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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

serpentine

adj. characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression

synonym : twisting, winding, curving

(1) **serpentine** road, (2) **serpentine** design

The **serpentine** river snaked through the lush forest.

ram

v. to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force

synonym : crash, collide, slam

(1) **ram** the door open, (2) **ram** into the ice

The car **rammed** into the wall, causing significant damage.

feudal

adj. relating to a system of government in which a lord has certain rights and responsibilities to vassals in exchange for military service or other services that developed in Europe in the 8th century

synonym : medieval, feudalistic, aristocratic

(1) a **feudal** lord, (2) **feudal** dictatorship

Lords and serfs characterized the **feudal** system of medieval Europe.

nomadic

adj. moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time

synonym : mobile, migratory, wandering

(1) **nomadic** life, (2) **nomadic** herdsmen

This dessert is the territory of **nomadic** tribes.

emperor

n. the male ruler of an empire

synonym : ruler, king, dictator

(1) **emperor** of Rome, (2) former **emperor**

The **Emperor** once lived in the vast palace.

plateau

n. an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress

synonym : mesa, tableland, plain

(1) **plateau** region, (2) **plateau** in performance

The hikers finally reached the **plateau** after a long climb up the mountain.

enlist

v. to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization

synonym : join, sign up, appoint

(1) **enlist** in a cause, (2) **enlist** for a soldier

He decided to **enlist** in the military after graduating from high school.

dynasty

n. a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country

(1) **dynasty** of China, (2) during the Ming **dynasty**

During the Habsburg **dynasty**, colonization began.

forcibly

adv. done by physical power or violence; against someone's will

synonym : violently, roughly, aggressively

(1) **forcibly** remove, (2) **forcibly** taken into a car

The police officer **forcibly** removed the protesters from the

public park.

conscript

v. to enlist or draft someone into military service or to compel someone to serve in a certain capacity; to recruit or oblige someone to do something against their will or preference

synonym: draft, enlist, conscribe

(1) **conscript** all non-disabled citizens, (2) **conscript** young men into military service

The army **conscripted** more than 50,000 soldiers during the conflict.

peasant

n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society

synonym: farmer, laborer, rustic

(1) **peasant** class, (2) exploited **peasant**

Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a **peasant**, but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.

laborer

n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

synonym: worker, employee, operative

(1) **laborer** job, (2) skilled **laborer**

The construction site hired many **laborers** to help with the heavy lifting.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

synonym: entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

exhaustion

n. the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength

synonym: fatigue, weariness, tiredness

(1) **exhaustion** of energy, (2) emotional **exhaustion**
The long work hours were taking a toll on her mental **exhaustion**.

formidable

adj. causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
synonym: daunting, intimidating, fearful

(1) **formidable** challenge, (2) **formidable** competitor
The mountain range was a **formidable** obstacle for the hikers.

invincible

adj. incapable of being conquered, defeated, or overcome; unassailable
synonym: unassailable, unbeatable, indomitable

(1) **invincible** army, (2) **invincible** will
The team felt **invincible** after their winning streak.

surmount

v. to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something
synonym: overcome, conquer, prevail

(1) **surmount** fears, (2) **surmount** challenges
You can **surmount** any obstacle in your path with determination and hard work.

fortify

v. to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support
synonym: strengthen, reinforce, bolster

(1) **fortify** a building, (2) **fortify** an immune system
He drank a protein shake to **fortify** his muscles before the marathon.

kiln

n. an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas
synonym: oven, furnace, hearth

(1) brick **kiln**, (2) electric **kiln**

The pottery was fired in the **kiln** for several hours to harden it.

punctuate

v. to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically

synonym: emphasize, accent, mark

(1) **punctuate** a sentence, (2) **punctuate** his talk

Strikes had also **punctuated** the preceding weeks.

archer

n. a person who shoots with a bow and arrow; a soldier equipped with a bow and arrows

synonym: Bowman, marksman, shooter

(1) **archer's** bow, (2) skilled **archer**

The **archer's** aim was so accurate he could hit a moving target without fail.

invade

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

synonym: intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

overthrow

v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

synonym: defeat, destroy, conquer

(1) **overthrow** the government, (2) **overthrow** the theory

The group aims to **overthrow** the military regime.

disrepair

n. a state of decay, damage, or neglect that results in the deterioration of the quality, function, or appearance of

something, particularly a structure or object

synonym: dilapidation, decay, deterioration

(1) building in **disrepair**, (2) equipment in **disrepair**

The abandoned building fell into **disrepair** after years of neglect.

erode

v. to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

synonym: wear away, deteriorate, corrode

(1) **erode** coast, (2) **erode** trust

The ongoing budget cuts have **eroded** the quality of education in many schools.

plunder

v. to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property

synonym: pillage, loot, despoil

(1) **plunder** the enemy's stronghold, (2) **plunder** his reputation

The pirates could **plunder** the ship and steal all of the valuable cargo.

sect

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

synonym: group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

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

rumor

n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth

synonym: gossip, whisper, talk

(1) a false **rumor**, (2) **rumor** mill

There was a baseless **rumor** that the company was going

bankrupt.

human-made

adj. created or produced by humans; artificial

synonym: artificial, unnatural, manufactured

(1) **human-made** climate change, (2) the worst **human-made** disaster

The bridge is a **human-made** structure and was built to span the river.

influx

n. the arrival or entry of a large number of people, objects, or ideas into a place or system

synonym: inflow, arrival, impression

(1) **influx** of capital, (2) **influx** of tourists

The **influx** of immigrants into urban areas can create significant social, economic, and political challenges for local communities.

deteriorate

v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate

synonym: decline, degenerate, regress

(1) **deteriorate** at a slow pace, (2) **deteriorate** condition

The patient's health **deteriorated** rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.

acclaim

n. praise or admiration that is expressed publicly; (verb) to praise or admire someone or something publicly

synonym: praise, admiration, welcome

(1) **acclaim** the winner, (2) treated with royal **acclaim**

The actor's performance in the play earned her widespread **acclaim** from the theater community.

discernible

adj. able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable

synonym: apparent, noticeable, distinguishable

(1) **discernible** pattern, (2) lack of **discernible** progress

There was a **discernible** change in the atmosphere when the boss walked into the room.

Session 2: Spelling

1. brick k__n *n.* an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas
2. fo____y an immune system *v.* to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support
3. ac____m the winner *n.* praise or admiration that is expressed publicly; (verb) to praise or admire someone or something publicly
4. en____t in a cause *v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization
5. dis____le pattern *adj.* able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable
6. det____te condition *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
7. skilled ar____r *n.* a person who shoots with a bow and arrow; a soldier equipped with a bow and arrows
8. fo____ly remove *adv.* done by physical power or violence; against someone's will
9. lack of dis____le progress *adj.* able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable
10. ov____ow the government *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

ANSWERS: 1. kiln, 2. fortify, 3. acclaim, 4. enlist, 5. discernible, 6. deteriorate, 7. archer, 8. forcibly, 9. discernible, 10. overthrow

- | | |
|---|---|
| 11. exh_____on of energy | <i>n.</i> the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength |
| 12. fo_____ly taken into a car | <i>adv.</i> done by physical power or violence; against someone's will |
| 13. secret s__t | <i>n.</i> a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream |
| 14. emotional exh_____on | <i>n.</i> the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength |
| 15. co_____pt all non-disabled citizens | <i>v.</i> to enlist or draft someone into military service or to compel someone to serve in a certain capacity; to recruit or oblige someone to do something against their will or preference |
| 16. b__y emotion | <i>v.</i> to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb |
| 17. pu_____te his talk | <i>v.</i> to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically |
| 18. ser_____ne design | <i>adj.</i> characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression |
| 19. skilled la_____r | <i>n.</i> a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks |
| 20. dy_____y of China | <i>n.</i> a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country |

ANSWERS: 11. exhaustion, 12. forcibly, 13. sect, 14. exhaustion, 15. conscript, 16. bury, 17. punctuate, 18. serpentine, 19. laborer, 20. dynasty

21. fe___l dictatorship *adj.* relating to a system of government in which a lord has certain rights and responsibilities to vassals in exchange for military service or other services that developed in Europe in the 8th century
22. inv_____le army *adj.* incapable of being conquered, defeated, or overcome; unassailable
23. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
24. exploited pe_____t *n.* a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
25. co_____pt young men into military service *v.* to enlist or draft someone into military service or to compel someone to serve in a certain capacity; to recruit or oblige someone to do something against their will or preference
26. ser_____ne road *adj.* characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression
27. former em_____r *n.* the male ruler of an empire
28. em_____r of Rome *n.* the male ruler of an empire
29. det_____te at a slow pace *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
30. for_____le competitor *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

ANSWERS: 21. feudal, 22. invincible, 23. improvisation, 24. peasant, 25. conscript, 26. serpentine, 27. emperor, 28. emperor, 29. deteriorate, 30. formidable

31. pe____t class *n.* a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society
32. no____c life *adj.* moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time
33. pl____r the enemy's stronghold *v.* to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property
34. en____t for a soldier *v.* to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization
35. er__e coast *v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
36. ru__r mill *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
37. fo____y a building *v.* to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support
38. no____c herdsmen *adj.* moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time
39. ov____ow the theory *v.* to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force

ANSWERS: 31. peasant, 32. nomadic, 33. plunder, 34. enlist, 35. erode, 36. rumor, 37. fortify, 38. nomadic, 39. overthrow

40. hum_____de climate change *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
41. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
42. r_m the door open *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
43. pl_____u in performance *n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress
44. r_m into the ice *v.* to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
45. er___e trust *v.* to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time
46. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
47. la_____r job *n.* a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks
48. su_____nt fears *v.* to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something

ANSWERS: 40. human-made, 41. invade, 42. ram, 43. plateau, 44. ram, 45. erode, 46. invade, 47. laborer, 48. surmount

49. the worst hum_____de disaster *adj.* created or produced by humans; artificial
50. s__t 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
51. in___x of tourists *n.* the arrival or entry of a large number of people, objects, or ideas into a place or system
52. electric k__n *n.* an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas
53. pl_____r his reputation *v.* to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property
54. building in di_____ir *n.* a state of decay, damage, or neglect that results in the deterioration of the quality, function, or appearance of something, particularly a structure or object
55. a false ru__r *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
56. for_____le challenge *adj.* causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration

ANSWERS: 49. human-made, 50. sect, 51. influx, 52. kiln, 53. plunder, 54. disrepair, 55. rumor, 56. formidable

57. a fe___l lord *adj.* relating to a system of government in which a lord has certain rights and responsibilities to vassals in exchange for military service or other services that developed in Europe in the 8th century
58. treated with royal ac____m *n.* praise or admiration that is expressed publicly; (verb) to praise or admire someone or something publicly
59. pl____u region *n.* an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress
60. in___x of capital *n.* the arrival or entry of a large number of people, objects, or ideas into a place or system
61. su____nt challenges *v.* to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something
62. during the Ming dy____y *n.* a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country
63. ar___r's bow *n.* a person who shoots with a bow and arrow; a soldier equipped with a bow and arrows
64. pu_____te a sentence *v.* to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically
65. b__y in the earth *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

ANSWERS: 57. feudal, 58. acclaim, 59. plateau, 60. influx, 61. surmount, 62. dynasty, 63. archer, 64. punctuate, 65. bury

66. equipment in di_____ir

n. a state of decay, damage, or neglect that results in the deterioration of the quality, function, or appearance of something, particularly a structure or object

67. inv_____le will

adj. incapable of being conquered, defeated, or overcome; unassailable

68. imp_____ion on stage

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

ANSWERS: 66. disrepair, 67. invincible, 68. improvisation

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The hikers finally reached the _____ after a long climb up the mountain.
n. an elevated, relatively level expanse of land, typically vast and extending over a large area; a state or period of little or no change following a period of growth, development, or progress
2. The car _____ into the wall, causing significant damage.
v. to strike or push forcefully, often to cause damage; to batter or break open a door or barrier using brute force
3. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.
v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
4. The mountain range was a _____ obstacle for the hikers.
adj. causing fear, apprehension, or awe; difficult to deal with or overcome; capable of inspiring respect or admiration
5. The _____ river snaked through the lush forest.
adj. characterized by twists, turns, or curves shaped like a snake; sly, cunning, or devious in behavior or expression
6. The actor's performance in the play earned her widespread _____ from the theater community.
n. praise or admiration that is expressed publicly; (verb) to praise or admire someone or something publicly
7. Many people today romanticize the idea of the simple life of a _____ but in reality, it was a difficult and often harsh existence.
n. a farmer or agricultural worker who owns or rents a small piece of land and grows crops, especially in a traditional or undeveloped society

ANSWERS: 1. plateau, 2. rammed, 3. invade, 4. formidable, 5. serpentine, 6. acclaim, 7. peasant,

8. This desert is the territory of _____ tribes.

adj. moving from one location to another rather than staying in one place all of the time

9. There was a _____ change in the atmosphere when the boss walked into the room.

adj. able to be perceived or recognized; clear or distinguishable

10. Lords and serfs characterized the _____ system of medieval Europe.

adj. relating to a system of government in which a lord has certain rights and responsibilities to vassals in exchange for military service or other services that developed in Europe in the 8th century

11. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

12. The _____ of immigrants into urban areas can create significant social, economic, and political challenges for local communities.

n. the arrival or entry of a large number of people, objects, or ideas into a place or system

13. The ongoing budget cuts have _____ the quality of education in many schools.

v. to gradually wear away or break down (rock, soil, or other material) through the action of wind, water, or other natural agents; to gradually weaken or undermine (something) over time

14. The _____ aim was so accurate he could hit a moving target without fail.

n. a person who shoots with a bow and arrow; a soldier equipped with a bow and arrows

ANSWERS: 8. nomadic, 9. discernible, 10. feudal, 11. bury, 12. influx, 13. eroded, 14. archer's

15. The bridge is a _____ structure and was built to span the river.
adj. created or produced by humans; artificial
16. He decided to _____ in the military after graduating from high school.
v. to sign up to serve in the military or a particular organization
17. The group aims to _____ the military regime.
v. to defeat or remove a leader or a government from a position of power by force
18. The long work hours were taking a toll on her mental _____.
n. the state of being extremely tired and lacking energy or strength
19. Strikes had also _____ the preceding weeks.
v. to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically
20. There was a baseless _____ that the company was going bankrupt.
n. a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
21. The _____ once lived in the vast palace.
n. the male ruler of an empire
22. The pirates could _____ the ship and steal all of the valuable cargo.
v. to rob or steal, especially by force or in times of war or chaos; to pillage or loot a place or property
23. During the Habsburg _____ colonization began.
n. a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country

ANSWERS: 15. human-made, 16. enlist, 17. overthrow, 18. exhaustion, 19. punctuated, 20. rumor, 21. Emperor, 22. plunder, 23. dynasty,

24. The team felt _____ after their winning streak.

adj. incapable of being conquered, defeated, or overcome; unassailable

25. The pottery was fired in the _____ for several hours to harden it.

n. an oven or furnace used for baking, drying, or firing clay, pottery, bricks, or other materials; typically made of brick or refractory material and heated with wood, coal, or gas

26. He drank a protein shake to _____ his muscles before the marathon.

v. to make something stronger or more resistant to attack or damage; to give someone or something more strength or support

27. The construction site hired many _____ to help with the heavy lifting.

n. a person who works hard physically, typically doing unskilled or manual labor; a worker or employee who performs physically demanding tasks

28. The patient's health _____ rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.

v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate

29. The police officer _____ removed the protesters from the public park.

adv. done by physical power or violence; against someone's will

30. The army _____ more than 50,000 soldiers during the conflict.

v. to enlist or draft someone into military service or to compel someone to serve in a certain capacity; to recruit or oblige someone to do something against their will or preference

31. The minority _____ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

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

ANSWERS: 24. invincible, 25. kiln, 26. fortify, 27. laborers, 28. deteriorated, 29. forcibly, 30. conscripted, 31. sect

32. The abandoned building fell into _____ after years of neglect.
- n.* a state of decay, damage, or neglect that results in the deterioration of the quality, function, or appearance of something, particularly a structure or object
33. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
34. You can _____ any obstacle in your path with determination and hard work.
- v.* to overcome or conquer a difficulty, obstacle, or challenge; to rise above or be victorious over something

ANSWERS: 32. disrepair, 33. improvisation, 34. surmount