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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Paula Hammond: A new superweapon in the fight against cancer | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

defy

v. to challenge or dare someone to do something; to resist or disobey a rule, decision, etc.

synonym: challenge, resist, disobey

(1) **defy** gravity, (2) **defy** authority

She tried to **defy** her parents by moving to the city against their wishes.

onslaught

n. a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative

synonym: attack, assault, charge

(1) **onslaught** of criticism, (2) urban **onslaught**

The village was unprepared for the sudden **onslaught** of the enemy army.

villain

n. a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel

synonym: scoundrel, rogue, antagonist

(1) evil **villain**, (2) authoritarian **villain**

The **villain** in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.

adaptable

adj. able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations

synonym : flexible, adjustable, elastic

(1) **adaptable** enough for the environment, (2) an **adaptable** person

We seek a candidate who possesses **adaptable** fighting potential.

superpower

n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym : great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

spit

v. to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth

synonym : expectorate, saliva, spew

(1) **spit** a bullet, (2) **spit** a mouthful of saliva

She tried to **spit** out the gum that she had been chewing.

RNA

n. (an acronym for Ribonucleic Acid) a type of nucleic acid molecule present in living cells, which plays a crucial role in various biological processes, such as coding, decoding, regulation, and expression of genes

synonym : ribonucleic acid

(1) **RNA** synthesis, (2) transfer **RNA**

RNA molecules can fold into complex three-dimensional structures, enabling them to carry out various biological functions.

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.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym : curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

bloodstream

n. the blood flowing through the body

(1) **bloodstream** in an artery, (2) **bloodstream** to the brain

Cancer cells are often carried throughout the body by the **bloodstream**.

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.

whop

v. to strike forcefully; to beat or batter

synonym : hit, smack, bash

(1) **whop** my opponent, (2) **whop** the intruding spider

He gave the punching bag a hard **whop** with his fists.

chemo

n. short for chemotherapy, a treatment for cancer that uses drugs to destroy cancer cells

synonym : chemotherapy, antineoplastic

(1) **chemo** patient, (2) **chemo-radiotherapy**

The side effects of **chemo**, such as nausea and hair loss, were a major concern for the patient.

penetrate

v. to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance

synonym : pierce, stab, go through

(1) **penetrate** a cell, (2) **penetrate** quickly into the skin
Western ideology slowly **penetrates** through the eastern countries.

nanoparticle

n. a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter

(1) aluminum **nanoparticle**, (2) atmospheric **nanoparticle**
For some creatures, carbon **nanoparticles** are deadly.

nanoscale

adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

(1) **nanoscale** device, (2) things at the **nanoscale**
This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the **nanoscale** lattice structure of the metal.

posit

v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration

synonym: assert, declare, assume

(1) **posit** the existence of life after death, (2) **posit** the premise

We should **posit** several hypotheses to discuss the matter.

sneak

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

synonym: creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

disguise

v. to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others

synonym: mask, misinterpret, cloak

(1) **disguise** my feelings, (2) **disguise** his voice

Later it turned out that the politician **disguised** the fact from the public.

hydrate

v. to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization

synonym : moisturize, water, rehydrate

(1) **hydrate** my skin, (2) acid **hydrate**

She drank water to **hydrate** her body.

saccharide

n. a simple sugar or carbohydrate; any compound that can be hydrolyzed to yield sugars

synonym : sugar, carbohydrate, sweetener

(1) **saccharide** molecule, (2) complex **saccharide**

Cellulose is a structural **saccharide** found in the cell walls of plants.

cloak

n. a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise

synonym : cape, mantle, shroud

(1) **cloak** room, (2) hooded **cloak**

The magician seemed to disappear when he threw his **cloak** over himself.

nanostructure

n. a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size

(1) **nanostructure** material, (2) three-dimensional **nanostructure**

This feature of the material is a result of its **nanostructure**.

doxing

n. the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent

synonym : cyberstalking, cyberbullying

(1) the potential risk of **doxing**, (2) laws against **doxing**

The celebrity became a victim of **doxing**, resulting in her personal details being publicly revealed.

regress

v. to move or develop backward; to return to an earlier or less advanced state or condition; to decline or deteriorate

synonym: retrovert, deteriorate, decline

(1) **regress** to childhood, (2) **regress** in skills

The team's failure to win games has caused them to **regress** in confidence.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

ovary

n. either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower

(1) **ovary** atrophy, (2) salted **ovary** of walleye pollack

They found **ovary** cancer in an early stage.

optimism

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

synonym: positiveness, sanguinity, bullishness

(1) sense of **optimism**, (2) political **optimism**

There is considerable **optimism** that the economy will recover soon.

neurological

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

synonym: nervous, neural, brain-related

(1) fever with **neurological** signs, (2) **neurological** symptoms

The patient was diagnosed with a **neurological** disorder

affecting their motor skills.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. hooded cl__k | <i>n.</i> a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise |
| 2. di____se my feelings | <i>v.</i> to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others |
| 3. the potential risk of do____g | <i>n.</i> the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent |
| 4. ch__o-radiotherapy | <i>n.</i> short for chemotherapy, a treatment for cancer that uses drugs to destroy cancer cells |
| 5. blo____am in an artery | <i>n.</i> the blood flowing through the body |
| 6. ex____e rebellion | <i>v.</i> to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 7. authoritarian vi____n | <i>n.</i> a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel |
| 8. re____s to childhood | <i>v.</i> to move or develop backward; to return to an earlier or less advanced state or condition; to decline or deteriorate |
| 9. neu____cal symptoms | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system |
| 10. po__t the existence of life after death | <i>v.</i> to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration |

ANSWERS: 1. cloak, 2. disguise, 3. doxing, 4. chemo, 5. bloodstream, 6. excite, 7. villain, 8. regress, 9. neurological, 10. posit

11. an ad_____le person *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
12. na_____le device *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
13. s__t a bullet *v.* to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
14. pe_____te a cell *v.* to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance
15. ch__o patient *n.* short for chemotherapy, a treatment for cancer that uses drugs to destroy cancer cells
16. 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
17. salted ov__y of walleye pollack *n.* either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower
18. complex sac_____de *n.* a simple sugar or carbohydrate; any compound that can be hydrolyzed to yield sugars
19. R_A synthesis *n.* (an acronym for Ribonucleic Acid) a type of nucleic acid molecule present in living cells, which plays a crucial role in various biological processes, such as coding, decoding, regulation, and expression of genes

ANSWERS: 11. adaptable, 12. nanoscale, 13. spit, 14. penetrate, 15. chemo, 16. degrade, 17. ovary, 18. saccharide, 19. RNA

20. sense of op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
21. po__t the premise *v.* to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
22. w__p the intruding spider *v.* to strike forcefully; to beat or batter
23. pe_____te quickly into the skin *v.* to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance
24. aluminum nan_____cle *n.* a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter
25. sac_____de molecule *n.* a simple sugar or carbohydrate; any compound that can be hydrolyzed to yield sugars
26. transfer R_A *n.* (an acronym for Ribonucleic Acid) a type of nucleic acid molecule present in living cells, which plays a crucial role in various biological processes, such as coding, decoding, regulation, and expression of genes
27. on_____ht of criticism *n.* a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative
28. ov__y atrophy *n.* either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower
29. fever with neu_____cal signs *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

ANSWERS: 20. optimism, 21. posit, 22. whop, 23. penetrate, 24. nanoparticle, 25. saccharide, 26. RNA, 27. onslaught, 28. ovary, 29. neurological

30. sn__k a cigarette *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
31. nan_____ure material *n.* a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size
32. environmental det_____nt *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
33. w__p my opponent *v.* to strike forcefully; to beat or batter
34. evil vi_____n *n.* a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
35. sn__k out of danger *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
36. s__t a mouthful of saliva *v.* to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
37. urban on_____ht *n.* a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative
38. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
39. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

ANSWERS: 30. sneak, 31. nanostructure, 32. determinant, 33. whop, 34. villain, 35. sneak, 36. spit, 37. onslaught, 38. medicinal, 39. superpower

40. atmospheric nan_____cle *n.* a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter
41. political op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
42. d__y gravity *v.* to challenge or dare someone to do something; to resist or disobey a rule, decision, etc.
43. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
44. ad_____le enough for the environment *adj.* able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
45. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
46. re_____s in skills *v.* to move or develop backward; to return to an earlier or less advanced state or condition; to decline or deteriorate
47. de_____e environmental quality *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

ANSWERS: 40. nanoparticle, 41. optimism, 42. defy, 43. determinant, 44. adaptable, 45. superpower, 46. regress, 47. degrade

48. di_____se his voice *v.* to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
49. things at the na_____le *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
50. ex_____e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
51. hy_____e my skin *v.* to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization
52. laws against do_____g *n.* the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent
53. three-dimensional nan_____ure *n.* a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size
54. cl__k room *n.* a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise
55. acid hy_____e *v.* to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization
56. blo_____am to the brain *n.* the blood flowing through the body
57. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

ANSWERS: 48. disguise, 49. nanoscale, 50. excite, 51. hydrate, 52. doxing, 53. nanostructure, 54. cloak, 55. hydrate, 56. bloodstream, 57. medicinal

58. d__y authority

v. to challenge or dare someone to do something; to resist or disobey a rule, decision, etc.

ANSWERS: 58. defy

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He gave the punching bag a hard _____ with his fists.
v. to strike forcefully; to beat or batter

2. The celebrity became a victim of _____ resulting in her personal details being publicly revealed.
n. the act of searching for and publishing private or identifying information about a particular individual on the internet, often with malicious intent

3. The magician seemed to disappear when he threw his _____ over himself.
n. a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise

4. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

5. Cancer cells are often carried throughout the body by the _____.
n. the blood flowing through the body

6. This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the _____ lattice structure of the metal.
adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

7. The village was unprepared for the sudden _____ of the enemy army.
n. a fierce or violent attack; a sudden and intense outburst of something, usually negative

ANSWERS: 1. whop, 2. doxing, 3. cloak, 4. determinant, 5. bloodstream, 6. nanoscale, 7. onslaught

8. The _____ in the movie was a complex character with a tragic backstory.
n. a character in a story, movie, or play which often opposes the hero, typically characterized as immoral, evil, or cruel
9. For some creatures, carbon _____ are deadly.
n. a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter
10. Later it turned out that the politician _____ the fact from the public.
v. to hide or alter someone's appearance to deceive or mislead others
11. The patient was diagnosed with a _____ disorder affecting their motor skills.
adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
12. Western ideology slowly _____ through the eastern countries.
v. to pass into or through something, often by overcoming resistance
13. The side effects of _____ such as nausea and hair loss, were a major concern for the patient.
n. short for chemotherapy, a treatment for cancer that uses drugs to destroy cancer cells
14. We should _____ several hypotheses to discuss the matter.
v. to suggest or accept something as fact or as a basis for argument or consideration
15. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 8. villain, 9. nanoparticles, 10. disguised, 11. neurological, 12. penetrates, 13. chemo, 14. posit, 15. excited

16. We seek a candidate who possesses _____ fighting potential.
adj. able or willing to modify or be modified to deal with new situations
17. ____ molecules can fold into complex three-dimensional structures, enabling them to carry out various biological functions.
n. (an acronym for Ribonucleic Acid) a type of nucleic acid molecule present in living cells, which plays a crucial role in various biological processes, such as coding, decoding, regulation, and expression of genes
18. This feature of the material is a result of its _____.
n. a structure that falls in between microscopic and molecular in size
19. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
20. There is considerable _____ that the economy will recover soon.
n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
21. The team's failure to win games has caused them to _____ in confidence.
v. to move or develop backward; to return to an earlier or less advanced state or condition; to decline or deteriorate
22. Cellulose is a structural _____ found in the cell walls of plants.
n. a simple sugar or carbohydrate; any compound that can be hydrolyzed to yield sugars
23. 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

ANSWERS: 16. adaptable, 17. RNA, 18. nanostructure, 19. medicinal, 20. optimism, 21. regress, 22. saccharide, 23. degrade

24. The children tried to _____ out and eat the candy.
- v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
25. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
- n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
26. She tried to _____ out the gum that she had been chewing.
- v. to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
27. She tried to _____ her parents by moving to the city against their wishes.
- v. to challenge or dare someone to do something; to resist or disobey a rule, decision, etc.
28. She drank water to _____ her body.
- v. to add water or moisture to something; to drink enough fluids to maintain proper moisture; (noun) any compound that contains water of crystallization
29. They found _____ cancer in an early stage.
- n. either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower

ANSWERS: 24. sneak, 25. superpower, 26. spit, 27. defy, 28. hydrate, 29. ovary