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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Betsy Schwarm: Why should you listen to Vivaldi's "Four Seasons"? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

cheerful

adj. happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism

synonym : happy, joyful, lively

(1) **cheerful** smile, (2) a **cheerful** disposition

Her **cheerful** personality brightened up the room.

uncounted

adj. too numerous to be counted; too many to be counted or estimated accurately

synonym : unaccounted, myriad, countless

(1) **uncounted** ballots, (2) **uncounted** stars

The **uncounted** number of volunteers who helped during the disaster was truly inspiring.

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.

synchronize

v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

synonym : coordinate, accompany, harmonize

(1) **synchronize** movements, (2) **synchronize** our watches
The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly **synchronized**.

thunderstorm

n. a storm with lightning and thunder, typically with heavy rain and strong gusts of wind

synonym: tempest, lightning storm, deluge

(1) severe **thunderstorms**, (2) **thunderstorm** advisory
The forecast called for a chance of **thunderstorms** in the afternoon.

frightening

adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

synonym: scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience
The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

hail

v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

synonym: greet, salute, welcome

(1) **hail** the victorious team with cheers, (2) **hail** forecast
People in the area were forced to **hail** a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.

concerto

n. a composition for one or more solo instruments and an orchestra, typically in three movements

synonym: symphony, composition, piece

(1) piano **concerto**, (2) violin **concerto**
A renowned symphony orchestra performed the piano **concerto**.

crackle

v. to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (noun) a series of sharp, popping sounds that

are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity

synonym : sizzle, hiss, snap

(1) **crackle** on the gravel road, (2) the **crackle** of the thunder

The firewood **crackled** and popped into the fireplace, sending sparks up the chimney.

woodwind

adj. a category of musical instruments that are played by blowing air into or over a reed, including instruments such as flutes, clarinets, and saxophones

synonym : flute, clarinet, saxophone

(1) a single-reed **woodwind**, (2) **woodwind** section

He is an expert in playing **woodwind** instruments.

harpsichord

n. a keyboard instrument with strings plucked by plectra rather than struck by hammers like a piano. It is known for its distinctive and bright sound; it was a common instrument in the Baroque and classical music periods

synonym : clavichord, spinet, virginal

(1) electric **harpsichord**, (2) **harpsichord** player

She was playing a beautiful piece of music on the **harpsichord**.

fugue

n. a musical composition characterized by a theme that is introduced in one voice or part and then imitated or echoed by other voices or parts, typically in a complex and contrapuntal manner; a rare psychiatric disorder characterized by reversible amnesia for personal identity

synonym : composition, counterpoint, musical form

(1) musical **fugue**, (2) dissociative **fugue**

The symphony orchestra performed a complex **fugue**, showcasing their skill and precision.

electrify

v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or

interested in something

synonym: wire, amaze, astonish

(1) **electrify** the audience, (2) **electrify** a manufacturing process

The product developed through years of research continues to **electrify** the market.

orphan

n. a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them

synonym: waif, stray, fatherless child

(1) **orphan** care, (2) asylum for **orphan** children

The little girl was a war **orphan** and lived in a group home.

aristocrat

n. a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth

synonym: noble, blue blood, patrician

(1) **aristocrat** family, (2) **aristocrat** society

The **aristocrat's** grand estate was sprawling and impressive, with lush gardens and fountains.

trot

v. to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides

synonym: jog, run, race

(1) **trot** across the street, (2) **trot** off happily

She **trotted** to keep up with him.

Session 2: Spelling

1. the cr_____e of the thunder
v. to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (noun) a series of sharp, popping sounds that are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity
2. har_____rd player
n. a keyboard instrument with strings plucked by plectra rather than struck by hammers like a piano. It is known for its distinctive and bright sound; it was a common instrument in the Baroque and classical music periods
3. el_____fy a manufacturing process
v. to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
4. un_____ed stars
adj. too numerous to be counted; too many to be counted or estimated accurately
5. h__l forecast
v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

ANSWERS: 1. crackle, 2. harpsichord, 3. electrify, 4. uncounted, 5. hail

6. cast fri_____ng eyes *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
7. po___c genius *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
8. a single-reed wo_____nd *adj.* a category of musical instruments that are played by blowing air into or over a reed, including instruments such as flutes, clarinets, and saxophones
9. cr_____e on the gravel road *v.* to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (noun) a series of sharp, popping sounds that are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity
10. asylum for or___n children *n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
11. ch_____ul smile *adj.* happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism
12. piano co_____to *n.* a composition for one or more solo instruments and an orchestra, typically in three movements
13. dissociative fu__e *n.* a musical composition characterized by a theme that is introduced in one voice or part and then imitated or echoed by other voices or parts, typically in a complex and contrapuntal manner; a rare psychiatric disorder characterized by reversible amnesia for personal identity

ANSWERS: 6. frightening, 7. poetic, 8. woodwind, 9. crackle, 10. orphan, 11. cheerful, 12. concerto, 13. fugue

14. un_____ed ballots *adj.* too numerous to be counted; too many to be counted or estimated accurately
15. wo_____nd section *adj.* a category of musical instruments that are played by blowing air into or over a reed, including instruments such as flutes, clarinets, and saxophones
16. el_____fy the audience *v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
17. fri_____ng experience *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
18. a ch_____ul disposition *adj.* happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism
19. thu_____orm advisory *n.* a storm with lightning and thunder, typically with heavy rain and strong gusts of wind
20. ari_____at society *n.* a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth
21. violin co_____to *n.* a composition for one or more solo instruments and an orchestra, typically in three movements
22. electric har_____rd *n.* a keyboard instrument with strings plucked by plectra rather than struck by hammers like a piano. It is known for its distinctive and bright sound; it was a common instrument in the Baroque and classical music periods

ANSWERS: 14. uncounted, 15. woodwind, 16. electrify, 17. frightening, 18. cheerful, 19. thunderstorm, 20. aristocrat, 21. concerto, 22. harpsichord

23. musical fu__e *n.* a musical composition characterized by a theme that is introduced in one voice or part and then imitated or echoed by other voices or parts, typically in a complex and contrapuntal manner; a rare psychiatric disorder characterized by reversible amnesia for personal identity
24. t__t off happily *v.* to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides
25. severe thu_____orms *n.* a storm with lightning and thunder, typically with heavy rain and strong gusts of wind
26. syn_____ze movements *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
27. syn_____ze our watches *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
28. po___c justice *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
29. t__t across the street *v.* to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides
30. ari_____at family *n.* a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth
31. h__l the victorious team with cheers *v.* to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

ANSWERS: 23. fugue, 24. trot, 25. thunderstorm, 26. synchronize, 27. synchronize, 28. poetic, 29. trot, 30. aristocrat, 31. hail

32. or___n care

n. a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them

ANSWERS: 32. orphan

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. People in the area were forced to _____ a taxi due to the lack of public transportation options.
 - v. to call out to someone to get their attention, often from a distance; to greet or welcome someone, especially with enthusiasm or admiration; (noun) precipitation in the form of small balls or lumps of ice that fall from the sky

2. The _____ number of volunteers who helped during the disaster was truly inspiring.
 - adj. too numerous to be counted; too many to be counted or estimated accurately

3. The _____ grand estate was sprawling and impressive, with lush gardens and fountains.
 - n. a member of a distinguished social class, typically one with a hereditary title and wealth

4. The forecast called for a chance of _____ in the afternoon.
 - n. a storm with lightning and thunder, typically with heavy rain and strong gusts of wind

5. The firewood _____ and popped into the fireplace, sending sparks up the chimney.
 - v. to make a succession of slight popping sounds, often due to the heating or drying of some materials, such as firewood, paper, plastic, or food; to snap, crack, or crunch; (noun) a series of sharp, popping sounds that are caused by the rapid expansion and contraction of a material, such as wood or paper, due to changes in temperature or humidity

6. Her _____ personality brightened up the room.
 - adj. happy and positive; causing feelings of happiness or optimism; marked by or expressing joy or optimism

ANSWERS: 1. hail, 2. uncounted, 3. aristocrat's, 4. thunderstorms, 5. crackled, 6. cheerful

7. The product developed through years of research continues to _____ the market.
- v.* to make a machine or system work by using electricity; to make someone extremely enthusiastic about or interested in something
8. 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
9. The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly _____.
- v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
10. He is an expert in playing _____ instruments.
- adj.* a category of musical instruments that are played by blowing air into or over a reed, including instruments such as flutes, clarinets, and saxophones
11. She _____ to keep up with him.
- v.* to run or jog at a moderate pace; to walk with long, quick strides
12. The symphony orchestra performed a complex _____ showcasing their skill and precision.
- n.* a musical composition characterized by a theme that is introduced in one voice or part and then imitated or echoed by other voices or parts, typically in a complex and contrapuntal manner; a rare psychiatric disorder characterized by reversible amnesia for personal identity
13. The little girl was a war _____ and lived in a group home.
- n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them

ANSWERS: 7. electrify, 8. poetic, 9. synchronized, 10. woodwind, 11. trotted, 12. fugue, 13. orphan

14. A renowned symphony orchestra performed the piano _____.
- n.* a composition for one or more solo instruments and an orchestra, typically in three movements
15. The news of the pandemic was a _____ reminder of the fragility of human health.
- adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
16. She was playing a beautiful piece of music on the _____.
- n.* a keyboard instrument with strings plucked by plectra rather than struck by hammers like a piano. It is known for its distinctive and bright sound; it was a common instrument in the Baroque and classical music periods

ANSWERS: 14. concerto, 15. frightening, 16. harpsichord