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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dawn Landes: A song for my hero, the woman who rowed into a hurricane | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sever

v. to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly

synonym: cut apart, separate, detach

(1) **sever** a rope, (2) **sever** a positive relationship

He **severed** a branch from a tree quickly.

long-range

adj. relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities

synonym: far-reaching, extended, distant

(1) **long-range** radar, (2) **long-range** weather forecast

The military uses **long-range** missiles to hit targets from far away.

dolphin

n. a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid

synonym: porpoise, cetacean, marine mammal

(1) **dolphin** show, (2) **dolphin-watching** tour

The large group of **dolphins** swam gracefully in the ocean, jumping out of the water now and then.

sprain

v. to injure a joint in your body by a sudden wrenching of it

synonym: turn, twist, wrench

(1) **sprain** a joint, (2) **sprain** my knee in a game
She **sprained** her ankles when she fell.

capsize

v. to overturn or tip over a boat or other watercraft; to turn upside down or on its side, often as a result of a sudden force or imbalance

synonym: overturn, overturning, tipping

(1) **capsize** a boat, (2) **capsize** in the middle of the storm
The strong wind caused the kayak to **capsize**, throwing the paddler into the water.

rib

n. each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

synonym: costa

(1) brake a **rib**, (2) **rib** cage
The accident caused a cracked **rib**.

beacon

n. a light or other visible object serving as a signal, guide, or warning

synonym: lighthouse, guidepost, marker

(1) an aerial **beacon**, (2) **beacon** of hope
The lighthouse served as a **beacon** to guide ships safely into port.

shred

v. to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount

synonym: rip up, tear up, cut

(1) **shred** paper into little pieces, (2) **shred** lettuce for a salad
There is not a **shred** of evidence that he is guilty.

adrift

adj. without purpose or direction; floating with no clear destination or goal; lacking a stable or secure position or status

synonym: afloat, aimless, unanchored

(1) **adrift** boat, (2) **adrift** at sea

After their boat engine failed, they were left **adrift** in the middle of the ocean.

bravery

n. courage in the face of danger

synonym: courage, valor, heroism

(1) **bravery** against the enemy, (2) **bravery** under fire
His **bravery** in the face of danger saved the lives of his comrades.

dishearten

v. to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize

synonym: discourage, dismay, demoralize

(1) **dishearten** employees, (2) **dishearten** the hopeful job applicant

The team's loss in the semifinals did not **dishearten** their determination to return stronger next season.

moonlight

n. the light of the moon, which is reflected sunlight and is much weaker than direct sunlight; (verb) to work at a second job, often in addition to one's regular employment, usually without the knowledge or approval of one's employer

synonym: moonshine, moonbeam, moon glow

(1) **moonlight** as a bartender, (2) **moonlight** serenade

The garden looked magical in the **moonlight**, with the flowers and trees casting eerie shadows.

driftwood

n. wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel

synonym: floatwood, beachwood, logwood

(1) **driftwood** art, (2) beach **driftwood**

A large **driftwood** branch provided a perfect perch for the seagull to rest on.

wayward

adj. behaving or acting in an unpredictable, erratic, or disobedient manner; straying from what is considered

normal, expected, or acceptable

synonym : errant, perverse, disobedient

(1) **wayward** path, (2) **wayward** child

His **wayward** behavior led him down a destructive path.

Session 2: Spelling

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| 1. br____y under fire | <i>n.</i> courage in the face of danger |
| 2. dis_____en employees | <i>v.</i> to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize |
| 3. dr_____od art | <i>n.</i> wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel |
| 4. sp____n my knee in a game | <i>v.</i> to injure a joint in your body by a sudden wrenching of it |
| 5. mo_____ht serenade | <i>n.</i> the light of the moon, which is reflected sunlight and is much weaker than direct sunlight; (verb) to work at a second job, often in addition to one's regular employment, usually without the knowledge or approval of one's employer |
| 6. ca_____e a boat | <i>v.</i> to overturn or tip over a boat or other watercraft; to turn upside down or on its side, often as a result of a sudden force or imbalance |
| 7. mo_____ht as a bartender | <i>n.</i> the light of the moon, which is reflected sunlight and is much weaker than direct sunlight; (verb) to work at a second job, often in addition to one's regular employment, usually without the knowledge or approval of one's employer |

ANSWERS: 1. bravery, 2. dishearten, 3. driftwood, 4. sprain, 5. moonlight, 6. capsize, 7. moonlight

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| 8. an aerial be___n | <i>n.</i> a light or other visible object serving as a signal, guide, or warning |
| 9. brake a r_b | <i>n.</i> each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule |
| 10. se__r a rope | <i>v.</i> to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly |
| 11. sp___n a joint | <i>v.</i> to injure a joint in your body by a sudden wrenching of it |
| 12. ad___t at sea | <i>adj.</i> without purpose or direction; floating with no clear destination or goal; lacking a stable or secure position or status |
| 13. sh__d lettuce for a salad | <i>v.</i> to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount |
| 14. lon_____ge weather forecast | <i>adj.</i> relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities |
| 15. do_____n-watching tour | <i>n.</i> a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid |
| 16. be___n of hope | <i>n.</i> a light or other visible object serving as a signal, guide, or warning |
| 17. sh__d paper into little pieces | <i>v.</i> to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount |
| 18. wa_____d child | <i>adj.</i> behaving or acting in an unpredictable, erratic, or disobedient manner; straying from what is considered normal, expected, or acceptable |

ANSWERS: 8. beacon, 9. rib, 10. sever, 11. sprain, 12. adrift, 13. shred, 14. long-range, 15. dolphin, 16. beacon, 17. shred, 18. wayward

19. r_b cage *n.* each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule
20. wa____d path *adj.* behaving or acting in an unpredictable, erratic, or disobedient manner; straying from what is considered normal, expected, or acceptable
21. beach dr____od *n.* wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel
22. br____y against the enemy *n.* courage in the face of danger
23. lon____ge radar *adj.* relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities
24. ad____t boat *adj.* without purpose or direction; floating with no clear destination or goal; lacking a stable or secure position or status
25. do____n show *n.* a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid
26. se__r a positive relationship *v.* to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly
27. dis____en the hopeful job applicant *v.* to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize
28. ca____e in the middle of the storm *v.* to overturn or tip over a boat or other watercraft; to turn upside down or on its side, often as a result of a sudden force or imbalance

ANSWERS: 19. rib, 20. wayward, 21. driftwood, 22. bravery, 23. long-range, 24. adrift, 25. dolphin, 26. sever, 27. dishearten, 28. capsize

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His _____ in the face of danger saved the lives of his comrades.
n. courage in the face of danger
2. There is not a _____ of evidence that he is guilty.
v. to tear or cut something into a small pieces; (noun) a tiny or scarcely detectable amount
3. The military uses _____ missiles to hit targets from far away.
adj. relating to or extending over a long distance, period of time, or range of possibilities
4. His _____ behavior led him down a destructive path.
adj. behaving or acting in an unpredictable, erratic, or disobedient manner; straying from what is considered normal, expected, or acceptable
5. She _____ her ankles when she fell.
v. to injure a joint in your body by a sudden wrenching of it
6. The large group of _____ swam gracefully in the ocean, jumping out of the water now and then.
n. a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid
7. After their boat engine failed, they were left _____ in the middle of the ocean.
adj. without purpose or direction; floating with no clear destination or goal; lacking a stable or secure position or status

ANSWERS: 1. bravery, 2. shred, 3. long-range, 4. wayward, 5. sprained, 6. dolphins, 7. adrift

8. The lighthouse served as a _____ to guide ships safely into port.
n. a light or other visible object serving as a signal, guide, or warning
9. The strong wind caused the kayak to _____ throwing the paddler into the water.
v. to overturn or tip over a boat or other watercraft; to turn upside down or on its side, often as a result of a sudden force or imbalance
10. A large _____ branch provided a perfect perch for the seagull to rest on.
n. wood that has been carried along by the current of a river or ocean and washed up on shore, often used for decorative purposes or as fuel
11. The garden looked magical in the _____ with the flowers and trees casting eerie shadows.
n. the light of the moon, which is reflected sunlight and is much weaker than direct sunlight; (verb) to work at a second job, often in addition to one's regular employment, usually without the knowledge or approval of one's employer
12. He _____ a branch from a tree quickly.
v. to break or separate something by cutting, especially suddenly and forcibly
13. The team's loss in the semifinals did not _____ their determination to return stronger next season.
v. to cause someone to lose hope, confidence, or enthusiasm; to discourage or demoralize
14. The accident caused a cracked _____.
n. each of a series of curved bones that are connected to the spine and surround the chest; (adjective) subject to laughter or ridicule

ANSWERS: 8. beacon, 9. capsize, 10. driftwood, 11. moonlight, 12. severed, 13. dishearten, 14. rib

ANSWERS: