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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Emma Bryce: How to use a semicolon | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

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.

confetti

n. small pieces of colored paper or other material that are thrown around on festive occasions, especially in celebration or as part of the decoration

(1) **confetti** party, (2) **confetti-filled** balloons

We threw **confetti** at the wedding to celebrate the happy couple.

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.

festoon

v. to drape or decorate with strings of flowers, leaves, or ribbons; to adorn with decorative or festive elements

synonym: adorn, decorate, embellish

(1) **festoon** the party venue, (2) **festoon** a room for a party

The stage was **festooned** with flowers for the wedding

ceremony.

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.

enlighten

v. to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense

synonym: inform, educate, illuminate

(1) **enlighten** legions of people, (2) **enlighten** other countries

The teacher sought to **enlighten** her students by introducing them to new ideas and perspectives.

exert

v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
synonym: exert, apply, use

(1) **exert** control, (2) **exert** influence

He **exerted** himself to lift the heavyweight.

monotonous

adj. lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious

synonym: tedious, dull, boring

(1) **monotonous** routine, (2) **monotonous** job

The **monotonous** task of data entry required intense concentration.

reunite

v. to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation

synonym: reconcile, reunify, reconvene

(1) **reunite** after five years, (2) **reunite** with my friend

The band will **reunite** only for this show.

secondly

adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.

synonym : in the second place, next, subsequently

(1) **secondly** connected, (2) **secondly**, it is important

Firstly, we will discuss the budget; **secondly**, we will go over the schedule.

encompass

v. to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely

synonym : surround, encircle, include

(1) **encompass** a broad range, (2) **encompass** the enemy

The optimal solution that would **encompass** all these elements has yet to be proposed.

squiggle

n. a curly or wavy line or mark, especially one that is irregular or difficult to follow; (verb) to draw or write something in a wavy or irregular manner, often with a series of small curves or loops

synonym : squiggle, doodle, scribble

(1) **squiggle** line, (2) wavy **squiggle**

My signature always has a little **squiggle** at the end.

Session 2: Spelling

1. en_____ss the enemy
v. to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
2. cast fri_____ng eyes
adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
3. fe_____n a room for a party
v. to drape or decorate with strings of flowers, leaves, or ribbons; to adorn with decorative or festive elements
4. re_____e with my friend
v. to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
5. re_____e after five years
v. to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
6. ex__t control
v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
7. co_____e the listener
v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
8. se_____ly, it is important
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
9. mon_____us job
adj. lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious
10. mon_____us routine
adj. lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious
11. wavy sq_____le
n. a curly or wavy line or mark, especially one that is irregular or difficult to follow; (verb) to draw or write something in a wavy or irregular manner, often with a series of small curves or loops

ANSWERS: 1. encompass, 2. frightening, 3. festoon, 4. reunite, 5. reunite, 6. exert, 7. confuse, 8. secondly, 9. monotonous, 10. monotonous, 11. squiggle

12. en_____en other countries v. to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense
13. fe_____n the party venue v. to drape or decorate with strings of flowers, leaves, or ribbons; to adorn with decorative or festive elements
14. se_____ly connected *adv.* used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
15. en_____ss a broad range v. to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely
16. sq_____le line *n.* a curly or wavy line or mark, especially one that is irregular or difficult to follow; (verb) to draw or write something in a wavy or irregular manner, often with a series of small curves or loops
17. co_____e fantasy with reality v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
18. co_____ti-filled balloons *n.* small pieces of colored paper or other material that are thrown around on festive occasions, especially in celebration or as part of the decoration
19. pu_____te a sentence v. to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically
20. pu_____te his talk v. to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically

ANSWERS: 12. enlighten, 13. festoon, 14. secondly, 15. encompass, 16. squiggle, 17. confuse, 18. confetti, 19. punctuate, 20. punctuate

21. fri_____ng experience *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
22. ex__t influence *v.* to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
23. en_____en legions of people *v.* to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense
24. co_____ti party *n.* small pieces of colored paper or other material that are thrown around on festive occasions, especially in celebration or as part of the decoration

ANSWERS: 21. frightening, 22. exert, 23. enlighten, 24. confetti

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. We threw _____ at the wedding to celebrate the happy couple.
n. small pieces of colored paper or other material that are thrown around on festive occasions, especially in celebration or as part of the decoration
2. My signature always has a little _____ at the end.
n. a curly or wavy line or mark, especially one that is irregular or difficult to follow; (verb) to draw or write something in a wavy or irregular manner, often with a series of small curves or loops
3. Her remarks _____ the debate.
v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
4. The band will _____ only for this show.
v. to bring two or more people together again after a period of separation
5. Firstly, we will discuss the budget; _____ we will go over the schedule.
adv. used to introduce the second point or item in a list or series of statements, considerations, etc.
6. He _____ himself to lift the heavyweight.
v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
7. The optimal solution that would _____ all these elements has yet to be proposed.
v. to surround or cover something completely; to include a large number of or different types of things entirely

ANSWERS: 1. confetti, 2. squiggle, 3. confused, 4. reunite, 5. secondly, 6. exerted, 7. encompass

8. The stage was _____ with flowers for the wedding ceremony.
- v. to drape or decorate with strings of flowers, leaves, or ribbons; to adorn with decorative or festive elements
9. The _____ task of data entry required intense concentration.
- adj.* lacking in variety, excitement, or interest; repetitive and tedious
10. The teacher sought to _____ her students by introducing them to new ideas and perspectives.
- v. to give someone greater knowledge or understanding about a particular subject or situation, often in a spiritual or moral sense
11. Strikes had also _____ the preceding weeks.
- v. to insert punctuation marks (= comma, period, colon, etc.) in the text; to interrupt periodically
12. The news of the pandemic was a _____ reminder of the fragility of human health.
- adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

ANSWERS: 8. festooned, 9. monotonous, 10. enlighten, 11. punctuated, 12. frightening