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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Rebecca Brachman: Could a drug prevent depression and PTSD? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym: mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

confer

v. to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something

synonym: consult, meet, discuss

(1) **confer** degree, (2) **confer** honor

The leaders of the two countries met to **confer** on the issue.

contagious

adj. able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease

synonym: infectious, transmissible, communicable

(1) **contagious** enthusiasm, (2) **contagious** virus

The disease is highly **contagious** and spreads quickly.

antidepressant

n. any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry

(1) an **antidepressant** drug, (2) **antidepressant** effect

She has been taking **antidepressants** since her baby died.

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**.

firsthand

adv. from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source

synonym: direct

(1) hear customer's voices **firsthand**, (2) conduct **firsthand** research

The manager tried to hear customers' voices **firsthand**.

sanatorium

n. a medical facility or institution for the long-term treatment or care of people with chronic illnesses or diseases, especially tuberculosis

synonym: health resort, rehab center

(1) military **sanatorium**, (2) **sanatorium** resort

In the early 1900s, tuberculosis patients would check into a **sanatorium** for treatment.

surpass

v. to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something

synonym: excel, outdo, outperform

(1) **surpass** imagination, (2) **surpass** \$20 billion in sales

The athlete's record-breaking performance **surpassed** all expectations.

histamine

n. a substance produced by the body, sometimes found in foods, that can cause allergic reactions, inflammation, or other physiological responses

(1) **histamine** reaction, (2) **histamine** blocker

His allergies caused **histamine** release in his body, leading to congestion and sneezing.

mania

n. a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something

synonym: obsession, craze, frenzy

(1) start-up **mania**, (2) dance **mania**

The **mania** for collecting rare books led him to spend his savings on a first edition.

repurpose

v. to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended

synonym: reutilize, recycle, reuse

(1) **repurpose** an old building, (2) **repurpose** a used car

The old barn was **repurposed** into a modern event space.

euphoria

n. a feeling of intense happiness, excitement, or delight; a state of extreme joy or pleasure

synonym: elevation, bliss, elation

(1) experience **euphoria**, (2) **euphoria-inducing** drug

Winning the lottery brought a feeling of **euphoria** to the lucky winner.

preconceived

adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness

(1) a **preconceived** notion, (2) **preconceived** opinions

We should start a discussion from scratch with no **preconceived** ideas.

serotonin

n. a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory

(1) **serotonin** drug, (2) **serotonin** levels

The medicine works by boosting **serotonin** levels in the brain.

neurotransmitter

n. a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles

(1) **neurotransmitter** receptor, (2) **neurotransmitters**

released from the brain

Endorphins are a type of **neurotransmitter** that gives a sense of well-being.

insomnia

n. the condition of being unable to sleep, usually a chronic one

synonym: sleeplessness, wakefulness, restlessness

(1) medication for **insomnia**, (2) alcohol-dependent

insomnia

He suffered **insomnia** and loss of appetite after he began taking that medication.

painkiller

n. medicine used to relieve physical pain

synonym: anesthetic, anodyne, analgesic

(1) a strong **painkiller**, (2) take a **painkiller** beforehand

Over-the-counter **painkillers** are less effective for patients who have taken many in the past.

dramatize

v. to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play

synonym: exaggerate, sensationalize, theatricalize

(1) **dramatize** the dialogue, (2) **dramatize** the event

The media tends to **dramatize** news stories to attract more viewers.

agnostic

n. a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god

synonym: skeptic, doubter, unbeliever

(1) **agnostic** world-view, (2) **agnostic** position

Her scientific background led her to be **agnostic** about the existence of a higher power.

creep

v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

synonym: crawl, glide, encroach

(1) **creep** along the leaf, (2) **creep** toward the mouse
Aging **creeps** up slowly with time.

insidious

adj. tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

synonym : sly, cunning, subtle

(1) **insidious** plot, (2) **insidious** behavior

The disease has an **insidious** onset, making it difficult to diagnose.

glutamate

n. a salt or ester of glutamic acid, a natural amino acid found in proteins, that functions as a neurotransmitter and plays a key role in neural signaling and brain function

synonym : amino acid, monosodium glutamate

(1) **glutamate** receptors, (2) **glutamate** antagonist

Excessive consumption of foods high in **glutamate** can lead to headaches and other health problems.

anesthesia

n. a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes

(1) **anesthesia** for surgery, (2) local **anesthesia**

He is in general **anesthesia** under the surgeon.

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.

skeptical

adj. doubting that something is accurate or useful

synonym : doubtful, distrustful, suspicious

(1) a **skeptical** attitude, (2) **skeptical** scientists

His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly **skeptical**.

- yell** v. to shout in a sudden and loud way
synonym: shout, scream, cry
(1) **yell** for help, (2) **yell** as loud as we can
When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and **yelled** at me.
- excite** v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate
(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion
The news of her promotion **excited** her.
- resilient** *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
synonym: robust, sturdy, tough
(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population
She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
- akin** *adj.* similar or related in nature, character, or origin
synonym: similar, related, alike
(1) **akin** to anger, (2) **akin** to the prior experiences
Her interests are **akin** to mine.
- palliate** v. to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause
synonym: extenuate, soothe, relieve
(1) **palliate** symptoms, (2) attempts to **palliate**
The charity provided meals and shelter to **palliate** the suffering of the homeless population.
- firefighter** *n.* a person whose job is to extinguish fires
(1) forest **firefighter**, (2) decided to be a **firefighter**
The **firefighter** broke into the house bravely to rescue the children.

ketamine

n. a medication primarily used as an anesthetic and analgesic, known for its rapid onset and short duration of action, also used in recreational settings as a dissociative and hallucinogenic drug

(1) **ketamine** infusion, (2) **ketamine** therapy

Studies have suggested that low doses of **ketamine** may help reduce chronic pain.

anesthetic

n. a substance that is administered to a person or an animal to produce a loss of sensation or consciousness so that medical or surgical procedures can be performed without causing pain

synonym: sedative, anesthesia, painkiller

(1) **anesthetic** injection, (2) local **anesthetic**

The dentist administered an **anesthetic** to numb the patient's mouth before the procedure.

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.

prophylactic

adj. capable of preventing disease or intended to prevent disease

synonym: preventative, protective, preventive

(1) a **prophylactic** drug, (2) **prophylactic** protocol

The doctor carried out vaccination and other **prophylactic** measures.

psychiatry

n. the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness

synonym: mental health, psychology, psychoanalysis

(1) **psychiatry** therapy, (2) biological **psychiatry**

The field of **psychiatry** is constantly evolving, with new treatments and approaches being developed all the time.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|--|
| 1. ex___e the crowd | v. | to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 2. su_____s \$20 billion in sales | v. | to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something |
| 3. se_____in drug | n. | a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory |
| 4. neu_____ter receptor | n. | a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles |
| 5. co___r degree | v. | to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something |
| 6. ane_____ia for surgery | n. | a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes |
| 7. decided to be a fir_____er | n. | a person whose job is to extinguish fires |
| 8. su_____s imagination | v. | to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something |
| 9. start-up ma__a | n. | a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something |

ANSWERS: 1. excite, 2. surpass, 3. serotonin, 4. neurotransmitter, 5. confer, 6. anesthesia, 7. firefighter, 8. surpass, 9. mania

10. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
11. y___l for help *v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
12. re_____se a used car *v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
13. con_____us virus *adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease
14. re_____se an old building *v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
15. a___n to the prior experiences *adj.* similar or related in nature, character, or origin
16. ane_____ic injection *n.* a substance that is administered to a person or an animal to produce a loss of sensation or consciousness so that medical or surgical procedures can be performed without causing pain
17. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
18. take a pai_____er beforehand *n.* medicine used to relieve physical pain
19. local ane_____ic *n.* a substance that is administered to a person or an animal to produce a loss of sensation or consciousness so that medical or surgical procedures can be performed without causing pain
20. conduct fi_____nd research *adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
21. pa_____te symptoms *v.* to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause

ANSWERS: 10. resilient, 11. yell, 12. repurpose, 13. contagious, 14. repurpose, 15. akin, 16. anesthetic, 17. resilient, 18. painkiller, 19. anesthetic, 20. firsthand, 21. palliate

22. hi_____ne blocker *n.* a substance produced by the body, sometimes found in foods, that can cause allergic reactions, inflammation, or other physiological responses
23. experience eu_____ia *n.* a feeling of intense happiness, excitement, or delight; a state of extreme joy or pleasure
24. con_____us enthusiasm *adj.* able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease
25. gl_____te antagonist *n.* a salt or ester of glutamic acid, a natural amino acid found in proteins, that functions as a neurotransmitter and plays a key role in neural signaling and brain function
26. ag_____ic world-view *n.* a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god
27. y__l as loud as we can *v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
28. eu_____ia-inducing drug *n.* a feeling of intense happiness, excitement, or delight; a state of extreme joy or pleasure
29. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
30. se_____in levels *n.* a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory
31. gl_____te receptors *n.* a salt or ester of glutamic acid, a natural amino acid found in proteins, that functions as a neurotransmitter and plays a key role in neural signaling and brain function

ANSWERS: 22. histamine, 23. euphoria, 24. contagious, 25. glutamate, 26. agnostic, 27. yell, 28. euphoria, 29. medicinal, 30. serotonin, 31. glutamate

32. a pre_____ved notion *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
33. dr_____ze the dialogue *v.* to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play
34. attempts to pa_____te *v.* to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause
35. a sk_____al attitude *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful
36. a pro_____tic drug *adj.* capable of preventing disease or intended to prevent disease
37. ke_____ne therapy *n.* a medication primarily used as an anesthetic and analgesic, known for its rapid onset and short duration of action, also used in recreational settings as a dissociative and hallucinogenic drug
38. ke_____ne infusion *n.* a medication primarily used as an anesthetic and analgesic, known for its rapid onset and short duration of action, also used in recreational settings as a dissociative and hallucinogenic drug
39. cr__p toward the mouse *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
40. ant_____ant effect *n.* any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry

ANSWERS: 32. preconceived, 33. dramatize, 34. palliate, 35. skeptical, 36. prophylactic, 37. ketamine, 38. ketamine, 39. creep, 40. antidepressant

41. local ane_____ia *n.* a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes
42. ag_____ic position *n.* a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god
43. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
44. a__n to anger *adj.* similar or related in nature, character, or origin
45. co_____r honor *v.* to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
46. psy_____ry therapy *n.* the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness
47. dance ma__a *n.* a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something
48. military san_____um *n.* a medical facility or institution for the long-term treatment or care of people with chronic illnesses or diseases, especially tuberculosis
49. san_____um resort *n.* a medical facility or institution for the long-term treatment or care of people with chronic illnesses or diseases, especially tuberculosis

ANSWERS: 41. anesthesia, 42. agnostic, 43. intellect, 44. akin, 45. confer, 46. psychiatry, 47. mania, 48. sanatorium, 49. sanatorium

50. dr_____ze the event *v.* to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play
51. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
52. a strong pai_____er *n.* medicine used to relieve physical pain
53. biological psy_____ry *n.* the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness
54. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
55. sk_____al scientists *adj.* doubting that something is accurate or useful
56. neu_____ters released from the brain *n.* a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
57. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
58. hear customer's voices fi_____nd *adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source
59. three months bef_____nd *adv.* ahead of time; in advance
60. medication for in_____ia *n.* the condition of being unable to sleep, usually a chronic one
61. pro_____tic protocol *adj.* capable of preventing disease or intended to prevent disease
62. alcohol-dependent in_____ia *n.* the condition of being unable to sleep, usually a chronic one

ANSWERS: 50. dramatize, 51. intellect, 52. painkiller, 53. psychiatry, 54. medicinal, 55. skeptical, 56. neurotransmitter, 57. excite, 58. firsthand, 59. beforehand, 60. insomnia, 61. prophylactic, 62. insomnia

63. hi_____ne reaction *n.* a substance produced by the body, sometimes found in foods, that can cause allergic reactions, inflammation, or other physiological responses
64. cr__p along the leaf *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
65. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
66. an ant_____ant drug *n.* any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry
67. forest fir_____er *n.* a person whose job is to extinguish fires
68. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
69. take a seat bef_____nd *adv.* ahead of time; in advance
70. in_____us behavior *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way
71. pre_____ved opinions *adj.* (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
72. in_____us plot *adj.* tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

ANSWERS: 63. histamine, 64. creep, 65. neuroscience, 66. antidepressant, 67. firefighter, 68. neuroscience, 69. beforehand, 70. insidious, 71. preconceived, 72. insidious

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His allergies caused _____ release in his body, leading to congestion and sneezing.
 - n.* a substance produced by the body, sometimes found in foods, that can cause allergic reactions, inflammation, or other physiological responses
2. She packed her sunscreen _____ to remember it on the beach trip.
 - adv.* ahead of time; in advance
3. The charity provided meals and shelter to _____ the suffering of the homeless population.
 - v.* to make a disease, condition, or symptom appear less severe or intense than it actually is; to alleviate or ease symptoms without curing the underlying cause
4. Winning the lottery brought a feeling of _____ to the lucky winner.
 - n.* a feeling of intense happiness, excitement, or delight; a state of extreme joy or pleasure
5. Her scientific background led her to be _____ about the existence of a higher power.
 - n.* a person who believes that it is impossible to know whether there is a god
6. The news of her promotion _____ her.
 - v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
7. The manager tried to hear customers' voices _____.
 - adv.* from the source; directly; (adjective) received directly from a source

ANSWERS: 1. histamine, 2. beforehand, 3. palliate, 4. euphoria, 5. agnostic, 6. excited, 7. firsthand

8. Her interests are _____ to mine.

adj. similar or related in nature, character, or origin

9. The media tends to _____ news stories to attract more viewers.

v. to present or portray something in a way that emphasizes its dramatic or emotional aspects; to make something into a drama or play

10. The disease has an _____ onset, making it difficult to diagnose.

adj. tending to entrap or beguile unawares; working or spreading in a hidden and usually harmful way

11. The dentist administered an _____ to numb the patient's mouth before the procedure.

n. a substance that is administered to a person or an animal to produce a loss of sensation or consciousness so that medical or surgical procedures can be performed without causing pain

12. The _____ for collecting rare books led him to spend his savings on a first edition.

n. a psychological or emotional state that is marked by excessive enthusiasm, excitement, or delusions; a strong and uncontrollable desire or craving for something

13. The athlete's record-breaking performance _____ all expectations.

v. to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something

14. Over-the-counter _____ are less effective for patients who have taken many in the past.

n. medicine used to relieve physical pain

ANSWERS: 8. akin, 9. dramatize, 10. insidious, 11. anesthetic, 12. mania, 13. surpassed, 14. painkillers

15. The _____ broke into the house bravely to rescue the children.
n. a person whose job is to extinguish fires
16. She has been taking _____ since her baby died.
n. any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry
17. His religious and philosophical beliefs were utterly _____.
adj. doubting that something is accurate or useful
18. We should start a discussion from scratch with no _____ ideas.
adj. (of an idea or opinion) formed beforehand, especially without evidence for its truth or usefulness
19. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
20. The field of _____ is constantly evolving, with new treatments and approaches being developed all the time.
n. the branch of medicine concerned with the study, treatment, and prevention of mental illness
21. The leaders of the two countries met to _____ on the issue.
v. to have a meeting or discussion to come to a decision or agreement or exchange ideas; to bestow something
22. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

ANSWERS: 15. firefighter, 16. antidepressants, 17. skeptical, 18. preconceived, 19. intellect, 20. psychiatry, 21. confer, 22. resilient

23. The disease is highly _____ and spreads quickly.

adj. able to be passed on to others through contact or proximity, especially by infection or disease

24. He suffered _____ and loss of appetite after he began taking that medication.

n. the condition of being unable to sleep, usually a chronic one

25. 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

26. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

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

27. Aging _____ up slowly with time.

v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

28. He is in general _____ under the surgeon.

n. a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes

29. The doctor carried out vaccination and other _____ measures.

adj. capable of preventing disease or intended to prevent disease

30. Excessive consumption of foods high in _____ can lead to headaches and other health problems.

n. a salt or ester of glutamic acid, a natural amino acid found in proteins, that functions as a neurotransmitter and plays a key role in neural signaling and brain function

ANSWERS: 23. contagious, 24. insomnia, 25. neuroscience, 26. medicinal, 27. creeps, 28. anesthesia, 29. prophylactic, 30. glutamate

31. Endorphins are a type of _____ that gives a sense of well-being.
- n.* a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
32. The medicine works by boosting _____ levels in the brain.
- n.* a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory
33. Studies have suggested that low doses of _____ may help reduce chronic pain.
- n.* a medication primarily used as an anesthetic and analgesic, known for its rapid onset and short duration of action, also used in recreational settings as a dissociative and hallucinogenic drug
34. When I asked my father for more money, he became furious and _____ at me.
- v.* to shout in a sudden and loud way
35. The old barn was _____ into a modern event space.
- v.* to use something again for a different purpose than it was originally intended
36. In the early 1900s, tuberculosis patients would check into a _____ for treatment.
- n.* a medical facility or institution for the long-term treatment or care of people with chronic illnesses or diseases, especially tuberculosis

ANSWERS: 31. neurotransmitter, 32. serotonin, 33. ketamine, 34. yelled, 35. repurposed, 36. sanatorium