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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ben Wellington: How we found the worst place to park in New York City -- using big data | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/ben_wellington_how_we_found_the_worst_place_to_park_in_new_york_city_using_big_data

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

tram

n. a vehicle or conveyance, typically for passengers, which runs on rails and is propelled by an overhead or underground cable or electricity; a streetcar or cable car

synonym: streetcar, trolley, tramcar

(1) **tram** line, (2) a **tram** stop

I took the city **tram** to get downtown.

boast

v. to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction

synonym: show off, brag, bluster

(1) **boast** of his success, (2) **boast** a long history

This town **boasts** a national park.

limousine

n. a large, luxurious car usually driven by a chauffeur, often used for special occasions or for transporting important people

(1) **limousine** service, (2) **limousine** driver

The wealthy businessman arrived at the gala in his luxurious **limousine**.

policymaker

n. a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.

synonym : lawmaker, legislator

(1) education **policymaker**, (2) regional **policymaker**

Policymakers struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.

dataset

n. a structured collection of data that is compiled and processed in a computer system or program, typically for analysis, research, or machine learning purposes

synonym : data array, database

(1) **dataset** analysis, (2) publicly available **dataset**

The scientist analyzed the large **dataset** to conclude the experiment.

hotspot

n. a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity

synonym : epicenter, cluster, outbreak

(1) covid-19 **hotspot**, (2) geographic **hotspot**

The airport is a **hotspot** for tourists and travelers from around the world.

scrape

v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

synonym : scratch, graze, rub

(1) **scrape** meat off a bone, (2) **scrape** a hole in the ground

He **scraped** the mud off his boots before entering the house.

entomb

v. to place or bury a person or object in a tomb or grave; to trap or enclose someone or something within a confined space

synonym : bury, tomb, inter

(1) **entomb** a body, (2) **entomb** the pharaoh

The ancient burial site **entombs** the remains of long-lost civilizations.

legislator

n. a member of a group of people who has the power to make or enact laws

synonym: lawmaker, lawgiver, administrator

(1) a **legislator** appointed by the party, (2) incumbent **legislator**

Corporate executives and **legislators** are still overwhelmingly men.

feces

n. waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement

synonym: poop, stool, excrement

(1) **feces** sample, (2) human **feces**

Proper disposal of **feces** is essential for maintaining public health and sanitation.

coliform

adj. relating to a group of bacteria, such as Escherichia coli (E. coli), which are present in the intestines of humans and animals and are used as an indicator of water or food contamination

synonym: bacteria, microbe, pathogen

(1) **coliform** levels, (2) **coliform** contamination

The presence of **coliform** bacteria in the water indicates contamination and the possible presence of harmful pathogens.

snippet

n. a small piece or brief extract of something

synonym: fragment, excerpt, brief

(1) **snippet** of wisdom, (2) code **snippet**

The journalist saved a **snippet** of the interview for later reference.

reorganize

v. to change to a more sufficient or suitable form of organization

synonym: rearrange, reconstruct, reshuffle

(1) **reorganize** a department, (2) **reorganize** his debts

The new CEO was appointed to **reorganize** their business.

borough

n. a town, city, or district that is an administrative unit, typically smaller than a city

synonym: town, municipality, city

(1) family **borough**, (2) **borough** boundaries

The **borough** council manages local services such as waste collection and street cleaning.

hydrant

n. a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes

synonym: fireplug, tap, spigot

(1) **hydrant** valve, (2) fire **hydrant**

The residents reported a leaky **hydrant** in their community, prompting the city to dispatch a maintenance crew

quants

n. quantitative analysts or individuals who specialize in using quantitative methods, including mathematical and statistical modeling, in analyzing financial markets and making investment decisions

synonym: quantitative analysts, number crunchers, data scientists

(1) the team of **quants**, (2) industry **quants**

Many financial **quants** work in investment banks, using complex mathematical models to analyze financial data.

roadway

n. the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders

synonym: highway, street, thoroughfare

(1) busy **roadway**, (2) **roadway** asphalt

Cyclists are not allowed on the highway **roadway** for safety reasons.

repaint

v. to apply a new or fresh coat of paint

(1) **repaint** the wall, (2) **repaint** a house

She tried to **repaint** an incorrectly painted object.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

watchdog

n. a person or an organization that monitors or keeps a close watch on a particular activity, situation, or group, especially to ensure that the ethical or legal standards are met; a component or feature designed to monitor and ensure the proper functioning of the system

synonym: guardian, sentinel, protector

(1) **watchdog** timer, (2) financial **watchdog**

The **watchdog** group helped expose corruption in the local government.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

synonym: authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

Session 2: Spelling

1. covid-19 ho_____t
n. a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity
2. hy_____t valve
n. a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
3. sc_____e meat off a bone
v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
4. em_____r my life
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
5. sc_____e a hole in the ground
v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter
6. da_____t analysis
n. a structured collection of data that is compiled and processed in a computer system or program, typically for analysis, research, or machine learning purposes
7. family bo_____h
n. a town, city, or district that is an administrative unit, typically smaller than a city
8. co_____rm contamination
adj. relating to a group of bacteria, such as Escherichia coli (E. coli), which are present in the intestines of humans and animals and are used as an indicator of water or food contamination

ANSWERS: 1. hotspot, 2. hydrant, 3. scrape, 4. empower, 5. scrape, 6. dataset, 7. borough, 8. coliform

9. a t__m stop *n.* a vehicle or conveyance, typically for passengers, which runs on rails and is propelled by an overhead or underground cable or electricity; a streetcar or cable car
10. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
11. financial wa_____og *n.* a person or an organization that monitors or keeps a close watch on a particular activity, situation, or group, especially to ensure that the ethical or legal standards are met; a component or feature designed to monitor and ensure the proper functioning of the system
12. code sn_____t *n.* a small piece or brief extract of something
13. reo_____ze his debts *v.* to change to a more sufficient or suitable form of organization
14. t__m line *n.* a vehicle or conveyance, typically for passengers, which runs on rails and is propelled by an overhead or underground cable or electricity; a streetcar or cable car
15. re_____t a house *v.* to apply a new or fresh coat of paint
16. bo_____h boundaries *n.* a town, city, or district that is an administrative unit, typically smaller than a city
17. ro_____y asphalt *n.* the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders

ANSWERS: 9. tram, 10. confuse, 11. watchdog, 12. snippet, 13. reorganize, 14. tram, 15. repaint, 16. borough, 17. roadway

18. em____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
19. li_____ne service *n.* a large, luxurious car usually driven by a chauffeur, often used for special occasions or for transporting important people
20. busy ro____y *n.* the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders
21. fe__s sample *n.* waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement
22. en___b a body *v.* to place or bury a person or object in a tomb or grave; to trap or enclose someone or something within a confined space
23. co_____rm levels *adj.* relating to a group of bacteria, such as Escherichia coli (E. coli), which are present in the intestines of humans and animals and are used as an indicator of water or food contamination
24. sn_____t of wisdom *n.* a small piece or brief extract of something
25. en___b the pharaoh *v.* to place or bury a person or object in a tomb or grave; to trap or enclose someone or something within a confined space
26. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

ANSWERS: 18. empower, 19. limousine, 20. roadway, 21. feces, 22. entomb, 23. coliform, 24. snippet, 25. entomb, 26. confuse

27. a leg_____or appointed by the party *n.* a member of a group of people who has the power to make or enact laws
28. reo_____ze a department *v.* to change to a more sufficient or suitable form of organization
29. industry qu____s *n.* quantitative analysts or individuals who specialize in using quantitative methods, including mathematical and statistical modeling, in analyzing financial markets and making investment decisions
30. publicly available da_____t *n.* a structured collection of data that is compiled and processed in a computer system or program, typically for analysis, research, or machine learning purposes
31. bo__t a long history *v.* to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction
32. fire hy_____t *n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
33. education pol_____er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
34. incumbent leg_____or *n.* a member of a group of people who has the power to make or enact laws
35. human fe__s *n.* waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement

ANSWERS: 27. legislator, 28. reorganize, 29. quants, 30. dataset, 31. boast, 32. hydrant, 33. policymaker, 34. legislator, 35. feces

36. bo__t of his success *v.* to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction
37. re____t the wall *v.* to apply a new or fresh coat of paint
38. geographic ho____t *n.* a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity
39. regional pol____er *n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
40. the team of qu___s *n.* quantitative analysts or individuals who specialize in using quantitative methods, including mathematical and statistical modeling, in analyzing financial markets and making investment decisions
41. li____ne driver *n.* a large, luxurious car usually driven by a chauffeur, often used for special occasions or for transporting important people
42. wa____og timer *n.* a person or an organization that monitors or keeps a close watch on a particular activity, situation, or group, especially to ensure that the ethical or legal standards are met; a component or feature designed to monitor and ensure the proper functioning of the system

ANSWERS: 36. boast, 37. repaint, 38. hotspot, 39. policymaker, 40. quants, 41. limousine, 42. watchdog

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The ancient burial site _____ the remains of long-lost civilizations.
 - v. to place or bury a person or object in a tomb or grave; to trap or enclose someone or something within a confined space

2. The _____ council manages local services such as waste collection and street cleaning.
 - n. a town, city, or district that is an administrative unit, typically smaller than a city

3. She tried to _____ an incorrectly painted object.
 - v. to apply a new or fresh coat of paint

4. This town _____ a national park.
 - v. to talk about someone's accomplishments, wealth, or abilities excessively with undue pride and self-satisfaction

5. He _____ the mud off his boots before entering the house.
 - v. to draw something along a rough or hard surface, typically to remove dirt or other matter

6. The airport is a _____ for tourists and travelers from around the world.
 - n. a place or area, typically a location or region, that is known for having an unusually high number of a particular phenomenon, such as disease, activity, or popularity

7. The scientist analyzed the large _____ to conclude the experiment.
 - n. a structured collection of data that is compiled and processed in a computer system or program, typically for analysis, research, or machine learning purposes

ANSWERS: 1. entombs, 2. borough, 3. repaint, 4. boasts, 5. scraped, 6. hotspot, 7. dataset

8. The new CEO was appointed to _____ their business.
- v.* to change to a more sufficient or suitable form of organization
9. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
- v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
10. The wealthy businessman arrived at the gala in his luxurious _____.
- n.* a large, luxurious car usually driven by a chauffeur, often used for special occasions or for transporting important people
11. Cyclists are not allowed on the highway _____ for safety reasons.
- n.* the part of a thoroughfare or highway that is used by vehicles for driving, including the hard surface and shoulders
12. The residents reported a leaky _____ in their community, prompting the city to dispatch a maintenance crew
- n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
13. Her remarks _____ the debate.
- v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
14. The presence of _____ bacteria in the water indicates contamination and the possible presence of harmful pathogens.
- adj.* relating to a group of bacteria, such as *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*), which are present in the intestines of humans and animals and are used as an indicator of water or food contamination
15. The journalist saved a _____ of the interview for later reference.
- n.* a small piece or brief extract of something

ANSWERS: 8. reorganize, 9. empowered, 10. limousine, 11. roadway, 12. hydrant, 13. confused, 14. coliform, 15. snippet

16. Corporate executives and _____ are still overwhelmingly men.
- n.* a member of a group of people who has the power to make or enact laws
17. I took the city _____ to get downtown.
- n.* a vehicle or conveyance, typically for passengers, which runs on rails and is propelled by an overhead or underground cable or electricity; a streetcar or cable car
18. Proper disposal of _____ is essential for maintaining public health and sanitation.
- n.* waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement
19. _____ struggle to develop various laws and regulations to address international trade conflicts.
- n.* a person in charge of or involved in developing action plans for a political party, business, etc.
20. The _____ group helped expose corruption in the local government.
- n.* a person or an organization that monitors or keeps a close watch on a particular activity, situation, or group, especially to ensure that the ethical or legal standards are met; a component or feature designed to monitor and ensure the proper functioning of the system
21. Many financial _____ work in investment banks, using complex mathematical models to analyze financial data.
- n.* quantitative analysts or individuals who specialize in using quantitative methods, including mathematical and statistical modeling, in analyzing financial markets and making investment decisions

ANSWERS: 16. legislators, 17. tram, 18. feces, 19. Policymakers, 20. watchdog, 21. quants