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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Susan Robinson: How I fail at being disabled | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

impair

v. to damage something or make it weaker or worse

synonym: degrade, mar, deface

(1) **impair** my health, (2) **impair** insulin sensitivity

The accident made his vision **impaired**.

entitle

v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something

synonym: allow, permit, enable

(1) **entitle** him to a pension, (2) **entitle** the company to use the logo

The employee was **entitled** to a week of vacation time.

detonate

v. to explode or cause to explode; to set off a sudden or dramatic series of events

synonym: explode, blow up, ignite

(1) **detonate** a missile, (2) **detonate** a plan

The bomb squad had to **detonate** the suspicious package found at the train station.

mindset

n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

synonym: attitude, ethos, mentality

(1) flexible **mindset**, (2) the **mindset** in an education

system

Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial **mindset** in each individual.

prioritize

v. to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things

synonym: rank, order, arrange

(1) **prioritize** tasks, (2) **prioritize** people over cars

The organization **prioritized** the needs of the community in its decision-making.

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.

incentivize

v. to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward

synonym: encourage, motivate

(1) **incentivize** carpooling, (2) **incentivize** the right behavior

Governments **incentivize** their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.

rampant

adj. (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled

synonym: prevalent, dense, uncontrolled

(1) **rampant** growth of weeds, (2) **rampant** corruption

In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be **rampant**.

entice

v. to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting

synonym: lure, tempt, attract

(1) **entice** foreign investment, (2) **entice** shoppers

The salesperson tried to **entice** the customer into buying a new car.

superpower

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym: great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

pillar

n. a tall, vertical column or support structure that helps to hold up other parts of a building or structure; a person or thing regarded as providing essential support or core strength to something

synonym: column, post, support

(1) **pillar** of society, (2) **pillar** decoration

The **pillar** of smoke rising from the building signaled a massive fire.

acumen

n. the ability to make sound judgments and quick decisions, especially when it comes to business or financial matters

synonym: keenness, insight, sagacity

(1) critical **acumen**, (2) financial **acumen**

His business **acumen** helped him make intelligent investments and grow his portfolio quickly.

trait

n. a particular feature of your nature

synonym: attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

tease

v. to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

synonym: bully, annoy, provoke

(1) **tease** the children, (2) **tease** wool

This ad is intended to **tease** a competing product.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

ricochet

v. to rebound or deflect off a surface at an angle or series of angles, changing direction multiple times; to have a sudden and unintended effect or outcome; (noun) the motion of an object or a projectile that is deflected off a surface

synonym: bounce, rebound, spring

(1) **ricochet** off the walls, (2) **ricochet** into a crowd

The police officer fired a warning shot that **ricocheted** off the pavement and hit a nearby car.

kale

n. a type of leafy green vegetable that belongs to the cabbage family, often eaten raw in salads or cooked as a side dish

synonym: collard greens, cabbage, broccoli

(1) **kale** salad, (2) baked **kale** chips

I like to add chopped **kale** to my smoothies for an extra boost of nutrition.

millennial

adj. relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y

synonym: thousand, (noun) Generation Y

(1) **millennial** record, (2) the **millennial** reign

Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by **millennial-scale** changes in climate.

frantic

adj. marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied

synonym: wild, frenzied, manic

(1) **frantic** pace, (2) with **frantic** haste

The mother was **frantic** as she searched for her lost child.

bakery

n. a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold

synonym: bakeshop, bakehouse

(1) run a **bakery**, (2) **bakery** industry

He worked at the **bakery** as a baker.

audacious

adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness

synonym: bold, daring, fearless

(1) **audacious** stunt, (2) **audacious** decision

The young entrepreneur had an **audacious** plan to start his own company.

shove

v. to push someone or something in a rough way

synonym: push, jab, elbow

(1) **shove** a person aside, (2) **shove** hamburger into my mouth

He forcibly **shoved** the flyer into my bag.

demise

n. death or the end of something

synonym: death, passing, end

(1) **demise** of bureaucracy, (2) meet their **demise**

The sudden **demise** of the king was a shock to everyone and threw the kingdom into chaos.

linebacker

n. a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team

synonym : defensive back

(1) **linebacker** position, (2) rookie **linebacker**

The team's defensive strategy relied heavily on their **linebacker's** ability to read the opposing team's offense.

blitz

n. a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action

synonym : onslaught, assault, attack

(1) marketing **blitz**, (2) snowstorm **blitz**

The football team used the **blitz** strategy to overwhelm their opponents quickly.

fumble

v. to handle something awkwardly; to make mistakes or errors in attempting something

synonym : botch, bumble, mishandle

(1) **fumble** about in a bag, (2) **fumble** a grounder

The receiver **fumbled** the ball, and the other team recovered it.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ba___y industry *n.* a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold
2. k__e salad *n.* a type of leafy green vegetable that belongs to the cabbage family, often eaten raw in salads or cooked as a side dish
3. ra_____t corruption *adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
4. en_____e him to a pension *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
5. de_____te a plan *v.* to explode or cause to explode; to set off a sudden or dramatic series of events
6. rookie lin_____er *n.* a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team
7. ri_____et off the walls *v.* to rebound or deflect off a surface at an angle or series of angles, changing direction multiple times; to have a sudden and unintended effect or outcome; (noun) the motion of an object or a projectile that is deflected off a surface

ANSWERS: 1. bakery, 2. kale, 3. rampant, 4. entitle, 5. detonate, 6. linebacker, 7. ricochet

8. te__e the children *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
9. chemical tr__t *n.* a particular feature of your nature
10. im__r my health *v.* to damage something or make it weaker or worse
11. with fr____c haste *adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
12. snowstorm bl__z *n.* a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action
13. sh__e a person aside *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
14. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
15. the mil____al reign *adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
16. pi__r decoration *n.* a tall, vertical column or support structure that helps to hold up other parts of a building or structure; a person or thing regarded as providing essential support or core strength to something

ANSWERS: 8. tease, 9. trait, 10. impair, 11. frantic, 12. blitz, 13. shove, 14. blur, 15. millennial, 16. pillar

17. ra____t growth of weeds *adj.* (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
18. inc_____ze the right behavior *v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
19. critical ac____n *n.* the ability to make sound judgments and quick decisions, especially when it comes to business or financial matters
20. im____r insulin sensitivity *v.* to damage something or make it weaker or worse
21. financial ac____n *n.* the ability to make sound judgments and quick decisions, especially when it comes to business or financial matters
22. pi____r of society *n.* a tall, vertical column or support structure that helps to hold up other parts of a building or structure; a person or thing regarded as providing essential support or core strength to something
23. te__e wool *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
24. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
25. ri____et into a crowd *v.* to rebound or deflect off a surface at an angle or series of angles, changing direction multiple times; to have a sudden and unintended effect or outcome; (noun) the motion of an object or a projectile that is deflected off a surface

ANSWERS: 17. rampant, 18. incentivize, 19. acumen, 20. impair, 21. acumen, 22. pillar, 23. tease, 24. determinant, 25. ricochet

26. inc_____ze carpooling *v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
27. b__r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; *(verb)* to become unclear; to lose clear vision
28. run a ba____y *n.* a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold
29. mil_____al record *adj.* relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; *(noun)* a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y
30. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
31. de_____te a missile *v.* to explode or cause to explode; to set off a sudden or dramatic series of events
32. fu____e about in a bag *v.* to handle something awkwardly; to make mistakes or errors in attempting something
33. ov__t symptoms *adj.* open, evident, or clear, especially in a way that is not intended to be secret
34. de____e of bureaucracy *n.* death or the end of something
35. the mi_____t in an education system *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone

ANSWERS: 26. incentivize, 27. blur, 28. bakery, 29. millennial, 30. superpower, 31. detonate, 32. fumble, 33. overt, 34. demise, 35. mindset

36. baked k__e chips *n.* a type of leafy green vegetable that belongs to the cabbage family, often eaten raw in salads or cooked as a side dish
37. au_____us decision *adj.* showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
38. sh__e hamburger into my mouth *v.* to push someone or something in a rough way
39. fr_____c pace *adj.* marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
40. en_____e the company to use the logo *v.* to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
41. en___e foreign investment *v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
42. au_____us stunt *adj.* showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness
43. en___e shoppers *v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
44. ov__t hostility *adj.* open, evident, or clear, especially in a way that is not intended to be secret
45. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

ANSWERS: 36. kale, 37. audacious, 38. shove, 39. frantic, 40. entitle, 41. entice, 42. audacious, 43. entice, 44. overt, 45. superpower

46. marketing bl__z *n.* a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action
47. lin_____er position *n.* a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team
48. pri_____ze tasks *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
49. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
50. pri_____ze people over cars *v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
51. fu___e a grounder *v.* to handle something awkwardly; to make mistakes or errors in attempting something
52. meet their de___e *n.* death or the end of something
53. flexible mi_____t *n.* the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
54. personality tr__ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature

ANSWERS: 46. blitz, 47. linebacker, 48. prioritize, 49. determinant, 50. prioritize, 51. fumble, 52. demise, 53. mindset, 54. trait

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. This ad is intended to _____ a competing product.
 - v. to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

2. Earth's ecosystems are greatly affected by _____ changes in climate.
 - adj. relating to a period of a thousand years or the year 2000; (noun) a person born between the early 1980s and the late 1990s, also called Generation Y

3. 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

4. He forcibly _____ the flyer into my bag.
 - v. to push someone or something in a rough way

5. The police officer fired a warning shot that _____ off the pavement and hit a nearby car.
 - v. to rebound or deflect off a surface at an angle or series of angles, changing direction multiple times; to have a sudden and unintended effect or outcome; (noun) the motion of an object or a projectile that is deflected off a surface

6. The young entrepreneur had an _____ plan to start his own company.
 - adj. showing a willingness to take bold risks or to do something that is considered unconventional or daring; marked by originality, creativity, or boldness

7. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
 - n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

ANSWERS: 1. tease, 2. millennial-scale, 3. overt, 4. shoved, 5. ricocheted, 6. audacious, 7. superpower

8. I like to add chopped _____ to my smoothies for an extra boost of nutrition.
n. a type of leafy green vegetable that belongs to the cabbage family, often eaten raw in salads or cooked as a side dish
9. The football team used the _____ strategy to overwhelm their opponents quickly.
n. a sudden and intensive military attack designed to achieve a quick victory; a sudden and intense effort to accomplish a task or objective, often involving a rapid and concerted action
10. The employee was _____ to a week of vacation time.
v. to give someone the right to have or do something; to give a title to someone or something
11. The accident made his vision _____.
v. to damage something or make it weaker or worse
12. Countries whose goal is economic development often focus on fostering an entrepreneurial _____ in each individual.
n. the established set of attitudes or fixed ideas held by someone
13. The receiver _____ the ball, and the other team recovered it.
v. to handle something awkwardly; to make mistakes or errors in attempting something
14. The mother was _____ as she searched for her lost child.
adj. marked by uncontrolled excitement or emotion; wild; frenzied
15. The bomb squad had to _____ the suspicious package found at the train station.
v. to explode or cause to explode; to set off a sudden or dramatic series of events

ANSWERS: 8. kale, 9. blitz, 10. entitled, 11. impaired, 12. mindset, 13. fumbled, 14. frantic, 15. detonate

16. Governments _____ their citizens to buy eco-friendly products through subsidies.
- v.* to make someone want to do in a particular way by offering them a reward
17. The team's defensive strategy relied heavily on their _____ ability to read the opposing team's offense.
- n.* a defensive player in American football whose primary responsibility is to tackle the ball carrier or block pass attempts by the opposing team
18. In an overly protective industry, violations of the ethics rules tend to be _____.
adj. (especially of something bad or unwelcome) flourishing or spreading everywhere in a way that cannot be controlled
19. The sudden _____ of the king was a shock to everyone and threw the kingdom into chaos.
- n.* death or the end of something
20. He worked at the _____ as a baker.
- n.* a place where bread and other baked goods are made and sold
21. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
- n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
22. The _____ of smoke rising from the building signaled a massive fire.
- n.* a tall, vertical column or support structure that helps to hold up other parts of a building or structure; a person or thing regarded as providing essential support or core strength to something
23. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
- n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

ANSWERS: 16. incentivize, 17. linebacker's, 18. rampant, 19. demise, 20. bakery, 21. blur, 22. pillar, 23. determinant

24. His business _____ helped him make intelligent investments and grow his portfolio quickly.
- n.* the ability to make sound judgments and quick decisions, especially when it comes to business or financial matters
25. The organization _____ the needs of the community in its decision-making.
- v.* to assign a higher level of importance to something compared to other things
26. The salesperson tried to _____ the customer into buying a new car.
- v.* to attract or lure someone with something desirable or tempting
27. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.
- n.* a particular feature of your nature

ANSWERS: 24. acumen, 25. prioritized, 26. entice, 27. traits