

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Josh Luber: Why sneakers are a great investment |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

propel

v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

synonym: drive, push, move

(1) **propel** growth, (2) **propel** the ship

An increase in employment helps **propel** economic growth.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict

Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

sneak

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

synonym: creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

anomaly

n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand

synonym: abnormality, irregularity, deviation

(1) **anomaly** detection, (2) global temperature **anomaly**
The sudden drop in the stock market was an **anomaly** that puzzled many investors.

pantheon

n. a temple dedicated to all the gods or goddesses of a particular religion or mythology; a group of something or someone that is remarkably respected, famous, or important

synonym: temple, shrine, sanctuary

(1) **pantheon** of products, (2) ancient **pantheon**
The **pantheon** of Greek gods and goddesses is well-known throughout Western culture.

diverge

v. to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course

synonym: separate, split, part

(1) **diverge** from tradition, (2) **diverge** from the main topic
As tectonic plates **diverge**, new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.

ahold

adv. to take hold of something, to grasp firmly

synonym: totally, completely, firmly

(1) grab **ahold** of the rope, (2) take **ahold** of the situation
I was able to get **ahold** of the concert tickets before they sold out.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student
He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

unregulated

adj. not subject to official rules, procedures, or oversight; not controlled or supervised by a governing authority or system

synonym: uncontrolled, unmonitored, unbridled

(1) **unregulated** market, (2) **unregulated** off-shore fishing
Without regulations, the industry is **unregulated** and potentially dangerous.

spawn

v. to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop

synonym: beget, breed, generate

(1) **spawn** in spring, (2) **spawn** a new concept

The salmon swims upstream to **spawn** in the place they were released.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

chew

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

synonym: masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

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.

ingeniously

adv. in a clever, inventive, or resourceful manner; with great skill, creativity, or ingenuity

synonym: cleverly, resourcefully

(1) **ingeniously** planned, (2) **ingeniously** crafted

The engineer **ingeniously** solved the complex problem with a simple yet effective solution.

cachet

n. a mark or emblem that signifies prestige, quality, or value; a seal or stamp used to guarantee the authenticity

synonym: prestige, seal, stamp

(1) **cachet** of luxury, (2) social **cachet**

The prestigious university had a **cachet** attracting top students and faculty worldwide.

consign

v. to give over, entrust, or assign control of something, particularly to another person, for safekeeping or delivery; to designate or set aside something for a particular purpose or use

synonym: transfer, deliver, entrust

(1) **consign** to oblivion, (2) **consign** the rare coins to an auction house

I will **consign** these old clothes to the donation bin.

mortar

n. a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances

synonym: howitzer, cement mixer, masonry tool

(1) **mortar** joints, (2) apply **mortar**

The bricklayer started on the second course of bricks, laying them in fresh **mortar**.

markdown

n. a reduction or decrease in the price or value of something; a formatting syntax used in writing or editing text, typically used to indicate formatting styles or elements in plain text before it is converted to a different format

synonym: sale, discount, reduction

(1) **markdown** price, (2) **markdown** language

I bought this shirt at a 50% **markdown**, so it was a great deal.

onstage

adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

(1) appeared **onstage**, (2) walk **onstage**

He performed his magic trick **onstage**, leaving the audience in awe.

Session 2: Spelling

1. an op_____ne remark
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
2. ind_____us worker
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
3. sn__k a cigarette
v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
4. sma_____ne addict
n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
5. grab ah__d of the rope
adv. to take hold of something, to grasp firmly
6. c__w each word
v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
7. ma_____wn price
n. a reduction or decrease in the price or value of something; a formatting syntax used in writing or editing text, typically used to indicate formatting styles or elements in plain text before it is converted to a different format
8. ing_____ly crafted
adv. in a clever, inventive, or resourceful manner; with great skill, creativity, or ingenuity
9. pr___l the ship
v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force

ANSWERS: 1. opportune, 2. industrious, 3. sneak, 4. smartphone, 5. ahold, 6. chew, 7. markdown, 8. ingeniously, 9. propel

10. di____e from tradition *v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
11. su____s imagination *v.* to be or do better than someone or something; to excel or go beyond the limits or standards of something
12. sp__n a new concept *v.* to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop
13. ind____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
14. unr____ed off-shore fishing *adj.* not subject to official rules, procedures, or oversight; not controlled or supervised by a governing authority or system
15. ma____wn language *n.* a reduction or decrease in the price or value of something; a formatting syntax used in writing or editing text, typically used to indicate formatting styles or elements in plain text before it is converted to a different format
16. walk on____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
17. apply mo____r *n.* a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances
18. take ah__d of the situation *adv.* to take hold of something, to grasp firmly
19. ancient pa____on *n.* a temple dedicated to all the gods or goddesses of a particular religion or mythology; a group of something or someone that is remarkably respected, famous, or important

ANSWERS: 10. diverge, 11. surpass, 12. spawn, 13. industrious, 14. unregulated, 15. markdown, 16. onstage, 17. mortar, 18. ahold, 19. pantheon

20. pa____on of products *n.* a temple dedicated to all the gods or goddesses of a particular religion or mythology; a group of something or someone that is remarkably respected, famous, or important
21. ing_____ly planned *adv.* in a clever, inventive, or resourceful manner; with great skill, creativity, or ingenuity
22. co_____n to oblivion *v.* to give over, entrust, or assign control of something, particularly to another person, for safekeeping or delivery; to designate or set aside something for a particular purpose or use
23. di_____e from the main topic *v.* to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
24. 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
25. co_____n the rare coins to an auction house *v.* to give over, entrust, or assign control of something, particularly to another person, for safekeeping or delivery; to designate or set aside something for a particular purpose or use
26. mo___r joints *n.* a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances
27. appeared on_____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience

ANSWERS: 20. pantheon, 21. ingeniously, 22. consign, 23. diverge, 24. surpass, 25. consign, 26. mortar, 27. onstage

28. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
29. sp__n in spring *v.* to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop
30. global temperature an_____y *n.* something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand
31. an_____y detection *n.* something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand
32. c__w a stick of gum *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
33. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
34. sn__k out of danger *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
35. pr___l growth *v.* to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
36. unr_____ed market *adj.* not subject to official rules, procedures, or oversight; not controlled or supervised by a governing authority or system
37. social ca___t *n.* a mark or emblem that signifies prestige, quality, or value; a seal or stamp used to guarantee the authenticity

ANSWERS: 28. smartphone, 29. spawn, 30. anomaly, 31. anomaly, 32. chew, 33. opportune, 34. sneak, 35. propel, 36. unregulated, 37. cachet

38. ca___t of luxury

n. a mark or emblem that signifies prestige, quality, or value; a seal or stamp used to guarantee the authenticity

ANSWERS: 38. cachet

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The bricklayer started on the second course of bricks, laying them in fresh _____.
n. a mixture of cement, sand, and water used for binding building materials together; a heavy, deep bowl used to pound or grind substances
2. 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
3. He performed his magic trick _____ leaving the audience in awe.
adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
4. An increase in employment helps _____ economic growth.
v. to move, drive or push something forward or in a particular direction, often with a lot of force
5. The prestigious university had a _____ attracting top students and faculty worldwide.
n. a mark or emblem that signifies prestige, quality, or value; a seal or stamp used to guarantee the authenticity
6. Without regulations, the industry is _____ and potentially dangerous.
adj. not subject to official rules, procedures, or oversight; not controlled or supervised by a governing authority or system
7. The sudden drop in the stock market was an _____ that puzzled many investors.
n. something or someone that deviates from what is expected or normal, often in a way that is difficult to explain or understand

ANSWERS: 1. mortar, 2. surpassed, 3. onstage, 4. propel, 5. cachet, 6. unregulated, 7. anomaly

8. I will _____ these old clothes to the donation bin.
- v. to give over, entrust, or assign control of something, particularly to another person, for safekeeping or delivery; to designate or set aside something for a particular purpose or use
9. The children tried to _____ out and eat the candy.
- v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
10. My dog loves to _____ on bones.
- v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
11. The salmon swims upstream to _____ in the place they were released.
- v. to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop
12. I bought this shirt at a 50% _____ so it was a great deal.
- n. a reduction or decrease in the price or value of something; a formatting syntax used in writing or editing text, typically used to indicate formatting styles or elements in plain text before it is converted to a different format
13. As tectonic plates _____ new oceanic crust is formed along mid-ocean ridges.
- v. to move or extend in different directions from a common point; to branch off or deviate from a path or course
14. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
- n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
15. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 8. consign, 9. sneak, 10. chew, 11. spawn, 12. markdown, 13. diverge, 14. smartphones, 15. opportune

16. I was able to get _____ of the concert tickets before they sold out.

adv. to take hold of something, to grasp firmly

17. The engineer _____ solved the complex problem with a simple yet effective solution.

adv. in a clever, inventive, or resourceful manner; with great skill, creativity, or ingenuity

18. The _____ of Greek gods and goddesses is well-known throughout Western culture.

n. a temple dedicated to all the gods or goddesses of a particular religion or mythology; a group of something or someone that is remarkably respected, famous, or important

19. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 16. ahold, 17. ingeniously, 18. pantheon, 19. industrious