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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Oscar Schwartz: Can a computer write poetry? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

provocative

adj. arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately

synonym: instigating, provoking, inciting

(1) **provocative** questions, (2) a **provocative** smile

His **provocative** style frequently sparked controversies.

thoughtless

adj. lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence

synonym: unthinking, careless, insensitive

(1) **thoughtless** comment, (2) **thoughtless** mistake

The **thoughtless** actions of the students caused damage to the school property.

roar

v. to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine

synonym: bellow, yell, shout

(1) **roar** with laughter, (2) **roar** for more

The lion **roared** loudly, signaling its dominance over the other animals.

weary

adj. feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time

synonym: depleted, exhausted, fatigued

(1) a **weary** brain, (2) **weary** expression

He became **weary** of the daily train commute.

kangaroo

n. a large marsupial native to Australia with powerful hind legs for jumping and carrying young in a pouch on the mother's belly

synonym: bouncy, marsupial, joey

(1) giant **kangaroo**, (2) red **kangaroo**

The female **kangaroo** carries and nurses her young, or joey, in a pouch on her belly.

sequin

n. a decorative item consisting of a small, shiny disc or bead typically sewn onto clothing for added embellishment

synonym: bead, spangle, paillette

(1) **sequin** dress, (2) gold **sequin**

Her dress was covered in shimmering **sequins** that caught the light.

harmonica

n. (also known as "mouth organ" or "harp") a small, handheld musical instrument consisting of a series of metal reeds, which produce musical sounds when air is blown or drawn through them by the player's breath

synonym: mouth organ, blues harp, reed instrument

(1) musical **harmonica**, (2) blues **harmonica**

The **harmonica** player entertained the crowd at the park with his soulful melodies.

jujube

n. a small, sweet fruit that grows on a tree of the same name, also known as a Chinese date

synonym: red date, Chinese date, Korean date

(1) dried **jujube**, (2) **jujube** fruit

Jujube candies are given as symbolic gifts in some cultures during special occasions.

aspirin

n. a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation

(1) prescribe **aspirin**, (2) **aspirin** sensitivity

She took a tablet of **aspirin** to soothe the fever.

daffodil

n. a type of spring-flowering plant that has yellow or white petals and a trumpet-shaped center; a symbol of rebirth and renewal

synonym: narcissus, jonquil, buttercup

(1) autumn **daffodil**, (2) blooming **daffodil**

The yellow **daffodils** in the garden signaled the arrival of spring.

ecstasy

n. a state of overwhelming happiness, joy, or pleasure; an emotional or mental state of intense feelings of delight or happiness that is often accompanied by intense physical sensations

synonym: rapture, bliss, euphoria

(1) **ecstasy** pills, (2) state of **ecstasy**

She danced with **ecstasy** as her favorite band played their hit song.

disbeliever

n. a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

synonym: non-believer, skeptic, doubter

(1) persuade a **disbeliever**, (2) stubborn **disbeliever**

Despite the evidence, she remained a **disbeliever** in the theory of evolution.

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.

devise

v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

synonym: create, concoct, invent

(1) **devise** a plan, (2) **devise** a literary plot

They had to **devise** a system that did not depend on fossil

fuels.

provocation

n. action or speech that intentionally causes someone to become angry, irritated, or frustrated; a reason or motive for something, often negative or undesired

synonym: agitation, incitement, stimulus

(1) **provocation** tactics, (2) verbal **provocation**

The politician's speech was seen as a **provocation** to the opposition party.

concatenate

v. to link or connect in a series or chain; to combine or merge multiple things into a single entity or sequence

synonym: link, combine, merge

(1) **concatenate** strings, (2) **concatenate** columns

We need to **concatenate** multiple files into one document for easy access.

grapple

v. to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons

synonym: brawl, scuffle, wrestle

(1) **grapple** with problem, (2) **grapple** with each other

He needed to **grapple** with structural reforms to improve the company's revenue.

Session 2: Spelling

1. a pro_____ve smile *adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately
2. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
3. tho_____ss comment *adj.* lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence
4. gr_____e with problem *v.* to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
5. r__r with laughter *v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
6. con_____te columns *v.* to link or connect in a series or chain; to combine or merge multiple things into a single entity or sequence
7. ec_____y pills *n.* a state of overwhelming happiness, joy, or pleasure; an emotional or mental state of intense feelings of delight or happiness that is often accompanied by intense physical sensations
8. gold se____n *n.* a decorative item consisting of a small, shiny disc or bead typically sewn onto clothing for added embellishment
9. persuade a dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea

ANSWERS: 1. provocative, 2. confuse, 3. thoughtless, 4. grapple, 5. roar, 6. concatenate, 7. ecstasy, 8. sequin, 9. disbeliever

10. ju___e fruit *n.* a small, sweet fruit that grows on a tree of the same name, also known as a Chinese date
11. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
12. pro_____ve questions *adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately
13. con_____te strings *v.* to link or connect in a series or chain; to combine or merge multiple things into a single entity or sequence
14. de___e a plan *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
15. dried ju___e *n.* a small, sweet fruit that grows on a tree of the same name, also known as a Chinese date
16. state of ec_____y *n.* a state of overwhelming happiness, joy, or pleasure; an emotional or mental state of intense feelings of delight or happiness that is often accompanied by intense physical sensations
17. verbal pro_____on *n.* action or speech that intentionally causes someone to become angry, irritated, or frustrated; a reason or motive for something, often negative or undesired
18. musical ha_____ca *n.* (also known as "mouth organ" or "harp") a small, handheld musical instrument consisting of a series of metal reeds, which produce musical sounds when air is blown or drawn through them by the player's breath

ANSWERS: 10. jujube, 11. confuse, 12. provocative, 13. concatenate, 14. devise, 15. jujube, 16. ecstasy, 17. provocation, 18. harmonica

19. r__r for more *v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
20. we__y expression *adj.* feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time
21. stubborn dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
22. blooming da_____il *n.* a type of spring-flowering plant that has yellow or white petals and a trumpet-shaped center; a symbol of rebirth and renewal
23. tho_____ss mistake *adj.* lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence
24. autumn da_____il *n.* a type of spring-flowering plant that has yellow or white petals and a trumpet-shaped center; a symbol of rebirth and renewal
25. a we__y brain *adj.* feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time
26. giant ka_____oo *n.* a large marsupial native to Australia with powerful hind legs for jumping and carrying young in a pouch on the mother's belly
27. de___e a literary plot *v.* to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination

ANSWERS: 19. roar, 20. weary, 21. disbeliever, 22. daffodil, 23. thoughtless, 24. daffodil, 25. weary, 26. kangaroo, 27. devise

28. as____n sensitivity *n.* a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation
29. gr____e with each other *v.* to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons
30. red ka____oo *n.* a large marsupial native to Australia with powerful hind legs for jumping and carrying young in a pouch on the mother's belly
31. prescribe as____n *n.* a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation
32. blues ha____ca *n.* (also known as "mouth organ" or "harp") a small, handheld musical instrument consisting of a series of metal reeds, which produce musical sounds when air is blown or drawn through them by the player's breath
33. se____n dress *n.* a decorative item consisting of a small, shiny disc or bead typically sewn onto clothing for added embellishment
34. pro____on tactics *n.* action or speech that intentionally causes someone to become angry, irritated, or frustrated; a reason or motive for something, often negative or undesired

ANSWERS: 28. aspirin, 29. grapple, 30. kangaroo, 31. aspirin, 32. harmonica, 33. sequin, 34. provocation

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He became _____ of the daily train commute.
adj. feeling or showing extreme tiredness, especially after working hard or doing something for a long time
2. The female _____ carries and nurses her young, or joey, in a pouch on her belly.
n. a large marsupial native to Australia with powerful hind legs for jumping and carrying young in a pouch on the mother's belly
3. The _____ player entertained the crowd at the park with his soulful melodies.
n. (also known as "mouth organ" or "harp") a small, handheld musical instrument consisting of a series of metal reeds, which produce musical sounds when air is blown or drawn through them by the player's breath
4. We need to _____ multiple files into one document for easy access.
v. to link or connect in a series or chain; to combine or merge multiple things into a single entity or sequence
5. Her dress was covered in shimmering _____ that caught the light.
n. a decorative item consisting of a small, shiny disc or bead typically sewn onto clothing for added embellishment
6. They had to _____ a system that did not depend on fossil fuels.
v. to come up with an idea, plan, theory, etc., using your intelligence or imagination
7. Her remarks _____ the debate.
v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

ANSWERS: 1. weary, 2. kangaroo, 3. harmonica, 4. concatenate, 5. sequins, 6. devise, 7. confused

8. _____ candies are given as symbolic gifts in some cultures during special occasions.
- n.* a small, sweet fruit that grows on a tree of the same name, also known as a Chinese date
9. The yellow _____ in the garden signaled the arrival of spring.
- n.* a type of spring-flowering plant that has yellow or white petals and a trumpet-shaped center; a symbol of rebirth and renewal
10. Despite the evidence, she remained a _____ in the theory of evolution.
- n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
11. She took a tablet of _____ to soothe the fever.
- n.* a drug used to reduce pain, fever, and inflammation
12. The lion _____ loudly, signaling its dominance over the other animals.
- v.* to make a loud, deep sound, like a lion or a car engine
13. The _____ actions of the students caused damage to the school property.
- adj.* lacking consideration for others; inconsiderate; not reflecting on one's actions or words; showing a lack of thought or intelligence
14. The politician's speech was seen as a _____ to the opposition party.
- n.* action or speech that intentionally causes someone to become angry, irritated, or frustrated; a reason or motive for something, often negative or undesired
15. His _____ style frequently sparked controversies.
- adj.* arousing anger, interest, or another strong reaction, especially deliberately

ANSWERS: 8. Jujube, 9. daffodils, 10. disbeliever, 11. aspirin, 12. roared, 13. thoughtless, 14. provocation, 15. provocative

16. She danced with _____ as her favorite band played their hit song.
- n.* a state of overwhelming happiness, joy, or pleasure; an emotional or mental state of intense feelings of delight or happiness that is often accompanied by intense physical sensations
17. He needed to _____ with structural reforms to improve the company's revenue.
- v.* to make a strenuous effort to solve a problem; to engage in a close fight or conflict without weapons

ANSWERS: 16. ecstasy, 17. grapple