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Riccardo Sabatini: How to read the genome and build a human being | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

mesmerize

v. to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of

synonym: captivate, trance, enchant

(1) **mesmerize** a subject, (2) **mesmerize** with magic

The magician's performance **mesmerized** the audience.

astonishing

adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe

synonym: surprising, shocking, astounding

(1) **astonishing** achievement, (2) make **astonishing** gains

The news of her sudden death was **astonishing** to everyone who knew her.

titanic

adj. of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

synonym: colossal, massive, immense

(1) **titanic** battle, (2) **titanic** compound

The **titanic** ship sank on its maiden voyage.

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.

poke

v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
synonym : prod, jab, push

(1) **poke** around the desk, (2) **poke** a fire

They **poked** fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

unroll

v. to unwind or unfurl something that has been rolled up, such as a carpet or banner; to reveal or make visible something that was previously concealed or hidden
synonym : unwind, unfurl, wind off

(1) **unroll** the gift wrap, (2) **unroll** paper

I **unroll** the mat before starting my yoga practice.

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.

mute

adj. silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated

synonym : silent, unspoken, voiceless

(1) **mute** button, (2) **mute** sound

The actor played a **mute** character and had to rely on facial expressions to portray his emotions.

condemn

v. to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

synonym : criticize, denounce, censure

(1) **condemn** violence, (2) **condemn** crime

The government was **condemned** for its handling of the crisis.

cyst

n. a sac, cavity, or abnormal growth in the body that is typically filled with fluid or semisolid material; usually benign but can also be cancerous and require treatment

synonym : abscess, sac, lump

(1) **cyst** removal, (2) ovarian **cyst**

The patient was sent for an X-ray to determine the cause of the **cyst** in her abdomen.

fibrosis

n. the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure

synonym: scarring, hardening, fibrotic disease

(1) **fibrosis** diagnosis, (2) pulmonary **fibrosis**

The doctor diagnosed him with cardiac **fibrosis**, which put him at risk for heart failure.

longevity

n. the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service

synonym: seniority, endurance

(1) **longevity** crisis, (2) **longevity** genes

He is proud of the **longevity** of the business.

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.

phenotype

n. the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives

synonym: trait, characteristic, attribute

(1) **phenotype** variation, (2) dominant **phenotype**

Our genetic **phenotype** determines the color of our eyes.

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.

centimeter

n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

(1) **centimeter** measurement, (2) thirty **centimeters** tall

The room was only one **centimeter** wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.

ballpark

v. a place or facility where baseball is played; a rough estimation of something

synonym: arena, proximity, vicinity

(1) **ballpark** price, (2) major-league **ballpark**

It'll be somewhere in the **ballpark** of \$100.

scatter

v. to cause to separate and go in different directions

synonym: disperse, spread, bestrew

(1) **scatter** seeds, (2) **scatter** around the internet

The hunter's approach **scattered** the geese.

well-defined

adj. having clear and precise boundaries or characteristics; distinctly outlined or delimited; easily understood or recognizable

synonym: clear, distinct, precise

(1) **well-defined** terms, (2) **well-defined** objectives

The **well-defined** set of instructions made it easy to assemble the furniture.

embed

v. to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass

synonym: entrench, fix, set

(1) **embed** scripts in the message, (2) **embed** a sensor

The company **embedded** a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.

compress

v. to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space

synonym: condense, constrict, squeeze

(1) **compress** the chest, (2) **compress** gas

She **compressed** the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.

asymmetrical

adj. lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position

synonym : uneven, lopsided, crooked

(1) **asymmetrical** design, (2) **asymmetrical** haircut

The **asymmetrical** shape of the vase made it unique and exciting.

vial

n. a small glass container, especially one containing liquid medicine or perfume

synonym : container, bottle, flask

(1) glass **vials**, (2) insulin **vial**

This medication is sealed in a **vial**.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

beard

n. hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin

synonym : facial hair, whiskers, stubble

(1) a black **beard**, (2) shave my **beard**

He grew a thick **beard** to change his appearance.

photoshop

v. to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools

synonym : edit, retouch, manipulate

(1) **photoshop** a picture, (2) **photoshop** the background of

the image

The photographer **photoshopped** the image to enhance the lighting and contrast.

confine

v. to restrict the movement of someone or something

synonym: restrict, limit, contain

(1) **confine** themselves solely, (2) **confine** the scope of use

The animal was **confined** in a small cage.

Session 2: Spelling

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| 1. un___l the gift wrap | <i>v.</i> to unwind or unfurl something that has been rolled up, such as a carpet or banner; to reveal or make visible something that was previously concealed or hidden |
| 2. talented ph_____st | <i>n.</i> a scientist who specializes in the field of physics |
| 3. co_____e themselves solely | <i>v.</i> to restrict the movement of someone or something |
| 4. sc_____r around the internet | <i>v.</i> to cause to separate and go in different directions |
| 5. ti_____c compound | <i>adj.</i> of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element) |
| 6. asy_____cal design | <i>adj.</i> lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position |
| 7. wel_____ned terms | <i>adj.</i> having clear and precise boundaries or characteristics; distinctly outlined or delimited; easily understood or recognizable |
| 8. ph_____op the background of the image | <i>v.</i> to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools |
| 9. insulin v___l | <i>n.</i> a small glass container, especially one containing liquid medicine or perfume |

ANSWERS: 1. unroll, 2. physicist, 3. confine, 4. scatter, 5. titanic, 6. asymmetrical, 7. well-defined, 8. photoshop, 9. vial

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 10. asy_____cal haircut | <i>adj.</i> lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position |
| 11. major-league ba_____rk | <i>v.</i> a place or facility where baseball is played; a rough estimation of something |
| 12. me_____al chemistry | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease |
| 13. em__d scripts in the message | <i>v.</i> to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass |
| 14. co_____ss the chest | <i>v.</i> to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space |
| 15. glass v__ls | <i>n.</i> a small glass container, especially one containing liquid medicine or perfume |
| 16. pulmonary fi_____is | <i>n.</i> the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure |
| 17. lo_____ty genes | <i>n.</i> the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service |
| 18. co_____e the scope of use | <i>v.</i> to restrict the movement of someone or something |
| 19. ti_____c battle | <i>adj.</i> of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element) |
| 20. co_____n crime | <i>v.</i> to express strong disapproval or criticism of something |

ANSWERS: 10. asymmetrical, 11. ballpark, 12. medicinal, 13. embed, 14. compress, 15. vial, 16. fibrosis, 17. longevity, 18. confine, 19. titanic, 20. condemn

21. appeared on_____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
22. personality tr__ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature
23. fi_____is diagnosis *n.* the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure
24. ast_____ng achievement *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
25. shave my be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
26. chemical tr__t *n.* a particular feature of your nature
27. wel_____ned objectives *adj.* having clear and precise boundaries or characteristics; distinctly outlined or delimited; easily understood or recognizable
28. me_____ze a subject *v.* to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
29. c__t removal *n.* a sac, cavity, or abnormal growth in the body that is typically filled with fluid or semisolid material; usually benign but can also be cancerous and require treatment
30. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

ANSWERS: 21. onstage, 22. trait, 23. fibrosis, 24. astonishing, 25. beard, 26. trait, 27. well-defined, 28. mesmerize, 29. cyst, 30. medicinal

31. me_____ze with magic *v.* to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
32. co_____n violence *v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something
33. p__e a fire *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
34. sc_____r seeds *v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
35. thirty cen_____ers tall *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
36. ph_____pe variation *n.* the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives
37. m__e button *adj.* silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated
38. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
39. ph_____op a picture *v.* to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools
40. make ast_____ng gains *adj.* surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
41. m__e sound *adj.* silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated

ANSWERS: 31. mesmerize, 32. condemn, 33. poke, 34. scatter, 35. centimeter, 36. phenotype, 37. mute, 38. rev, 39. photoshop, 40. astonishing, 41. mute

42. walk on____e *adv.* onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
43. em__d a sensor *v.* to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
44. a black be__d *n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
45. dominant ph____pe *n.* the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives
46. p__e around the desk *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
47. co____ss gas *v.* to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
48. ba____rk price *v.* a place or facility where baseball is played; a rough estimation of something
49. theoretical ph____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
50. un___l paper *v.* to unwind or unfurl something that has been rolled up, such as a carpet or banner; to reveal or make visible something that was previously concealed or hidden
51. lo____ty crisis *n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
52. ovarian c__t *n.* a sac, cavity, or abnormal growth in the body that is typically filled with fluid or semisolid material; usually benign but can also be cancerous and require treatment

ANSWERS: 42. onstage, 43. embed, 44. beard, 45. phenotype, 46. poke, 47. compress, 48. ballpark, 49. physicist, 50. unroll, 51. longevity, 52. cyst

53. cen_____er measurement

n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

54. low-r_v engine

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 53. centimeter, 54. rev

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. This medication is sealed in a _____.
n. a small glass container, especially one containing liquid medicine or perfume
2. It'll be somewhere in the _____ of \$100.
v. a place or facility where baseball is played; a rough estimation of something
3. She _____ the files into a single ZIP archive to save space on her computer.
v. to press or squeeze together to make something take up less space
4. The room was only one _____ wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.
n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
5. The news of her sudden death was _____ to everyone who knew her.
adj. surprising or shocking; difficult to believe
6. The actor played a _____ character and had to rely on facial expressions to portray his emotions.
adj. silent; not speaking or unable to speak; not expressed or articulated
7. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.
n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
8. I _____ the mat before starting my yoga practice.
v. to unwind or unfurl something that has been rolled up, such as a carpet or banner; to reveal or make visible something that was previously concealed or hidden

ANSWERS: 1. vial, 2. ballpark, 3. compressed, 4. centimeter, 5. astonishing, 6. mute, 7. physicist, 8. unroll

9. He performed his magic trick _____ leaving the audience in awe.
adv. onto or on a stage in a theater; in front of an audience
10. They _____ fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.
v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
11. The animal was _____ in a small cage.
v. to restrict the movement of someone or something
12. The magician's performance _____ the audience.
v. to captivate or fascinate; to hold the complete attention of
13. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
14. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.
n. a particular feature of your nature
15. The _____ shape of the vase made it unique and exciting.
adj. lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position
16. The company _____ a tracking code in the product's packaging to monitor its shipment.
v. to fix or set firmly in a surrounding mass
17. The _____ ship sank on its maiden voyage.
adj. of or having a great size, power, or influence; of or relating to Titanium (= a light, strong grey, lustrous, corrosion-resistant metallic element)

ANSWERS: 9. onstage, 10. poked, 11. confined, 12. mesmerized, 13. rev, 14. traits, 15. asymmetrical, 16. embedded, 17. titanic

18. The photographer _____ the image to enhance the lighting and contrast.
- v.* to edit or manipulate digital images or photographs using Adobe Photoshop software or similar tools
19. The patient was sent for an X-ray to determine the cause of the _____ in her abdomen.
- n.* a sac, cavity, or abnormal growth in the body that is typically filled with fluid or semisolid material; usually benign but can also be cancerous and require treatment
20. The hunter's approach _____ the geese.
- v.* to cause to separate and go in different directions
21. The _____ set of instructions made it easy to assemble the furniture.
- adj.* having clear and precise boundaries or characteristics; distinctly outlined or delimited; easily understood or recognizable
22. Our genetic _____ determines the color of our eyes.
- n.* the observable physical or biochemical characteristics of an individual organism that result from the interaction between its genetic makeup and the environment in which it lives
23. He grew a thick _____ to change his appearance.
- n.* hair that grows on a man's face, often around the mouth and chin
24. He is proud of the _____ of the business.
- n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
25. 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: 18. photoshopped, 19. cyst, 20. scattered, 21. well-defined, 22. phenotype, 23. beard, 24. longevity, 25. medicinal

26. The doctor diagnosed him with cardiac _____ which put him at risk for heart failure.

- n.* the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure

27. The government was _____ for its handling of the crisis.

- v.* to express strong disapproval or criticism of something

ANSWERS: 26. fibrosis, 27. condemned