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Theaster Gates: How to revive a neighborhood: with imagination, beauty and art | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

vocation

n. a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation, seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life

synonym : occupation, profession, career

(1) **vocation** training, (2) artistic **vocation**

Her **vocation** as a nurse gave her great satisfaction and purpose in life.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym : thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

mound

n. a raised area of ground or dirt, often used for burial, construction, or as a fortification; a large, rounded pile or heap

synonym : hill, knoll, rise

(1) **mound** of dirt, (2) burial **mound**

The team discovered a hidden **mound** in the desert.

discontinue

v. to cease or stop doing something; to interrupt or terminate something that is already ongoing or in progress

synonym : halt, end, cease

(1) **discontinue** a service, (2) **discontinue** a project

The company has decided to **discontinue** the production of its unpopular product line.

kettle

n. a metal container with a lid and handle, used for boiling water or other liquids over a heat source, commonly used for making tea or cooking pasta or soup

synonym : pot, cauldron, timpani

(1) electric **kettle**, (2) whistle **kettle**

The **kettle** on the stove started to whistle, signaling that the water was boiling.

stink

v. to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical

synonym : reek, smell, odor

(1) **stink** up the place, (2) **stink** badly

The garbage in the alley began to **stink** after a few hot days.

reimagine

v. to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way

synonym : re-conceptualize, re-envision, re-create

(1) **reimagine** the future, (2) **reimagine** the possibilities

The company is trying to **reimagine** its business model to stay competitive.

elevate

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

synonym : lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

blight

v. to have a detrimental effect on something, typically causing it to deteriorate or fail; (noun) any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting

synonym: devastate, ruin, decimate

(1) **blight** his life, (2) **blight** a crop

The abandoned factory was **blighted** by vandalism and graffiti.

reshape

v. to change the form or structure of something

synonym: alter, adjust, modify

(1) **reshape** education policy, (2) **reshape** my thoughts

The advent of the Internet completely **reshaped** the manufacturing industry.

broom

n. a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces

synonym: sweeper, brush

(1) **broom** closet, (2) **broom** handle

Could you please grab the **broom** and sweep the crumbs on the floor?

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.

outgrow

v. to grow too large for something; to grow taller or faster than another person

(1) **outgrow** my coat, (2) **outgrow** its usefulness

Bamboo will soon **outgrow** the other plants.

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.

degrade

- v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym: demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

nod

- v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym: respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

rehabilitate

- v. to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment

synonym: reform, restore, renovate

(1) **rehabilitate** prisoners, (2) **rehabilitate** wildlife

The organization works to **rehabilitate** drug addicts and help them rebuild their lives.

playbook

- n. a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action

synonym: strategy, game plan, manual

(1) **playbook** strategy, (2) political **playbook**

The coach's **playbook** helped the team win the championship.

synergy

n. the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements

synonym: cooperation, collaboration, partnership

(1) **synergy** collaboration, (2) **synergy** between businesses
The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee **synergy**.

slog

v. to work hard or make slow, laborious progress towards a goal; to walk heavily or with difficulty, especially through mud or over rough terrain

synonym: trudge, plod, toil

(1) **slog** up a hill, (2) **slog** my way

I had to **slog** through the mud to get to the top of the mountain.

energize

v. to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate

synonym: invigorate, animate, electrify

(1) **energize** the body, (2) **energize** a team

The motivational speaker **energized** the crowd with their words.

curate

n. a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

synonym: minister, caretaker, (verb) arrange

(1) perpetual **curate**, (2) **curate** an art website

The art museum has hired a **curate** to select and display pieces from its collection.

outdo

v. to do better than someone; to surpass

synonym: excel, surpass, outshine

(1) **outdo** him in trickery, (2) **outdo** the competition

He tried to **outdo** his rival by breaking the world record.

splashy

adj. characterized by or tending to create a dramatic or attention-grabbing impression; showy, flamboyant, or ostentatious in appearance or behavior; attracting immediate attention or interest

synonym: flashy, showy, vibrant

(1) make a **splashy** entrance, (2) **splashy** graphics

The **splashy** advertisement caught everyone's attention during the Super Bowl.

stabilize

v. to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way

synonym: brace, steady, secure

(1) **stabilize** prices, (2) **stabilize** blood sugar levels

The raising of interest rates **stabilizes** the inflation rate.

motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

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.

underresourced

adj. lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission

synonym: underfunded, deprived, resource-poor

(1) **underresourced** community, (2) **underresourced**

nonprofits

The **underresourced** school needed help to provide basic supplies for its students.

ignite

v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning

synonym: light, set fire to, ignite

(1) **ignite** a boom, (2) **ignite** passion

He **ignited** the fireworks with a single spark.

poetic

adj. of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way

synonym: literary, verse-like, rhythmic

(1) **poetic** genius, (2) **poetic** justice

The sunset was so beautiful it looked like a **poetic** scene from a movie.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----|---|
| 1. ou__o the competition | v. | to do better than someone; to surpass |
| 2. dis_____ue a service | v. | to cease or stop doing something; to interrupt or terminate something that is already ongoing or in progress |
| 3. artistic vo_____on | n. | a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation, seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life |
| 4. ig___e passion | v. | to set on fire; to cause to start burning |
| 5. ru__r mill | n. | a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth |
| 6. reh_____ate prisoners | v. | to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment |
| 7. ou__o him in trickery | v. | to do better than someone; to surpass |
| 8. sy_____y collaboration | n. | the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements |
| 9. s__g up a hill | v. | to work hard or make slow, laborious progress towards a goal; to walk heavily or with difficulty, especially through mud or over rough terrain |

ANSWERS: 1. outdo, 2. discontinue, 3. vocation, 4. ignite, 5. rumor, 6. rehabilitate, 7. outdo, 8. synergy, 9. slog

18. 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
19. br__m handle *n.* a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces
20. perpetual cu____e *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation
21. a false ru__r *n.* a piece of unverified information of uncertain origin that is spread by word of mouth
22. vo____on training *n.* a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation, seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life
23. ou____w its usefulness *v.* to grow too large for something; to grow taller or faster than another person

ANSWERS: 18. watchdog, 19. broom, 20. curate, 21. rumor, 22. vocation, 23. outgrow

32. n_d courteously *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
33. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
34. el_____e a close relationship *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
35. st_____ze blood sugar levels *v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
36. dis_____ue a project *v.* to cease or stop doing something; to interrupt or terminate something that is already ongoing or in progress
37. make a sp_____y entrance *adj.* characterized by or tending to create a dramatic or attention-grabbing impression; showy, flamboyant, or ostentatious in appearance or behavior; attracting immediate attention or interest
38. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
39. whistle ke___e *n.* a metal container with a lid and handle, used for boiling water or other liquids over a heat source, commonly used for making tea or cooking pasta or soup
40. company mo__o *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
41. cu___e an art website *n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

ANSWERS: 32. nod, 33. excite, 34. elevate, 35. stabilize, 36. discontinue, 37. splashy, 38. motto, 39. kettle, 40. motto, 41. curate

42. electric ke___e *n.* a metal container with a lid and handle, used for boiling water or other liquids over a heat source, commonly used for making tea or cooking pasta or soup
43. s__g my way *v.* to work hard or make slow, laborious progress towards a goal; to walk heavily or with difficulty, especially through mud or over rough terrain
44. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
45. bl___t his life *v.* to have a detrimental effect on something, typically causing it to deteriorate or fail; (noun) any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting
46. re_____ne the future *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
47. en_____ze a team *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
48. en_____ze the body *v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
49. burial mo__d *n.* a raised area of ground or dirt, often used for burial, construction, or as a fortification; a large, rounded pile or heap
50. el_____e educational standards *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

ANSWERS: 42. kettle, 43. slog, 44. opportune, 45. blight, 46. reimagine, 47. energize, 48. energize, 49. mound, 50. elevate

51. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
52. und_____ced nonprofits *adj.* lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission
53. re_____ne the possibilities *v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
54. re_____e education policy *v.* to change the form or structure of something
55. mo__d of dirt *n.* a raised area of ground or dirt, often used for burial, construction, or as a fortification; a large, rounded pile or heap
56. ou_____w my coat *v.* to grow too large for something; to grow taller or faster than another person
57. de_____e his public image *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
58. re_____e my thoughts *v.* to change the form or structure of something
59. br__m closet *n.* a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces
60. und_____ced community *adj.* lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission

ANSWERS: 51. opportune, 52. underresourced, 53. reimagine, 54. reshape, 55. mound, 56. outgrow, 57. degrade, 58. reshape, 59. broom, 60. underresourced

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He tried to _____ his rival by breaking the world record.
v. to do better than someone; to surpass

2. The garbage in the alley began to _____ after a few hot days.
v. to emit a strong, unpleasant odor; to have a strong offensive smell; to be corrupt or unethical

3. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

4. The abandoned factory was _____ by vandalism and graffiti.
v. to have a detrimental effect on something, typically causing it to deteriorate or fail; (noun) any plant disease resulting in withering without rotting

5. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

6. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

7. He _____ the fireworks with a single spark.
v. to set on fire; to cause to start burning

8. The team discovered a hidden _____ in the desert.
n. a raised area of ground or dirt, often used for burial, construction, or as a fortification; a large, rounded pile or heap

ANSWERS: 1. outdo, 2. stink, 3. opportune, 4. blighted, 5. nodded, 6. motto, 7. ignited, 8. mound

9. Eating food in a hurry _____ blood glucose levels.
- v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
10. The _____ school needed help to provide basic supplies for its students.
- adj.* lacking sufficient resources, especially financial or material support, to carry out a particular task, project, or mission
11. 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
12. The news of her promotion _____ her.
- v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
13. Her _____ as a nurse gave her great satisfaction and purpose in life.
- n.* a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation, seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life
14. The sunset was so beautiful it looked like a _____ scene from a movie.
- adj.* of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way
15. The art museum has hired a _____ to select and display pieces from its collection.
- n.* a clergyman who is in charge of a parish; a person in charge of a museum, gallery, or church, responsible for the care and display of its collections and exhibitions; (verb) to carefully select, organize, and maintain items in a collection, exhibition, or presentation

ANSWERS: 9. elevates, 10. underresourced, 11. watchdog, 12. excited, 13. vocation, 14. poetic, 15. curate

16. The organization works to _____ drug addicts and help them rebuild their lives.
- v.* to restore to good health or physical condition; to help someone return to a normal life, especially after a period of illness, addiction, or imprisonment
17. The company has decided to _____ the production of its unpopular product line.
- v.* to cease or stop doing something; to interrupt or terminate something that is already ongoing or in progress
18. The new software program was designed to increase productivity by promoting employee _____.
- n.* the interaction of elements that, when combined, produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements
19. The company is trying to _____ its business model to stay competitive.
- v.* to imagine or conceive of something in a new or different way
20. The advent of the Internet completely _____ the manufacturing industry.
- v.* to change the form or structure of something
21. The coach's _____ helped the team win the championship.
- n.* a set of strategies or tactics used in a particular situation, often in a business or political context; a guidebook or manual that outlines a specific plan of action
22. The _____ advertisement caught everyone's attention during the Super Bowl.
- adj.* characterized by or tending to create a dramatic or attention-grabbing impression; showy, flamboyant, or ostentatious in appearance or behavior; attracting immediate attention or interest

ANSWERS: 16. rehabilitate, 17. discontinue, 18. synergy, 19. reimagine, 20. reshaped, 21. playbook, 22. splashy

23. 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
24. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.
- v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
25. The motivational speaker _____ the crowd with their words.
- v.* to give energy or vitality to someone or something; to invigorate
26. The _____ on the stove started to whistle, signaling that the water was boiling.
- n.* a metal container with a lid and handle, used for boiling water or other liquids over a heat source, commonly used for making tea or cooking pasta or soup
27. The raising of interest rates _____ the inflation rate.
- v.* to become or cause to become steady or unlikely to give way
28. Bamboo will soon _____ the other plants.
- v.* to grow too large for something; to grow taller or faster than another person
29. Could you please grab the _____ and sweep the crumbs on the floor?
- n.* a cleaning tool that typically consists of a long handle with a bundle of stiff bristles or fibers at one end, used for sweeping or cleaning floors or other surfaces
30. I had to _____ through the mud to get to the top of the mountain.
- v.* to work hard or make slow, laborious progress towards a goal; to walk heavily or with difficulty, especially through mud or over rough terrain

ANSWERS: 23. rumor, 24. degrade, 25. energized, 26. kettle, 27. stabilizes, 28. outgrow, 29. broom, 30. slog

ANSWERS: