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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Monica Byrne: A sci-fi vision of love from a 318-year-old hologram | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/monica_byrne_a_sci-fi_vision_of_love_from_a_318_year_old_hologram

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

semicircle

n. half of a circle; a curve or line that represents half of a complete circle

synonym: hemicycle, arc, crescent

(1) **semicircle** shape, (2) **semicircle** perimeter

The playground had a colorful **semicircle** of benches for children to rest and play.

midair

n. some point in the air; above ground level

(1) a **midair** collision, (2) thrown out into **midair**

She flawlessly performed a **midair** somersault.

duvet

n. (also "comforter") a soft, flat bag filled with feathers, down, or synthetic fibers, used as a covering for a bed, usually enclosed in a removable cover and provides warmth and comfort while sleeping

synonym: comforter, quilt, blanket

(1) soft **duvet**, (2) **duvet** cover

I love snuggling up under my cozy **duvet** on a cold winter night.

obsession

n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person

synonym: compulsion, fixation, enthusiasm

(1) **obsession** with character, (2) national **obsession**
Gambling became an **obsession** for him, and he eventually lost everything.

lifespan

n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

synonym: duration, lifetime, continuance

(1) **lifespan** extension, (2) **lifespan** retrieval curve

Generally speaking, men have a shorter **lifespan** than women.

indefinitely

adv. without any fixed or definite limit; for an unknown or unspecified period of time

synonym: endlessly, permanently, perpetually

(1) postpone a meeting **indefinitely**, (2) **indefinitely** suspended

The construction project has been delayed **indefinitely** due to the pandemic.

Jovian

adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics

synonym: Jupiter, giant planet

(1) **Jovian** satellites, (2) **Jovian** planet

The **Jovian** moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.

mandolin

n. a musical instrument that belongs to the lute family, typically having a rounded back, a fretted neck, and four pairs of strings, played with a plectrum or with the fingers, widely used in various musical genres and is characterized by its bright, plucked sound

synonym: lute, guitar, banjo

(1) play the **mandolin**, (2) **mandolin** music

I have been practicing the **mandolin** for years and can now easily play complex tunes.

equator

n. an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around

40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)

(1) south of the **equator**, (2) above the **equator**
Ecuador is on the **equator**.

tranquility

n. a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment

synonym: calmness, serenity, peace

(1) the **tranquility** of the environment, (2) feeling of **tranquility**

She found **tranquility** by meditating in the garden.

annoy

v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
synonym: aggravate, irritate, unsettle

(1) **annoy** at the time, (2) **annoy** everyone else

Her constant chatter was starting to **annoy** the neighbors.

flirt

v. to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men

synonym: tease

(1) **flirt** with him, (2) **flirt** like a schoolgirl

My husband never **flirts** with other women.

constellation

n. a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people

synonym: asterism, array, pattern

(1) the stars of the Scorpion **constellation**, (2) northern **constellation**

Navigators still use the Little Bear **constellation** at sea.

revolve

v. to rotate around a central point

synonym: rotate, spin, orbit

(1) **revolve** at high speed, (2) **revolve** around a central axis

The Earth **revolves** around the Sun in an elliptical orbit.

fingertip

n. the end or tip of a finger

(1) apply **fingertip** pressure, (2) burn my **fingertip**

The archaeologist ran his **fingertips** along the pattern of the tombstones.

obsess

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

synonym: torment, beset, engross

(1) **obsess** over her weight, (2) he is **obsessed** with the fear

He's utterly **obsessed** with his promotion.

facetious

adj. treating serious matters with inappropriate humor; not meant to be taken seriously; characterized by flippant or frivolous intent; making jokes or jests inappropriately

synonym: humorous, joking, witty

(1) make a **facetious** joke, (2) **facetious** tone

His **facetious** remark was not well-received in the serious business meeting.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym: captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

arrogant

adj. having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities

synonym: haughty, supercilious, disdainful

(1) an **arrogant** attitude, (2) grow **arrogant**

He was so **arrogant** that he thought he was always right.

entropy

n. a scientific concept that is most commonly associated with a state of disorder, randomness, or uncertainty

synonym: randomness

(1) **entropy** calculation, (2) **entropy** conservation

Since the second law of thermodynamics is applicable to the universe, the **entropy** of the universe continues to increase.

hologram

n. a three-dimensional image produced by the interference of light beams from a laser or other coherent light sources used for artistic, scientific, or commercial applications

synonym: 3D image, virtual image, projection

(1) **hologram** projection, (2) **hologram** technology

The museum had a **hologram** exhibit that was very popular with visitors.

violet

adj. between blue and purple in hue

synonym: purple

(1) bluish- **violet**, (2) **violet** quartz

Red and **violet** are opposites on the color spectrum.

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**.

constrain

v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something

synonym: restrict, limit, confine

(1) **constrain** his freedom, (2) **constrain** information flow

The political situation **constrained** the country's economic growth and foreign relations.

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.

caretaker

n. a person employed to take care of a large building such as a school and who deals with the cleaning, repairs, etc.; a person employed to look after a house or land while the owner is away

synonym: custodian, caregiver

(1) welfare **caretaker**, (2) the role of **caretaker**

He acted as a **caretaker** until a new president was elected.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ma_____in music
n. a musical instrument that belongs to the lute family, typically having a rounded back, a fretted neck, and four pairs of strings, played with a plectrum or with the fingers, widely used in various musical genres and is characterized by its bright, plucked sound
2. bluish-vi____t
adj. between blue and purple in hue
3. Jo____n satellites
adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
4. sem_____le shape
n. half of a circle; a curve or line that represents half of a complete circle
5. the role of ca_____er
n. a person employed to take care of a large building such as a school and who deals with the cleaning, repairs, etc.; a person employed to look after a house or land while the owner is away
6. postpone a meeting ind_____ely
adv. without any fixed or definite limit; for an unknown or unspecified period of time
7. Jo____n planet
adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
8. severe thu_____orms
n. a storm with lightning and thunder, typically with heavy rain and strong gusts of wind
9. fl__t like a schoolgirl
v. to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men

ANSWERS: 1. mandolin, 2. violet, 3. Jovian, 4. semicircle, 5. caretaker, 6. indefinitely, 7. Jovian, 8. thunderstorm, 9. flirt

10. fl__t with him *v.* to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions; (noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
11. the stars of the Scorpion
con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
12. thu_____orm advisory *n.* a storm with lightning and thunder, typically with heavy rain and strong gusts of wind
13. re_____e at high speed *v.* to rotate around a central point
14. feeling of tra_____ty *n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment
15. vi___t quartz *adj.* between blue and purple in hue
16. fa_____te the young *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
17. li_____an extension *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
18. burn my fi_____ip *n.* the end or tip of a finger
19. an ar_____nt attitude *adj.* having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities
20. fa_____us tone *adj.* treating serious matters with inappropriate humor; not meant to be taken seriously; characterized by flippant or frivolous intent; making jokes or jests inappropriately

ANSWERS: 10. flirt, 11. constellation, 12. thunderstorm, 13. revolve, 14. tranquility, 15. violet, 16. fascinate, 17. lifespan, 18. fingertip, 19. arrogant, 20. facetious

21. ob_____on with character *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
22. ho_____am technology *n.* a three-dimensional image produced by the interference of light beams from a laser or other coherent light sources used for artistic, scientific, or commercial applications
23. 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;
24. sem_____le perimeter *n.* half of a circle; a curve or line that represents half of a complete circle
25. south of the eq_____r *n.* an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)
26. li_____an retrieval curve *n.* the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists
27. welfare ca_____er *n.* a person employed to take care of a large building such as a school and who deals with the cleaning, repairs, etc.; a person employed to look after a house or land while the owner is away
28. fa_____te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
29. an__y everyone else *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

ANSWERS: 21. obsession, 22. hologram, 23. paradox, 24. semicircle, 25. equator, 26. lifespan, 27. caretaker, 28. fascinate, 29. annoy

30. soft du__t *n.* (also "comforter") a soft, flat bag filled with feathers, down, or synthetic fibers, used as a covering for a bed, usually enclosed in a removable cover and provides warmth and comfort while sleeping
31. en____y calculation *n.* a scientific concept that is most commonly associated with a state of disorder, randomness, or uncertainty
32. apply fi_____ip pressure *n.* the end or tip of a finger
33. en____y conservation *n.* a scientific concept that is most commonly associated with a state of disorder, randomness, or uncertainty
34. ob___s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
35. ho_____am projection *n.* a three-dimensional image produced by the interference of light beams from a laser or other coherent light sources used for artistic, scientific, or commercial applications
36. an__y at the time *v.* to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly
37. grow ar_____nt *adj.* having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities
38. du__t cover *n.* (also "comforter") a soft, flat bag filled with feathers, down, or synthetic fibers, used as a covering for a bed, usually enclosed in a removable cover and provides warmth and comfort while sleeping

ANSWERS: 30. duvet, 31. entropy, 32. fingertip, 33. entropy, 34. obsess, 35. hologram, 36. annoy, 37. arrogant, 38. duvet

39. re_____e around a central axis *v.* to rotate around a central point
40. thrown out into mi____r *n.* some point in the air; above ground level
41. above the eq____r *n.* an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)
42. the tra_____ty of the environment *n.* a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment
43. play the ma____in *n.* a musical instrument that belongs to the lute family, typically having a rounded back, a fretted neck, and four pairs of strings, played with a plectrum or with the fingers, widely used in various musical genres and is characterized by its bright, plucked sound
44. he is ob____sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
45. a mi____r collision *n.* some point in the air; above ground level
46. co_____in his freedom *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
47. northern con_____ion *n.* a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people

ANSWERS: 39. revolve, 40. midair, 41. equator, 42. tranquility, 43. mandolin, 44. obsess, 45. midair, 46. constrain, 47. constellation

48. ind_____ely suspended *adv.* without any fixed or definite limit; for an unknown or unspecified period of time
49. make a fa_____us joke *adj.* treating serious matters with inappropriate humor; not meant to be taken seriously; characterized by flippant or frivolous intent; making jokes or jests inappropriately
50. national ob_____on *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
51. co_____in information flow *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
52. 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: 48. indefinitely, 49. facetious, 50. obsession, 51. constrain, 52. paradox

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Red and _____ are opposites on the color spectrum.

adj. between blue and purple in hue

2. He was so _____ that he thought he was always right.

adj. having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's importance or abilities

3. The museum had a _____ exhibit that was very popular with visitors.

n. a three-dimensional image produced by the interference of light beams from a laser or other coherent light sources used for artistic, scientific, or commercial applications

4. 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;

5. The construction project has been delayed _____ due to the pandemic.

adv. without any fixed or definite limit; for an unknown or unspecified period of time

6. Since the second law of thermodynamics is applicable to the universe, the _____ of the universe continues to increase.

n. a scientific concept that is most commonly associated with a state of disorder, randomness, or uncertainty

7. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

8. I have been practicing the _____ for years and can now easily play complex tunes.

n. a musical instrument that belongs to the lute family, typically having a rounded back, a fretted neck, and four pairs of strings, played with a plectrum or with the fingers, widely used in various musical genres and is characterized by its bright, plucked sound

ANSWERS: 1. violet, 2. arrogant, 3. hologram, 4. paradox, 5. indefinitely, 6. entropy,

7. obsessed, 8. mandolin

9. The playground had a colorful _____ of benches for children to rest and play.

n. half of a circle; a curve or line that represents half of a complete circle

10. She found _____ by meditating in the garden.

n. a state of calmness or peacefulness; absence of agitation, disturbance, or turbulence; a peaceful or serene environment

11. The magic tricks _____ the children.

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

12. Her constant chatter was starting to _____ the neighbors.

v. to make someone angry, anxious, or irritating slightly

13. Ecuador is on the _____.

n. an line of latitude that separates Earth's northern and southern hemispheres and has a radius of around 40,075 kilometers (24,901 miles)

14. His _____ remark was not well-received in the serious business meeting.

adj. treating serious matters with inappropriate humor; not meant to be taken seriously; characterized by flippant or frivolous intent; making jokes or jests inappropriately

15. The archaeologist ran his _____ along the pattern of the tombstones.

n. the end or tip of a finger

16. Generally speaking, men have a shorter _____ than women.

n. the length of time for which a person, animal lives, or thing exists

ANSWERS: 9. semicircle, 10. tranquility, 11. fascinated, 12. annoy, 13. equator, 14. facetious, 15. fingertips, 16. lifespan

17. I love snuggling up under my cozy _____ on a cold winter night.
n. (also "comforter") a soft, flat bag filled with feathers, down, or synthetic fibers, used as a covering for a bed, usually enclosed in a removable cover and provides warmth and comfort while sleeping
18. Navigators still use the Little Bear _____ at sea.
n. a group of stars that form a recognizable pattern and have a name; a group of related or similar ideas, things, or people
19. She flawlessly performed a _____ somersault.
n. some point in the air; above ground level
20. He acted as a _____ until a new president was elected.
n. a person employed to take care of a large building such as a school and who deals with the cleaning, repairs, etc.; a person employed to look after a house or land while the owner is away
21. My husband never _____ with other women.
v. to talk or behave as if sexually attracted to someone, without serious intentions;
(noun) a seductive woman who uses her sex appeal to exploit men
22. The Earth _____ around the Sun in an elliptical orbit.
v. to rotate around a central point
23. The _____ moon Europa is believed to have an ocean beneath its icy surface.
adj. relating to Jupiter or its characteristics
24. The political situation _____ the country's economic growth and foreign relations.
v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something

ANSWERS: 17. duvet, 18. constellation, 19. midair, 20. caretaker, 21. flirts, 22. revolves, 23. Jovian, 24. constrained

25. Gambling became an _____ for him, and he eventually lost everything.

n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person

26. 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

ANSWERS: 25. obsession, 26. thunderstorms