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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Paul Hessburg: Why wildfires have gotten worse -and what we can do about it | TED Talk https://www.ted.com/talks/paul_hessburg_why_wildfir es_have_gotten_worse_and_what_we_can_do_abou t_it



Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

wildfire

 a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope

synonym: blaze, bonfire, flame

(1) **wildfire** spread, (2) arson-caused **wildfire**The **wildfire** destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.

grandkid

- n. the grandchildren of a particular personsynonym: grandchildren, grandnieces, grandnephews
- (1) spend the weekend with their **grandkids**, (2) cute **grandkids**

She was so proud of her **grandkids**, who were all doing well in school and had great personalities.

panoramic

adj. relating to an unobstructed and wide view of an extensive area; all-encompassing

synonym: expansive, wide-ranging, scenic

(1) **panoramic** landscape, (2) **panoramic** camera We hiked to the top of the hill for a **panoramic** view of the city below.

lookout

 a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence

synonym: watchman, sentinel, guard

(1) **lookout** team, (2) on the **lookout** for danger
The **lookout** tower provided a clear view of the surrounding area.

inherit

 to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

synonym: obtain, gain, acquire

(1) **inherit** estate, (2) **inherit** ancestral property After his death, his sons **inherited** his business.

patchwork

 a fabric made by stitching together small pieces of different colored and patterned fabrics; a mixture or grouping of diverse elements or components

synonym: assortment, jumble, mishmash

(1) the **patchwork** of legislation, (2) **patchwork** design The **patchwork** approach to funding led to an uneven distribution of resources.

meadow

 a field of grass and wildflowers, especially one used for hay

synonym: pasture, field, lawn

(1) graze in the **meadow**, (2) lowland **meadow**The lush **meadow** was covered in wildflowers.

understory

n. the layer of vegetation and plant growth that grows beneath the main canopy of a forest or woodlandsynonym: underbrush, brushwood, forest floor

understory vegetation, (2) understory habitat
 forest's understory is home to many plants and animals.

topography

 the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features

synonym: terrain, landscape, geography

(1) topography map, (2) detailed topography

The **topography** of the region is rugged, with many hills and valleys.

crosstalk

n. interference or disturbance in electronic systems caused by signals or currents from adjacent or nearby elements or circuits; the phenomenon where one cellular signaling pathway influences or interferes with another

synonym: disturbance, cross-interference, XT

(1) molecular **crosstalk**, (2) the **crosstalk** between the two political factions

The interference during the phone call was due to **crosstalk** from nearby electrical wires.

fir

 a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches

synonym: pine, spruce, cedar

(1) fir branch, (2) fir forest

The smell of fresh **fir** trees filled the air at the Christmas tree farm.

graze

 to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping

synonym: nibble, feed, scrape

- (1) turn cattle out to **graze**, (2) **graze** the left shoulder The sheep **graze** on the green grass in the meadow.
- n. a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size

synonym: moose, deer, stag

(1) elk population, (2) elk hunting

elk

We saw a group of **elk** grazing in the field near our cabin in the mountains.

bison

- a large wild animal of the cow family that has shaggy manes, large heads, and short horns, and there are American bison, also called buffalo, and European bison synonym: buffalo
- (1) endangered **bison**, (2) American **bison's** meat Large herds of **bison** used to live on the plains of this area.

pivot

 a change in direction or focus, especially in a business or political strategy; a fixed point that supports something that turns or balances

synonym: center point, fulcrum, heart

(1) center- **pivot** irrigation, (2) **pivot** point

The team needed to come up with a **pivot** strategy to turn things around.

devour

v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

synonym: consume, swallow, destroy

(1) devour a meal, (2) devour my wayShe devoured the mystery novel in one sitting.

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.

unequal

- adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fairsynonym: unfair, uneven, imbalanced
- (1) **unequal** distribution, (2) **unequal** opportunity

 The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly **unequal**.

unintentional

adj. not done or made on purpose; accidental synonym:

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accidental, unforeseen, spontaneous

- (1) avoid **unintentional** harm, (2) **unintentional** insult The mistake was **unintentional** and made in good faith.
- to create a work of art by carving, casting, or other shaping techniques

synonym: carve, mold, shape

- (1) sculpt an image, (2) sculpt prototypeHe spent hours every day sculpting figures out of clay.
- the state of being strong and active; energy synonym: energy, life, vigor
- (1) **vitality** of youth, (2) the **vitality** of the company
 The new gym membership has improved his **vitality** and overall health.
- a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
 synonym: group, faction, cult
- (1) sect beliefs, (2) secret sect

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

 a small barrel or cask, typically made of metal or wood, that is used for storing and transporting liquids, especially beer;

synonym: cask, barrel, pail

(1) powder keg, (2) keg of beer

He had to return the empty **keg** to the brewery after the party.

adj. characterized by or affected by strong winds; of or relating to the wind; describing a person who talks a lot, often in an exaggerated way or without saying much substance

synonym: airy, gusty, breezy

sculpt

vitality

sect

keg

windy

(1) windy hillside, (2) windy eloquence

The weather is too **windy** for us to go on a boat ride.

climatology

 the scientific study of climate and weather patterns and their causes and effects

synonym: climate science, meteorology

(1) **climatology** research, (2) marine **climatology Climatology** data shows that the Arctic has been warming faster than other regions of the world.

flammable

adj. able to burn easily

synonym: combustible, ignitable, incendiary

(1) **flammable** atmosphere, (2) non-**flammable** fiber The warning labels indicated that the product was highly **flammable**.

underwrite

- v. to assume financial responsibility for somethingsynonym: insure, guarantee, cover
- (1) **underwrite** a loan, (2) **underwrite** an issue of shares The insurance company decided to **underwrite** the policy for the new building.

hitch

v. to move something into a different position jerkily; to travel by getting free rides from motorists; to hook or entangle

synonym: fasten, jerk, tether

(1) hitch a ride, (2) hitch up my trousers

The mechanics **hitched** the trailer to the broken-down car.

nuisance

 something or someone that causes annoyance, inconvenience, or discomfort; an unpleasant or irritating thing or person

synonym: bother, annoyance, disturbance

(1) traffic **nuisance**, (2) **nuisance** call

The barking dog next door is becoming quite a nuisance.

pesky

adj. causing annoyance, irritation, or trouble; persistent in a vexing or troublesome manner

synonym: annoying, irritating, bothersome

(1) dealing with **pesky**, (2) **pesky** problem

The **pesky** fly kept buzzing around my head.

lawmaker

 a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws

synonym: lawgiver, legislator, solon

(1) female lawmaker, (2) incumbent lawmaker

This company has increased political contributions to federal **lawmakers**.

Session 2: Spelling

- 1. center-pi_t irrigation
- 2. und____te a loan
- 3. hi haride
- 4. American bi__n's meat
- 5. f_r branch
- 6. un I distribution
- 7. uni nal insult
- 8. pe y problem
- 9. in t estate

- a change in direction or focus,
 especially in a business or political
 strategy; a fixed point that supports
 something that turns or balances
- v. to assume financial responsibility for something
- v. to move something into a different position jerkily; to travel by getting free rides from motorists; to hook or entangle
- a large wild animal of the cow family that has shaggy manes, large heads, and short horns, and there are American bison, also called buffalo, and European bison
- a type of tall evergreen tree that is native to the northern hemisphere, with needle-like leaves and cones that stand upright on the branches
- adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
- adj. not done or made on purpose; accidental
- adj. causing annoyance, irritation, or trouble; persistent in a vexing or troublesome manner
- v. to receive money, property, or a title from someone after they have died

ANSWERS: 1. pivot, 2. underwrite, 3. hitch, 4. bison, 5. fir, 6. unequal, 7. unintentional, 8. pesky, 9. inherit

10. the park of legislation	n.	a fabric made by stitching together small pieces of different colored and patterned fabrics; a mixture or grouping of diverse elements or components
11. vity of youth	n.	the state of being strong and active; energy
12. traffic nuce	n.	something or someone that causes annoyance, inconvenience, or discomfort; an unpleasant or irritating thing or person
13. sct an image	ν.	to create a work of art by carving, casting, or other shaping techniques
spend the weekend with their grids	n.	the grandchildren of a particular person
15. flle atmosphere	adj.	able to burn easily
16. der my way	ν.	to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
17. st beliefs	n.	a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
18. gre the left shoulder	v.	to feed on grass or other vegetation, especially by nibbling at it repeatedly; to break the skin of a body part by scraping
19. nuce call	n.	something or someone that causes annoyance, inconvenience, or discomfort; an unpleasant or irritating thing or person
ANSWERS: 10. patchwork, 11. vitality, 12. flammable, 16. devour, 17. sect, 18. graze		

underwrite, 26. understory, 27. meadow, 28. panoramic, 29. lawmaker

unintentional, 36. firefighter, 37. panoramic, 38. topography

39. der a meal	<i>v</i> .	to eat or consume something eagerly o
39. uei a illeai	<i>V</i> .	ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
40. marine cligy	n.	the scientific study of climate and weather patterns and their causes and effects
41. the vity of the company	n.	the state of being strong and active; energy
42. endangered bin	n.	a large wild animal of the cow family that has shaggy manes, large heads, and short horns, and there are American bison, also called buffalo, and European bison
43. arson-caused wire	n.	a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
44. non-flle fiber	adj.	able to burn easily
45. decided to be a firer	n.	a person whose job is to extinguish fire
46. cligy research	n.	the scientific study of climate and weather patterns and their causes and effects
47. detailed tophy	n.	the arrangement and physical features of a particular area or region, including its natural and artificial elements and their relative positions and elevations; the study or description of this arrangement and these features
48. park design	n.	a fabric made by stitching together small pieces of different colored and patterned fabrics; a mixture or grouping of diverse elements or components

flammable, 45. firefighter, 46. climatology, 47. topography, 48. patchwork

ANSWERS: 49. inherit, 50. wildfire, 51. keg, 52. crosstalk, 53. fir, 54. lawmaker, 55. sect, 56. sculpt, 57. elk

58. wi__y hillside

adj. characterized by or affected by strong winds; of or relating to the wind; describing a person who talks a lot, often in an exaggerated way or without saying much substance

59. e k population

 a large species of deer native to North America and eastern Asia, known for its large antlers and imposing size

60. cute gr___ids

n. the grandchildren of a particular person

61. k_g of beer

 a small barrel or cask, typically made of metal or wood, that is used for storing and transporting liquids, especially beer;

- 62. on the lo___t for danger
- a person or group of people who are responsible for watching for danger or other potential threats and warning others of their presence

ANSWERS: 58. windy, 59. elk, 60. grandkid, 61. keg, 62. lookout

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. <i>n</i> .	The approach to funding led to an uneven distribution of resources. a fabric made by stitching together small pieces of different colored and patterned fabrics; a mixture or grouping of diverse elements or components
	The mistake was and made in good faith. not done or made on purpose; accidental
3. n.	This company has increased political contributions to federal a politician or legislator who is responsible for making and changing laws
4.	The fly kept buzzing around my head.
adj	causing annoyance, irritation, or trouble; persistent in a vexing or troublesome manner
5.	The destroyed hundreds of homes and forced thousands of people to evacuate.
n.	a large, uncontrolled fire that spreads quickly through a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or mountain slope
6.	The broke into the house bravely to rescue the children.
n.	a person whose job is to extinguish fires
7.	The lush was covered in wildflowers.
n.	a field of grass and wildflowers, especially one used for hay
8. adj	We hiked to the top of the hill for a view of the city below. relating to an unobstructed and wide view of an extensive area; all-encompassing
	SWERS: 1. patchwork, 2. unintentional, 3. lawmakers, 4. pesky, 5. wildfire, 6. fighter, 7. meadow, 8. panoramic

ANSWERS: 17. crosstalk, 18. understory, 19. bison, 20. lookout, 21. devoured, 22. unequal, 23. graze

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ANSWERS:			