.
adj. burning and emitting intense heat and light; powerful and impressive

ANSWERS: 9. immersed, 10. starvation, 11. spontaneously, 12. clandestine, 13. disprove, 14. nominated, 15. devastate, 16. radium, 17. blazing

18. 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.)
19. The traces of _____ in the environment usually come from the decay of natural radioactive elements.
- n.* a highly radioactive chemical element with the symbol Po and atomic number 84 that belongs to the group of rare heavy metals, known for its high toxicity and is typically produced in nuclear reactors
20. The detective _____ a critical clue that led to the suspect's arrest.
- v.* to discover or bring to light something that is in the ground or was previously hidden or unknown
21. The mountain range was a _____ obstacle for the hikers.
- adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
22. The pharmaceutical company unveiled its latest breakthrough drug for the _____ market.
- n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the study and treatment of tumors, especially malignancies
23. We cannot _____ an opportunity for great success.
- v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
24. The Nobel _____ delivered an inspiring speech to the graduating class.
- n.* a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work

ANSWERS: 18. institutionalize, 19. polonium, 20. unearthed, 21. formidable, 22. oncology, 23. overlook, 24. laureate

25. The patient underwent a _____ scan to diagnose their medical condition.
n. the branch of medicine that uses medical imaging technologies such as X-rays, CT scans, MRIs, and ultrasound to diagnose and treat diseases and injuries
26. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.
n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
27. Certain isotopes of _____ are used in medicine for treating liver cancer.
n. a radioactive chemical element with the symbol Th and atomic number 90 that is silvery-white in color and is used as fuel in some nuclear reactors
28. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

ANSWERS: 25. radiology, 26. physicist, 27. thorium, 28. medicinal