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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Uri Hasson: This is your brain on communication |
TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

synonym: nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

MRI

n. (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body

(1) **MRI** brain image, (2) cardiac **MRI**

The **MRI** machine uses powerful magnets to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

embellishment

n. the action, process, or result of adding decorative or additional features or details to something to enhance its

aesthetic appeal; an accessory or ornament used to decorate or beautify something

synonym: decoration, ornamentation, adornment

(1) the **embellishment** of the truth, (2) artistic **embellishment**

The dress was beautiful on its own, without additional **embellishment**.

pastry

n. a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes

synonym: bakery, baked goods, sweet treats

(1) **pastry** chef, (2) fruit **pastry**

The chef's specialty is a savory **pastry** with spinach and feta cheese.

auditory

adj. of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear

synonym: hearing, audible, aural

(1) a good **auditory** memory, (2) **auditory** system

The **auditory** nerve carries sound signals from the ear to the brain.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

synchronize

v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

synonym: coordinate, accompany, harmonize

(1) **synchronize** movements, (2) **synchronize** our watches

The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly **synchronized**.

entrain

v. to synchronize, or bring into a line, with a particular process or rhythm; to board a train or other means of transportation

synonym : board, embark, load

(1) **entrain** at the station, (2) **entrain** the heart rate

The rhythm of the music made me want to **entrain** my movements with the beats.

metronome

n. a device used by musicians to mark time by means of regularly recurring ticks or sounds at an adjustable tempo

synonym : beatkeeper, timekeeper

(1) **metronome** ticking, (2) electronic **metronome**

The composer marked the score with **metronome** indications to guide the musicians.

intelligible

adj. capable of being understood or apprehended

synonym : apprehensible, understandable, comprehensible

(1) **intelligible** pronunciation, (2) **intelligible** to anyone

He gave me an **intelligible** answer.

scramble

v. to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you

synonym : jumble, disarrange

(1) **scramble** my mind, (2) **scramble** for support

Local business owners **scrambled** to find skilled workers.

parietal

adj. relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure

synonym : cerebral, skull, cranial

(1) **parietal** cortex, (2) **parietal** bone

The **parietal** lobe of the brain is responsible for processing sensory information.

comprehend

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

synonym : understand, grasp, apprehend

(1) **comprehend** English, (2) **comprehend** instructions
She struggled to **comprehend** complex math problems.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality
Her remarks **confused** the debate.

reconstruct

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

synonym: rebuild, revamp, reorganize

(1) **reconstruct** an image, (2) **reconstruct** the original text
They've decided to **reconstruct** a ruined castle.

synonym

n. a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language

synonym: equivalent, substitute, parallel

(1) **synonym** retrieval, (2) rough **synonym**
She was searching for a **synonym** for 'happiness' in the thesaurus.

hackney

n. a type of horse that was suitable for ordinary riding or driving, as opposed to war, hunting, or racing; a carriage or coach for hire, often specifically a horse-drawn one

synonym: cab, taxi, carriage

(1) London **hackney**, (2) old **hackney**
The **hackney** drivers were known to be excellent storytellers, entertaining their passengers during the ride.

misaligned

adj. not properly aligned or arranged; not placed in the correct position or orientation

synonym: crooked, askew, abused

(1) **misaligned** teeth, (2) **misaligned** priorities
The painting was crooked and **misaligned**, so the museum

staff had to rehang it properly.

jealousy

n. a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire

synonym: envy, covetousness, resentment

(1) **jealousy** feeling towards another person, (2) burn with **jealousy**

His **jealousy** of his brother's success caused a rift in their relationship.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym: intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. electronic me_____me *n.* a device used by musicians to mark time by means of regularly recurring ticks or sounds at an adjustable tempo
2. me_____me ticking *n.* a device used by musicians to mark time by means of regularly recurring ticks or sounds at an adjustable tempo
3. cardiac M_I *n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body
4. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
5. com_____nd English *v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
6. en_____n at the station *v.* to synchronize, or bring into a line, with a particular process or rhythm; to board a train or other means of transportation
7. sc_____le my mind *v.* to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you
8. M_I brain image *n.* (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body

ANSWERS: 1. metronome, 2. metronome, 3. MRI, 4. rev, 5. comprehend, 6. entrain, 7. scramble, 8. MRI

9. int_____ble to anyone *adj.* capable of being understood or apprehended
10. rec_____ct an image *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
11. au_____ry system *adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
12. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
13. artistic emb_____ent *n.* the action, process, or result of adding decorative or additional features or details to something to enhance its aesthetic appeal; an accessory or ornament used to decorate or beautify something
14. fruit pa_____y *n.* a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes
15. London ha_____y *n.* a type of horse that was suitable for ordinary riding or driving, as opposed to war, hunting, or racing; a carriage or coach for hire, often specifically a horse-drawn one
16. sy_____m retrieval *n.* a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language
17. je_____sy feeling towards another person *n.* a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire

ANSWERS: 9. intelligible, 10. reconstruct, 11. auditory, 12. confuse, 13. embellishment, 14. pastry, 15. hackney, 16. synonym, 17. jealousy

18. the emb_____ent of the truth *n.* the action, process, or result of adding decorative or additional features or details to something to enhance its aesthetic appeal; an accessory or ornament used to decorate or beautify something
19. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
20. pa___y chef *n.* a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes
21. pa_____al cortex *adj.* relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure
22. old ha_____y *n.* a type of horse that was suitable for ordinary riding or driving, as opposed to war, hunting, or racing; a carriage or coach for hire, often specifically a horse-drawn one
23. burn with je_____sy *n.* a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire
24. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
25. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

ANSWERS: 18. embellishment, 19. rev, 20. pastry, 21. parietal, 22. hackney, 23. jealousy, 24. amplify, 25. confuse

26. rough sy____m *n.* a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language
27. am____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
28. int____ble pronunciation *adj.* capable of being understood or apprehended
29. pa____al bone *adj.* relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure
30. syn____ze movements *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
31. un____d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
32. en____n the heart rate *v.* to synchronize, or bring into a line, with a particular process or rhythm; to board a train or other means of transportation
33. excite the ne____ns *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
34. com____nd instructions *v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
35. mis____ed priorities *adj.* not properly aligned or arranged; not placed in the correct position or orientation

ANSWERS: 26. synonym, 27. amplify, 28. intelligible, 29. parietal, 30. synchronize, 31. unfold, 32. entrain, 33. neuron, 34. comprehend, 35. misaligned

36. un___d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
37. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
38. syn_____ze our watches *v.* to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate
39. rec_____ct the original text *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
40. mis_____ed teeth *adj.* not properly aligned or arranged; not placed in the correct position or orientation
41. sc_____le for support *v.* to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you
42. ne___n cell body *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
43. a good au_____ry memory *adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
44. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 36. unfold, 37. storytelling, 38. synchronize, 39. reconstruct, 40. misaligned, 41. scramble, 42. neuron, 43. auditory, 44. storytelling

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She was searching for a _____ for 'happiness' in the thesaurus.
n. a word or expression that has the same or nearly the same meaning as another word or expression in the same language

2. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

3. The composer marked the score with _____ indications to guide the musicians.
n. a device used by musicians to mark time by means of regularly recurring ticks or sounds at an adjustable tempo

4. The ball speed will increase when the lower body movements are perfectly _____.
v. to happen or cause to happen at the same time or rate

5. His _____ of his brother's success caused a rift in their relationship.
n. a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire

6. Local business owners _____ to find skilled workers.
v. to move or climb quickly and awkwardly, often using your hands to help you

7. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

ANSWERS: 1. synonym, 2. rev, 3. metronome, 4. synchronized, 5. jealousy, 6. scrambled, 7. neuron

8. The _____ drivers were known to be excellent storytellers, entertaining their passengers during the ride.
- n.* a type of horse that was suitable for ordinary riding or driving, as opposed to war, hunting, or racing; a carriage or coach for hire, often specifically a horse-drawn one
9. The rhythm of the music made me want to _____ my movements with the beats.
- v.* to synchronize, or bring into a line, with a particular process or rhythm; to board a train or other means of transportation
10. The _____ nerve carries sound signals from the ear to the brain.
- adj.* of or relating to hearing or the ability to hear
11. The chef's specialty is a savory _____ with spinach and feta cheese.
- n.* a baked food made of flour, fat, water, and sometimes eggs, sugar, and other ingredients, used as a base or casing for sweet or savory dishes
12. The _____ lobe of the brain is responsible for processing sensory information.
- adj.* relating to or situated near the wall of a body cavity; of, relating to, or involving the walls or outer surfaces of an organ or structure
13. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
- v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
14. You might need to _____ this point.
- v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

ANSWERS: 8. hackney, 9. entrain, 10. auditory, 11. pastry, 12. parietal, 13. unfolded, 14. amplify

15. He gave me an _____ answer.

adj. capable of being understood or apprehended

16. She struggled to _____ complex math problems.

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

17. Her remarks _____ the debate.

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

18. The ___ machine uses powerful magnets to produce detailed images of the inside of the body.

n. (abbreviation for magnetic resonance imaging) a medical imaging technique that uses a strong magnetic field and radio waves to produce detailed images of the inside of the body

19. The painting was crooked and _____ so the museum staff had to rehang it properly.

adj. not properly aligned or arranged; not placed in the correct position or orientation

20. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

21. The dress was beautiful on its own, without additional _____.

n. the action, process, or result of adding decorative or additional features or details to something to enhance its aesthetic appeal; an accessory or ornament used to decorate or beautify something

22. They've decided to _____ a ruined castle.

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

ANSWERS: 15. intelligible, 16. comprehend, 17. confused, 18. MRI, 19. misaligned, 20. storytelling, 21. embellishment, 22. reconstruct

ANSWERS: