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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mia Nacamulli: The benefits of a bilingual brain | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

multilingual

adj. skilled in or using multiple languages; involving or relating to multiple languages or language groups

synonym : polyglot

(1) **multilingual** education, (2) **multilingual** staff

My friend is **multilingual**, speaking five different languages fluently.

subtitle

n. a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language

synonym : caption, heading, inscription

(1) chart **subtitle**, (2) foreign-language **subtitle**

Make sure to turn on **subtitles** so you can understand the foreign film.

monolingual

adj. being able to speak or use only one language

synonym : unilingual

(1) **monolingual** policies, (2) **monolingual** country

The lack of exposure to foreign languages made her a **monolingual** speaker.

immigrate

v. to come to live permanently in a foreign country
synonym: migrate, relocate, settle

(1) **immigrate** to the country, (2) **immigrate** through available legal processes

He **immigrated** to the United States in search of a better life.

subordinate

adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

synonym: inferior, secondary, subservient

(1) **subordinate** position, (2) **subordinate** role

The CEO's **subordinate** employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

proficient

adj. having a high level of skill or knowledge in a particular area

synonym: expert, skilled, adept

(1) **proficient** speaker, (2) **proficient** skill

She is **proficient** in Spanish and can communicate fluently.

pronounce

v. to say or speak (a word or words) correctly or in a particular way

synonym: articulate, enunciate, voice

(1) **pronounce** a judgment, (2) **pronounce** a name

She struggled to **pronounce** the word in a foreign language.

hemisphere

n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

(1) northern **hemisphere**, (2) cerebral **hemisphere**

This weather pattern is unique to the southern **hemisphere**.

converse

v. to talk informally

synonym: discourse, discuss, exchange

(1) **converse** with an acquaintance, (2) ask a **converse** question

She enjoyed the opportunity to **converse** with a person who

spoke her language.

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.

synapse

n. the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it

(1) **synapse** circuit, (2) end at a **synapse**

Animals transmit nerve impulses through **synapses**.

Alzheimer

n. a neurodegenerative disease that causes memory loss, cognitive decline, and behavioral issues; is the most common cause of dementia in older adults

synonym: dementia, memory loss, cognitive decline

(1) **Alzheimer's** brain, (2) **Alzheimer's** risk factors

My grandmother has **Alzheimer's** disease requires special care and attention from her caregivers.

dementia

n. a severe decline in cognitive function, especially memory, as a result of disease or injury

synonym: cognitive decline, memory loss, Alzheimer's disease

(1) **dementia** patients, (2) probably have **dementia**

The study found that regular exercise can help to prevent the onset of **dementia** in older age.

dorsolateral

adj. relating to or situated on the back and side of something, particularly a body part, such as the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, which is a region of the brain involved in higher cognitive functions

synonym: side, lateral, flanking

(1) **dorsolateral** pathway, (2) **dorsolateral** approach

The **dorsolateral** prefrontal cortex is responsible for executive functions such as decision-making and

problem-solving.

prefrontal

adj. in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain

(1) **prefrontal** bone, (2) **prefrontal** region

Research shows that damage to the **prefrontal** cortex leads to increased aggression.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1. northern hem_____re | <i>n.</i> half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere |
| 2. probably have de_____ia | <i>n.</i> a severe decline in cognitive function, especially memory, as a result of disease or injury |
| 3. dor_____ral approach | <i>adj.</i> relating to or situated on the back and side of something, particularly a body part, such as the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, which is a region of the brain involved in higher cognitive functions |
| 4. im_____te to the country | <i>v.</i> to come to live permanently in a foreign country |
| 5. Al_____er's risk factors | <i>n.</i> a neurodegenerative disease that causes memory loss, cognitive decline, and behavioral issues; is the most common cause of dementia in older adults |
| 6. pr_____ce a name | <i>v.</i> to say or speak (a word or words) correctly or in a particular way |
| 7. de_____ia patients | <i>n.</i> a severe decline in cognitive function, especially memory, as a result of disease or injury |
| 8. mul_____ual education | <i>adj.</i> skilled in or using multiple languages; involving or relating to multiple languages or language groups |
| 9. end at a sy_____e | <i>n.</i> the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it |

ANSWERS: 1. hemisphere, 2. dementia, 3. dorsolateral, 4. immigrate, 5. Alzheimer, 6. pronounce, 7. dementia, 8. multilingual, 9. synapse

10. im_____te through available legal processes *v.* to come to live permanently in a foreign country
11. sy_____e circuit *n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it
12. pro_____nt speaker *adj.* having a high level of skill or knowledge in a particular area
13. mul_____ual staff *adj.* skilled in or using multiple languages; involving or relating to multiple languages or language groups
14. cerebral hem_____re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
15. pr_____ce a judgment *v.* to say or speak (a word or words) correctly or in a particular way
16. Al_____er's brain *n.* a neurodegenerative disease that causes memory loss, cognitive decline, and behavioral issues; is the most common cause of dementia in older adults
17. 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
18. mon_____al policies *adj.* being able to speak or use only one language
19. dor_____ral pathway *adj.* relating to or situated on the back and side of something, particularly a body part, such as the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, which is a region of the brain involved in higher cognitive functions

ANSWERS: 10. immigrate, 11. synapse, 12. proficient, 13. multilingual, 14. hemisphere, 15. pronounce, 16. Alzheimer, 17. neuron, 18. monolingual, 19. dorsolateral

28. sub_____te role *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
29. sub_____te position *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
30. co_____se with an acquaintance *v.* to talk informally

ANSWERS: 28. subordinate, 29. subordinate, 30. converse

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Research shows that damage to the _____ cortex leads to increased aggression.
adj. in or about the foremost part of the frontal lobe of the brain
2. He _____ to the United States in search of a better life.
v. to come to live permanently in a foreign country
3. The lack of exposure to foreign languages made her a _____ speaker.
adj. being able to speak or use only one language
4. The _____ prefrontal cortex is responsible for executive functions such as decision-making and problem-solving.
adj. relating to or situated on the back and side of something, particularly a body part, such as the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex, which is a region of the brain involved in higher cognitive functions
5. The CEO's _____ employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.
adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
6. This weather pattern is unique to the southern _____.
n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
7. She is _____ in Spanish and can communicate fluently.
adj. having a high level of skill or knowledge in a particular area

ANSWERS: 1. prefrontal, 2. immigrated, 3. monolingual, 4. dorsolateral, 5. subordinate, 6. hemisphere, 7. proficient

8. The study found that regular exercise can help to prevent the onset of _____ in older age.
- n.* a severe decline in cognitive function, especially memory, as a result of disease or injury
9. 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
10. Make sure to turn on _____ so you can understand the foreign film.
- n.* a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language
11. Animals transmit nerve impulses through _____.
- n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it
12. She struggled to _____ the word in a foreign language.
- v.* to say or speak (a word or words) correctly or in a particular way
13. My friend is _____ speaking five different languages fluently.
- adj.* skilled in or using multiple languages; involving or relating to multiple languages or language groups
14. My grandmother has _____ disease requires special care and attention from her caregivers.
- n.* a neurodegenerative disease that causes memory loss, cognitive decline, and behavioral issues; is the most common cause of dementia in older adults

ANSWERS: 8. dementia, 9. neuron, 10. subtitles, 11. synapses, 12. pronounce, 13. multilingual, 14. Alzheimer's

15. She enjoyed the opportunity to _____ with a person who spoke her language.
- v. to talk informally

ANSWERS: 15. converse