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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Monica Araya: A small country with big ideas to get rid of fossil fuels | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

contentious

adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

synonym: antagonistic, combative, confrontational

(1) **contentious** subject, (2) **contentious** debate

There are many **contentious** issues in claiming a patent.

debunk

v. to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless

synonym: expose, discredit, demystify

(1) **debunk** an urban legend, (2) **debunk** theory

The myth was **debunked** by scientists, who provided evidence to the contrary.

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.

hydropower

n. electricity generated from the energy of moving water, usually using turbines and dams in rivers or other bodies

of water

synonym : hydroelectricity, waterpower, hydro

(1) **hydropower** plant, (2) **hydropower** energy

Many countries around the world have built dams to harness the power of **hydropower** for their energy needs.

geothermal

adj. relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth

synonym : underground, thermal, subterranean

(1) **geothermal** activity, (2) **geothermal** drilling

The town is exploring using **geothermal** energy to power its homes and buildings.

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**.

decarbonize

v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy

synonym : decoke, decarburise, decarburize

(1) **decarbonize** their manufacturing process,

(2) **decarbonize** its energy system

We have to seek methods to **decarbonize** its fossil fuel economy.

abolish

v. to do away with completely; to put an end to

synonym : cancel, repeal, annul

(1) **abolish** slavery, (2) **abolish** censorship

The government voted to **abolish** the outdated law.

smashing

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

synonym: great, wonderful, breaking

(1) a **smashing** blow, (2) give **smashing** results

The band's new album was a **smashing** success, reaching the top of the charts.

deforest

v. to clear an area of forest or trees

synonym: clear-cut, strip, denude

(1) **deforest** a mountain, (2) **deforest** millions of acres

The company planned to **deforest** a large rainforest area to make way for a new plantation.

ecotourism

n. a form of tourism that involves responsible travel to natural areas while promoting conservation and local community development

synonym: sustainable tourism, green tourism

(1) **ecotourism** activities, (2) sustainable **ecotourism**

The **ecotourism** industry strongly focuses on preserving natural habitats and protecting endangered species.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

capita

n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike

expansion on a structure, as on a bone

synonym : head, headcount, person

(1) per **capita** sales, (2) the agricultural yield per **capita**
GDP per **capita** shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.

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.

volcano

n. a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

synonym : mount, peak, crater

(1) **volcano** alert level, (2) active **volcano**

The island was formed by a **volcano** millions of years ago.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym : interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym : detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

imprison

v. to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement

synonym : incarcerate, detain, confine

(1) **imprison** illegal immigrant, (2) **imprison** myself within the room

He was **imprisoned** for embezzlement.

utopia

n. an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity

synonym : paradise, heaven, Arcadia

(1) perfect **utopia**, (2) a **utopia** for an engineer

The concept of **utopia** is often viewed as an impossible or unrealistic goal, as it goes beyond what is currently possible.

urbanization

n. the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture

synonym : urban development, urban growth, urban expansion

(1) **urbanization** process, (2) non- **urbanization** area

Rapid **urbanization** has led to many environmental and social issues in cities.

redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

synonym : reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

dignify

v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

synonym : elevate, ennoble, honor

(1) **dignify** the role, (2) **dignify** the occasion

It's important to **dignify** other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.

unbearable

adj. not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable

synonym : intolerable, insufferable, unendurable

(1) **unbearable** heat, (2) **unbearable** pain

The loss of his wife was an **unbearable** sorrow that he found hard to overcome.

crave

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

synonym : desire, yearn, long for

(1) **crave** chocolate, (2) **crave** advice from others

She **craves** success and is always pushing herself to do better.

boggy

adj. containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged

synonym : swampy, marshy, mucky

(1) **boggy** land, (2) **boggy** area

The trail through the forest was so **boggy** that our shoes became soaked.

avalanche

n. a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances

synonym : snowslide, snowfall, downfall

(1) **avalanche** warning, (2) an **avalanche** of questions

The skiers narrowly escaped the **avalanche** by taking shelter behind a nearby rock.

powerless

adj. lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change

synonym : helpless, impotent, feeble

(1) **powerless** position, (2) **powerless** in the organization

During the hurricane, we felt **powerless** against the winds and rain.

politic

adj. wise and displaying the ability to make reasonable decisions

synonym : wise, tactful, expedient

(1) a **politic** decision, (2) heal the body **politic**

She was **politic** in her behavior.

abolition

n. the act of formally ending a system, practice, or institution, especially one that is considered unjust or harmful

synonym : termination, discontinuation, end

(1) complete **abolition**, (2) total **abolition** of a law

The **abolition** of slavery was a major milestone in the history of the United States.

barrack

v. to provide accommodations or housing, often for military personnel or sports teams; to spur on or encourage especially by cheers and shouts; (noun) a large building or group of buildings that provide temporary housing for soldiers or other military personnel

synonym : house, lodge, cheer

(1) **barrack** room, (2) **barrack** the opposing team

The soldiers were instructed to **barrack** in the buildings until further notice.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|---|------|--|
| 1. dec_____ze their manufacturing process | v. | to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy |
| 2. unb_____le heat | adj. | not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable |
| 3. po_____ss in the organization | adj. | lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change |
| 4. ex_____e in anger | v. | to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open |
| 5. 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 |
| 6. re_____nt population | adj. | able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions |
| 7. give sm_____ng results | adj. | very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed |
| 8. unb_____le pain | adj. | not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable |
| 9. po_____ss position | adj. | lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change |

ANSWERS: 1. decarbonize, 2. unbearable, 3. powerless, 4. explode, 5. electrify, 6. resilient, 7. smashing, 8. unbearable, 9. powerless

10. re____ne our role
v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
11. con____us subject
adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
12. ba____k room
v. to provide accommodations or housing, often for military personnel or sports teams; to spur on or encourage especially by cheers and shouts; (noun) a large building or group of buildings that provide temporary housing for soldiers or other military personnel
13. bo__y area
adj. containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged
14. vo____o alert level
n. a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.
15. di____y the occasion
v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
16. urb____ion process
n. the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture
17. active vo____o
n. a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.

ANSWERS: 10. redefine, 11. contentious, 12. barrack, 13. boggy, 14. volcano, 15. dignify, 16. urbanization, 17. volcano

18. ba____k the opposing team *v.* to provide accommodations or housing, often for military personnel or sports teams; to spur on or encourage especially by cheers and shouts; (noun) a large building or group of buildings that provide temporary housing for soldiers or other military personnel
19. re____ne customer experience *v.* to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
20. de____st a mountain *v.* to clear an area of forest or trees
21. perfect ut____a *n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
22. hyd____er energy *n.* electricity generated from the energy of moving water, usually using turbines and dams in rivers or other bodies of water
23. hyd____er plant *n.* electricity generated from the energy of moving water, usually using turbines and dams in rivers or other bodies of water
24. con____us debate *adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
25. per ca____a sales *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

ANSWERS: 18. barrack, 19. redefine, 20. deforest, 21. utopia, 22. hydropower, 23. hydropower, 24. contentious, 25. capita

26. di____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
27. ex____e in popularity *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
28. a po____c decision *adj.* wise and displaying the ability to make reasonable decisions
29. im____on illegal immigrant *v.* to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement
30. ab____h censorship *v.* to do away with completely; to put an end to
31. di____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
32. the agricultural yield per ca____a *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
33. eco____sm activities *n.* a form of tourism that involves responsible travel to natural areas while promoting conservation and local community development
34. 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;

ANSWERS: 26. disrupt, 27. explode, 28. politic, 29. imprison, 30. abolish, 31. disrupt, 32. capita, 33. ecotourism, 34. paradox

35. dec_____ze its energy system *v.* to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy
36. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
37. de___k an urban legend *v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless
38. cr___e chocolate *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
39. em_____r the secretary to do the same *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
40. non-urb_____ion area *n.* the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture
41. a ut___a for an engineer *n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity
42. im_____on myself within the room *v.* to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement
43. complete ab_____on *n.* the act of formally ending a system, practice, or institution, especially one that is considered unjust or harmful
44. sustainable eco_____sm *n.* a form of tourism that involves responsible travel to natural areas while promoting conservation and local community development

ANSWERS: 35. decarbonize, 36. quitter, 37. debunk, 38. crave, 39. empower, 40. urbanization, 41. utopia, 42. imprison, 43. abolition, 44. ecotourism

45. de___k theory *v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless
46. de____st millions of acres *v.* to clear an area of forest or trees
47. French pa____x *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
48. em____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
49. bo__y land *adj.* containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged
50. an av____he of questions *n.* a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances
51. total ab____on of a law *n.* the act of formally ending a system, practice, or institution, especially one that is considered unjust or harmful
52. heal the body po____c *adj.* wise and displaying the ability to make reasonable decisions
53. geo____al drilling *adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
54. di____y the role *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

ANSWERS: 45. debunk, 46. deforest, 47. paradox, 48. empower, 49. boggy, 50. avalanche, 51. abolition, 52. politic, 53. geothermal, 54. dignify

55. geo_____al activity *adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth
56. serial qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
57. av_____he warning *n.* a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances
58. cr__e advice from others *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
59. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
60. a sm_____ng blow *adj.* very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed
61. ab_____h slavery *v.* to do away with completely; to put an end to
62. 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

ANSWERS: 55. geothermal, 56. quitter, 57. avalanche, 58. crave, 59. resilient, 60. smashing, 61. abolish, 62. electrify

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Rapid _____ has led to many environmental and social issues in cities.
 - n.* the process of population growth and physical expansion of cities, often involving increased migration from rural areas and the development of urban infrastructure and culture

2. During the hurricane, we felt _____ against the winds and rain.
 - adj.* lacking power, strength, or authority; unable to act or affect change

3. The myth was _____ by scientists, who provided evidence to the contrary.
 - v.* to expose or dismiss as false, exaggerated, or worthless

4. The town is exploring using _____ energy to power its homes and buildings.
 - adj.* relating to or produced by the internal heat of the earth; often used to refer to energy produced by tapping into the natural heat of the earth

5. The _____ industry strongly focuses on preserving natural habitats and protecting endangered species.
 - n.* a form of tourism that involves responsible travel to natural areas while promoting conservation and local community development

6. The soldiers were instructed to _____ in the buildings until further notice.
 - v.* to provide accommodations or housing, often for military personnel or sports teams; to spur on or encourage especially by cheers and shouts; (noun) a large building or group of buildings that provide temporary housing for soldiers or other military personnel

7. The company planned to _____ a large rainforest area to make way for a new plantation.
 - v.* to clear an area of forest or trees

ANSWERS: 1. urbanization, 2. powerless, 3. debunked, 4. geothermal, 5. ecotourism, 6. barrack, 7. deforest

8. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
- v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
9. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
- n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
10. 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;
11. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.
- v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
12. 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
13. The island was formed by a _____ millions of years ago.
- n.* a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a crater or vent through which lava, rock fragments, hot vapor, and gas are or have been erupted from the earth's crust.
14. The concept of _____ is often viewed as an impossible or unrealistic goal, as it goes beyond what is currently possible.
- n.* an ideal and perfect society in which all social and political problems have been solved, and all members live in harmony and prosperity

ANSWERS: 8. disrupt, 9. quitter, 10. paradox, 11. exploded, 12. empowered, 13. volcano, 14. utopia

15. She was _____ in her behavior.

adj. wise and displaying the ability to make reasonable decisions

16. The trail through the forest was so _____ that our shoes became soaked.

adj. containing a lot of soft, wet soil; marshy, swampy, or waterlogged

17. We have to seek methods to _____ its fossil fuel economy.

v. to stop or reduce emitting carbon gases, especially carbon dioxide, by replacing energy made from fossil fuels with renewable energy

18. 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

19. It's important to _____ other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.

v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

20. There are many _____ issues in claiming a patent.

adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

21. The band's new album was a _____ success, reaching the top of the charts.

adj. very successful or impressive; causing something to be broken or destroyed

22. The skiers narrowly escaped the _____ by taking shelter behind a nearby rock.

n. a sudden and rapid movement of a large amount of snow, ice, rocks, or other debris down a steep slope; a rapid and overwhelming occurrence of events or circumstances

ANSWERS: 15. politic, 16. boggy, 17. decarbonize, 18. electrify, 19. dignify, 20. contentious, 21. smashing, 22. avalanche

23. The loss of his wife was an _____ sorrow that he found hard to overcome.
adj. not able to be tolerated or endured; too difficult, severe, or intense to be dealt with or suffered through; intolerable or insufferable
24. She _____ success and is always pushing herself to do better.
v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
25. Many countries around the world have built dams to harness the power of _____ for their energy needs.
n. electricity generated from the energy of moving water, usually using turbines and dams in rivers or other bodies of water
26. GDP per _____ shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.
n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
27. He was _____ for embezzlement.
v. to confine a person to a prison, a detention facility, or a place of involuntary confinement
28. The government voted to _____ the outdated law.
v. to do away with completely; to put an end to
29. The video telephony application has _____ the way we work.
v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way
30. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

ANSWERS: 23. unbearable, 24. craves, 25. hydropower, 26. capita, 27. imprisoned, 28. abolish, 29. redefined, 30. resilient

31. The _____ of slavery was a major milestone in the history of the United States.

- n.* the act of formally ending a system, practice, or institution, especially one that is considered unjust or harmful

ANSWERS: 31. abolition