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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mark Liddell: How statistics can be misleading | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

persuasive

adj. tending to make you want to do or believe a particular thing; convincing

synonym: convincing, compelling, influential

(1) **persuasive** advertising, (2) **persuasive** speaker

He made a **persuasive** argument for the new policy.

lurk

v. to wait somewhere secretly, especially because you are about to attack someone or do something bad or illegal

synonym: hide, creep, stalk

(1) **lurked** behind the words, (2) **lurk** in the darkness

In the city, the risk of traffic accidents **lurks** at every corner.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

synonym: bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

paradox

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

synonym: incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap

There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

smoker

n. a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking

(1) **smoker** behavior, (2) an inveterate **smoker**

Many **smokers** are aware of the health risks associated with smoking but find it difficult to quit.

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**.

disparity

n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things

synonym: difference, inequality, gap

(1) the **disparity** between theory and reality, (2) income **disparity**

There is a significant **disparity** in pay between men and women in the company.

convict

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

synonym: condemn, sentence, judge

(1) **convict** him of manslaughter, (2) **convict** in a jail

He was **convicted** on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

elicit

v. to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty

synonym: bring out, obtain, evoke

(1) **elicit** a confession, (2) **elicit** a solution

Have you **elicited** a response from them yet?

mislead

v. to cause someone to believe something that is not true

synonym: misinform, delude, belie

(1) **mislead** him into trusting her, (2) **mislead** the enemy

Our troops pulled back to **mislead** the enemy.

Session 2: Spelling

1. 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
2. per_____ve advertising *adj.* tending to make you want to do or believe a particular thing; convincing
3. 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
4. el___t a solution *v.* to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty
5. el___t a confession *v.* to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty
6. co_____t him of manslaughter *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
7. the pa_____x of the heap *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
8. mi_____d him into trusting her *v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true
9. l__k in the darkness *v.* to wait somewhere secretly, especially because you are about to attack someone or do something bad or illegal

ANSWERS: 1. rev, 2. persuasive, 3. rev, 4. elicit, 5. elicit, 6. convict, 7. paradox, 8. mislead, 9. lurk

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|---|-------------|--|
| 10. st____e financially | <i>v.</i> | to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily |
| 11. mi____d the enemy | <i>v.</i> | to cause someone to believe something that is not true |
| 12. income di____ty | <i>n.</i> | a significant difference or inequality between two or more things |
| 13. sm____r behavior | <i>n.</i> | a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking |
| 14. the di____ty between theory and reality | <i>n.</i> | a significant difference or inequality between two or more things |
| 15. co____t in a jail | <i>v.</i> | to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison |
| 16. French pa____x | <i>n.</i> | a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange; |
| 17. I__ked behind the words | <i>v.</i> | to wait somewhere secretly, especially because you are about to attack someone or do something bad or illegal |
| 18. an inveterate sm____r | <i>n.</i> | a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking |
| 19. per____ve speaker | <i>adj.</i> | tending to make you want to do or believe a particular thing; convincing |
| 20. st____e through life | <i>v.</i> | to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily |

ANSWERS: 10. stumble, 11. mislead, 12. disparity, 13. smoker, 14. disparity, 15. convict, 16. paradox, 17. lurk, 18. smoker, 19. persuasive, 20. stumble

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She _____ over the tree root.
v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
2. Have you _____ a response from them yet?
v. to obtain information or a reaction from someone, usually with difficulty
3. 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
4. He made a _____ argument for the new policy.
adj. tending to make you want to do or believe a particular thing; convincing
5. There is a significant _____ in pay between men and women in the company.
n. a significant difference or inequality between two or more things
6. In the city, the risk of traffic accidents _____ at every corner.
v. to wait somewhere secretly, especially because you are about to attack someone or do something bad or illegal
7. He was _____ on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.
v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
8. Many _____ are aware of the health risks associated with smoking but find it difficult to quit.
n. a person who smokes tobacco regularly, or a device used for smoking

ANSWERS: 1. stumbled, 2. elicited, 3. rev, 4. persuasive, 5. disparity, 6. lurks, 7. convicted, 8. smokers

9. There are many theories to explain this _____.

- n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

10. Our troops pulled back to _____ the enemy.

- v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true

ANSWERS: 9. paradox, 10. mislead