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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Trevor Aaronson: How this FBI strategy is actually creating US-based terrorists | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

arresting

adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something

synonym : striking, impressive, captivating

(1) an **arresting** image, (2) an **arresting** sight

The painting's **arresting** beauty made it difficult to look away.

corruptible

adj. capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

synonym : bribable, dishonest, venal

(1) **corruptible** officials, (2) **corruptible** judges

Bureaucracies are more **corruptible** than other systems or organizations.

crooked

adj. not straight or aligned; bent or curved to one side; not honest or fair; characterized by deception, fraud, or wrongdoing; irregular, uneven, or jagged in shape or form

synonym : bent, curved, twisted

(1) **crooked** smile, (2) **crooked** line

The table leg was **crooked**, causing all the cups to slide to one side.

brag

v. to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior

synonym: boast, swagger, vaunt

(1) **brag** to each other, (2) **brag** about my knowledge

Despite his impressive achievements, he refrained from **bragging** about his success.

undercover

adj. carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito

synonym: covert, hidden, stealthy

(1) **undercover** operation, (2) **undercover** journalist

The **undercover** police officer was able to gather crucial evidence without being detected.

sting

v. to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick

synonym: bite, prick, poke

(1) **sting** me on the arm, (2) **sting** his face

Bees **sting** as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

edict

n. an official order or command issued by a ruler or government; a formal or authoritative proclamation

synonym: decree, order, command

(1) religious **edict**, (2) royal **edict**

The **edict** issued by the king had to be obeyed by all his subjects.

nab

v. to catch someone in the act of doing something wrong or illegal

synonym: catch, apprehend, arrest

(1) **nab** traffic offender, (2) **nab** the opportunity

The police were able to **nab** the thief before he could escape.

huff

n. a fit of anger, annoyance, or resentment; a state of irritation or sulking; (verb) to exhale forcefully or audibly in a show of annoyance, anger, or frustration

synonym: miff, tantrum, indignation

(1) **huff** and puff upstairs, (2) give a **huff** of relief

She let out a **huff** of frustration after the difficult workout.

schizoaffective

adj. of or relating to a mental disorder characterized by a combination of schizophrenia symptoms, such as hallucinations, delusions, or disorganized thinking, and mood disorder symptoms, such as depression or mania

synonym: psychotic, mood disorder, mental illness

(1) treatment for **schizoaffective**, (2) **schizoaffective** symptoms

Schizoaffective disorder is a mental illness characterized by symptoms of both schizophrenia and mood disorders.

conspire

v. to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose

synonym: plot, scheme, collude

(1) **conspire** his ruin, (2) **conspire** to corner the market

The group of friends **conspired** to pull a prank on their teacher.

convict

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

synonym: condemn, sentence, judge

(1) **convict** him of manslaughter, (2) **convict** in a jail

He was **convicted** on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

molest

v. to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or

inappropriate way

synonym : harass, harm, abuse

(1) **molest** a woman on a train, (2) sexually **molest** his stepchild

The organization campaigns for stricter penalties for those who **molest** children.

synagogue

n. (also "shul") a Jewish house of worship, typically consisting of a hall for prayer and study and often containing a sanctuary, a social hall, and a collection of administrative offices

synonym : temple, shul, tabernacle

(1) reconstructed **synagogue**, (2) historical **synagogue**

We attended services at the local **synagogue** during the High Holidays.

intercept

v. to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination

synonym : ambush, block, prevent

(1) **intercept** an enemy force, (2) **intercept** X rays

It is illegal to **intercept** police radio.

lure

v. to tempt or persuade someone to do something

synonym : tempt, entice, attract

(1) **lure** prey, (2) **lure** foreign investment

The salesperson used a special offer to **lure** customers into buying the product.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

farce

n. a type of comedy that relies on ridiculous situations, improbable coincidences, and exaggerated characters to provide humor

synonym : comedy, parody, spoof

(1) sports **farce**, (2) theatrical **farce**

The political scandal was like a **farce** straight out of a TV sitcom.

retarded

adj. (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn

synonym : delayed, impeded, slow

(1) **retarded** growth, (2) **retarded** child

The project was delayed due to some technical problems, and it was considered **retarded**.

martyrdom

n. the act or experience of suffering or dying for a cause, belief, or principle, which often implies sacrifice and is associated with individuals who endure persecution or hardship due to their convictions

synonym : calvary, sacrifice, self-sacrifice

(1) **martyrdom** stories, (2) religious **martyrdom**

Many individuals have died as a result of their **martyrdom** for their beliefs.

unwitting

adj. without purpose or intent

synonym : unknowledgeable, inadvertent, unintended

(1) **unwitting** victims, (2) an **unwitting** mistake

His rudeness was **unwitting**, not intentional.

choreograph

v. to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music

(1) **choreograph** a stage performance, (2) exquisitely **choreographed**

He had **choreographed** the dance in this play himself.

accusation

n. a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone

synonym : charge, indictment, imputation

(1) criminal **accusation**, (2) false **accusation**

The **accusation** of theft was unfounded, and the suspect was eventually cleared of all charges.

provocateur

n. a person who deliberately behaves in a way to provoke or challenge others, often to incite strong reactions or controversy

synonym : inciter, agitator, instigator

(1) political **provocateur**, (2) social media **provocateur**

The movie director is considered a **provocateur** for his controversial films that often address taboo subjects.

cofounder

n. one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business

(1) **cofounder** of the university, (2) late **cofounder**

He is the **cofounder** and chairman of this tech company.

irreparable

adj. not able to be repaired or fixed; beyond repair or remedy

synonym : irreversible, permanent, unfixable

(1) **irreparable** harm, (2) **irreparable** loss

Unfortunately, the damage to the car was **irreparable**, and it had to be scrapped.

orchestrate

v. to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly; (noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music

synonym : plan, coordinate, arrange

(1) **orchestrate** a takeover, (2) **orchestrate** the political reinstatement

He carefully **orchestrated** the details of his business plan.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sexually mo___t his stepchild
v. to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or inappropriate way
2. social media pro_____ur
n. a person who deliberately behaves in a way to provoke or challenge others, often to incite strong reactions or controversy
3. n_b the opportunity
v. to catch someone in the act of doing something wrong or illegal
4. cr_____d line
adj. not straight or aligned; bent or curved to one side; not honest or fair; characterized by deception, fraud, or wrongdoing; irregular, uneven, or jagged in shape or form
5. co_____re his ruin
v. to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
6. treatment for sch_____ive
adj. of or relating to a mental disorder characterized by a combination of schizophrenia symptoms, such as hallucinations, delusions, or disorganized thinking, and mood disorder symptoms, such as depression or mania
7. h__f and puff upstairs
n. a fit of anger, annoyance, or resentment; a state of irritation or sulking; (verb) to exhale forcefully or audibly in a show of annoyance, anger, or frustration

ANSWERS: 1. molest, 2. provocateur, 3. nab, 4. crooked, 5. conspire, 6. schizoaffective, 7. huff

8. give a h__f of relief *n.* a fit of anger, annoyance, or resentment; a state of irritation or sulking; (verb) to exhale forcefully or audibly in a show of annoyance, anger, or frustration
9. un_____ng victims *adj.* without purpose or intent
10. reconstructed sy_____ue *n.* (also "shul") a Jewish house of worship, typically consisting of a hall for prayer and study and often containing a sanctuary, a social hall, and a collection of administrative offices
11. royal ed__t *n.* an official order or command issued by a ruler or government; a formal or authoritative proclamation
12. political pro_____ur *n.* a person who deliberately behaves in a way to provoke or challenge others, often to incite strong reactions or controversy
13. co_____t him of manslaughter *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
14. co_____t in a jail *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
15. co_____re to corner the market *v.* to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
16. religious ma_____om *n.* the act or experience of suffering or dying for a cause, belief, or principle, which often implies sacrifice and is associated with individuals who endure persecution or hardship due to their convictions

ANSWERS: 8. huff, 9. unwitting, 10. synagogue, 11. edict, 12. provocateur, 13. convict, 14. convict, 15. conspire, 16. martyrdom

17. orc_____te a takeover *v.* to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly; (noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music
18. in_____pt an enemy force *v.* to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination
19. re_____ed child *adj.* (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn
20. und_____er journalist *adj.* carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito
21. religious ed__t *n.* an official order or command issued by a ruler or government; a formal or authoritative proclamation
22. st__g his face *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
23. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
24. n_b traffic offender *v.* to catch someone in the act of doing something wrong or illegal
25. sports fa__e *n.* a type of comedy that relies on ridiculous situations, improbable coincidences, and exaggerated characters to provide humor

ANSWERS: 17. orchestrate, 18. intercept, 19. retarded, 20. undercover, 21. edict, 22. sting, 23. blur, 24. nab, 25. farce

26. cor_____le judges *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
27. historical sy_____ue *n.* (also "shul") a Jewish house of worship, typically consisting of a hall for prayer and study and often containing a sanctuary, a social hall, and a collection of administrative offices
28. co_____er of the university *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
29. st__g me on the arm *v.* to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick
30. sch_____ive symptoms *adj.* of or relating to a mental disorder characterized by a combination of schizophrenia symptoms, such as hallucinations, delusions, or disorganized thinking, and mood disorder symptoms, such as depression or mania
31. an ar_____ng image *adj.* attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
32. b__g about my knowledge *v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior
33. an un_____ng mistake *adj.* without purpose or intent
34. irr_____le loss *adj.* not able to be repaired or fixed; beyond repair or remedy

ANSWERS: 26. corruptible, 27. synagogue, 28. cofounder, 29. sting, 30. schizoaffective, 31. arresting, 32. brag, 33. unwitting, 34. irreparable

35. re_____ed growth *adj.* (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn
36. cho_____ph a stage performance *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
37. cor_____le officials *adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral
38. criminal acc_____on *n.* a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone
39. exquisitely cho_____phed *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
40. late co_____er *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
41. l__e foreign investment *v.* to tempt or persuade someone to do something
42. orc_____te the political reinstatement *v.* to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly; (noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music
43. in_____pt X rays *v.* to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination
44. mo___t a woman on a train *v.* to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or inappropriate way

ANSWERS: 35. retarded, 36. choreograph, 37. corruptible, 38. accusation, 39. choreograph, 40. cofounder, 41. lure, 42. orchestrate, 43. intercept, 44. molest

45. ma_____om stories *n.* the act or experience of suffering or dying for a cause, belief, or principle, which often implies sacrifice and is associated with individuals who endure persecution or hardship due to their convictions
46. theatrical fa__e *n.* a type of comedy that relies on ridiculous situations, improbable coincidences, and exaggerated characters to provide humor
47. cr_____d smile *adj.* not straight or aligned; bent or curved to one side; not honest or fair; characterized by deception, fraud, or wrongdoing; irregular, uneven, or jagged in shape or form
48. b__g to each other *v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior
49. an ar_____ng sight *adj.* attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something
50. irr_____le harm *adj.* not able to be repaired or fixed; beyond repair or remedy
51. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
52. b__r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

ANSWERS: 45. martyrdom, 46. farce, 47. crooked, 48. brag, 49. arresting, 50. irreparable, 51. opportune, 52. blur

53. op_____ne occasion

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

54. false acc_____on

n. a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone

55. l__e prey

v. to tempt or persuade someone to do something

56. und_____er operation

adj. carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito

ANSWERS: 53. opportune, 54. accusation, 55. lure, 56. undercover

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He carefully _____ the details of his business plan.
v. to plan, coordinate, or arrange something, especially skillfully or cleverly;
(noun) the act of organizing or directing the elements of a composition, especially in music
2. The _____ of theft was unfounded, and the suspect was eventually cleared of all charges.
n. a statement or claim alleging that someone has committed a crime, offense, or wrongdoing; a charge or indictment made against someone
3. Unfortunately, the damage to the car was _____ and it had to be scrapped.
adj. not able to be repaired or fixed; beyond repair or remedy
4. The police were able to ____ the thief before he could escape.
v. to catch someone in the act of doing something wrong or illegal
5. The movie director is considered a _____ for his controversial films that often address taboo subjects.
n. a person who deliberately behaves in a way to provoke or challenge others, often to incite strong reactions or controversy
6. He had _____ the dance in this play himself.
v. to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
7. _____ disorder is a mental illness characterized by symptoms of both schizophrenia and mood disorders.
adj. of or relating to a mental disorder characterized by a combination of schizophrenia symptoms, such as hallucinations, delusions, or disorganized thinking, and mood disorder symptoms, such as depression or mania

ANSWERS: 1. orchestrated, 2. accusation, 3. irreparable, 4. nab, 5. provocateur, 6. choreographed, 7. Schizoaffective

8. Despite his impressive achievements, he refrained from _____ about his success.
- v.* to say something in a boastful manner, to impress others, or make oneself feel superior
9. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
- n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
10. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
11. His rudeness was _____ not intentional.
- adj.* without purpose or intent
12. The _____ police officer was able to gather crucial evidence without being detected.
- adj.* carried out or conducted in secret, with one's true identity or purpose concealed; disguised, incognito
13. He is the _____ and chairman of this tech company.
- n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
14. The table leg was _____ causing all the cups to slide to one side.
- adj.* not straight or aligned; bent or curved to one side; not honest or fair; characterized by deception, fraud, or wrongdoing; irregular, uneven, or jagged in shape or form
15. Bureaucracies are more _____ than other systems or organizations.
- adj.* capable of being made to do something dishonest or immoral

ANSWERS: 8. bragging, 9. blur, 10. opportune, 11. unwitting, 12. undercover, 13. cofounder, 14. crooked, 15. corruptible

16. The painting's _____ beauty made it difficult to look away.

adj. attracting attention or interest; striking or impressive in appearance or effect; halting or stopping the movement or progress of something

17. Bees _____ as a defense mechanism when they feel threatened.

v. to cause a sharp, painful sensation or injury with a poison, venom, or other substance or by a physical action such as a bite or prick

18. We attended services at the local _____ during the High Holidays.

n. (also "shul") a Jewish house of worship, typically consisting of a hall for prayer and study and often containing a sanctuary, a social hall, and a collection of administrative offices

19. She let out a _____ of frustration after the difficult workout.

n. a fit of anger, annoyance, or resentment; a state of irritation or sulking; (verb) to exhale forcefully or audibly in a show of annoyance, anger, or frustration

20. The project was delayed due to some technical problems, and it was considered _____.

adj. (considered derogatory) delayed or impeded in intellectual or emotional development; slow to learn

21. The salesperson used a special offer to _____ customers into buying the product.

v. to tempt or persuade someone to do something

22. He was _____ on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

23. The _____ issued by the king had to be obeyed by all his subjects.

n. an official order or command issued by a ruler or government; a formal or authoritative proclamation

ANSWERS: 16. arresting, 17. sting, 18. synagogue, 19. huff, 20. retarded, 21. lure, 22. convicted, 23. edict

24. The group of friends _____ to pull a prank on their teacher.
- v. to plan or plot together secretly, especially with an evil or unlawful purpose
25. Many individuals have died as a result of their _____ for their beliefs.
- n. the act or experience of suffering or dying for a cause, belief, or principle, which often implies sacrifice and is associated with individuals who endure persecution or hardship due to their convictions
26. The organization campaigns for stricter penalties for those who _____ children.
- v. to harass, bother, or annoy someone, often sexually; to touch or handle someone in an unwelcome or inappropriate way
27. It is illegal to _____ police radio.
- v. to stop and catch someone or something to prevent them from continuing to a destination
28. The political scandal was like a _____ straight out of a TV sitcom.
- n. a type of comedy that relies on ridiculous situations, improbable coincidences, and exaggerated characters to provide humor

ANSWERS: 24. conspired, 25. martyrdom, 26. molest, 27. intercept, 28. farce