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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kio Stark: Why you should talk to strangers | TED

Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

meaningless

adj. having no meaning, direction, or purpose

synonym : pointless, absurd, senseless

(1) a **meaningless** endeavor, (2) do a **meaningless** task

This experiment's results are **meaningless** because the other conditions are not identical.

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.

poetic

adj. of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way

synonym : literary, verse-like, rhythmic

(1) **poetic** genius, (2) **poetic** justice

The sunset was so beautiful it looked like a **poetic** scene from a movie.

uneasy

adj. causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort

synonym : anxious, troubled, nervous

(1) have **uneasy** eyes, (2) **uneasy** relationship
He was **uneasy** about the situation and didn't know what to do.

intimacy

n. close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person

synonym: closeness, familiarity, nearness

(1) on terms of **intimacy**, (2) build **intimacy**
They were looking for **intimacy** in their relationship and wanted to be close to each other.

counterintuitive

adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

synonym: unreasonable, paradoxical, nonsensical

(1) **counterintuitive** results, (2) **counterintuitive** behavior
The **counterintuitive** nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

sociologist

n. a person who studies the institutions and development of human society

(1) religious **sociologist**, (2) French **sociologist**
Sociologist studies the changes in family structure due to modernization.

fleeting

adj. brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

synonym: temporary, brief, transitory

(1) for a **fleeting** moment, (2) **fleeting** opportunity
She savored the **fleeting** happiness she felt during the vacation.

inattention

n. lack of attention or focus; failure or inability to pay attention or concentrate on something

synonym: neglect, disregard, heedlessness

(1) **inattention** deficit, (2) chronic **inattention**
His **inattention** to detail caused him to make several mistakes on the final project.

averse

adj. feeling strong dislike, opposition, or reluctance towards something; having a strong inclination against or avoidance of something

synonym : reluctant, disinclined, unwilling

(1) **averse** to change, (2) **averse** to risk

I am **averse** to making hasty decisions without carefully considering the consequences.

sip

v. to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink

synonym : taste, sample, drink

(1) **sip** a drink, (2) take a **sip** of beer

He **sipped** his tea slowly, savoring the taste.

hallway

n. an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open

synonym : foyer, corridor, entrance

(1) the head of a **hallway**, (2) wax a **hallway** floor

He dashed down a **hallway** to a bathroom.

triangulation

n. the process of determining the location or position of something, such as an object, place, or point, by measuring the angles or distances between multiple reference points or landmarks

synonym : measurement, surveying, trilateration

(1) **triangulation** method, (2) political **triangulation**

The archaeologists used GPS **triangulation** to accurately map the ancient ruins.

preach

v. to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience

synonym : expound, advocate, sermonize

(1) **preach** the gospel, (2) **preach** to the masses

The pastor **preached** about the importance of forgiveness.

conduit

n. a channel, pipe, or tube that is used to direct the flow of fluids or other material from one place to another; figuratively, a means of communication or channel for transmitting information, ideas, or concepts

synonym : channel, pipeline, tube

(1) water **conduit**, (2) electrical **conduit**

The **conduit** between the two buildings carried water and electricity.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. chronic ina_____on | <i>n.</i> lack of attention or focus; failure or inability to pay attention or concentrate on something |
| 2. fl_____ng opportunity | <i>adj.</i> brief or temporary, lasting only a short time |
| 3. pr____h to the masses | <i>v.</i> to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience |
| 4. ob____s over her weight | <i>v.</i> to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else |
| 5. the head of a ha_____y | <i>n.</i> an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open |
| 6. a mea_____ss endeavor | <i>adj.</i> having no meaning, direction, or purpose |
| 7. French soc_____st | <i>n.</i> a person who studies the institutions and development of human society |
| 8. s_p a drink | <i>v.</i> to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink |
| 9. he is ob____sed with the fear | <i>v.</i> to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else |
| 10. ina_____on deficit | <i>n.</i> lack of attention or focus; failure or inability to pay attention or concentrate on something |
| 11. do a mea_____ss task | <i>adj.</i> having no meaning, direction, or purpose |
| 12. pr____h the gospel | <i>v.</i> to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience |

ANSWERS: 1. inattention, 2. fleeting, 3. preach, 4. obsess, 5. hallway, 6. meaningless, 7. sociologist, 8. sip, 9. obsess, 10. inattention, 11. meaningless, 12. preach

13. electrical co____t *n.* a channel, pipe, or tube that is used to direct the flow of fluids or other material from one place to another; figuratively, a means of communication or channel for transmitting information, ideas, or concepts
14. wax a ha____y floor *n.* an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
15. av____e to change *adj.* feeling strong dislike, opposition, or reluctance towards something; having a strong inclination against or avoidance of something
16. po____c genius *adj.* of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way
17. tri____ion method *n.* the process of determining the location or position of something, such as an object, place, or point, by measuring the angles or distances between multiple reference points or landmarks
18. religious soc____st *n.* a person who studies the institutions and development of human society
19. po____c justice *adj.* of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way
20. political tri____ion *n.* the process of determining the location or position of something, such as an object, place, or point, by measuring the angles or distances between multiple reference points or landmarks

ANSWERS: 13. conduit, 14. hallway, 15. averse, 16. poetic, 17. triangulation, 18. sociologist, 19. poetic, 20. triangulation

21. build in____cy *n.* close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person
22. cou_____ive results *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
23. cou_____ive behavior *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
24. av___e to risk *adj.* feeling strong dislike, opposition, or reluctance towards something; having a strong inclination against or avoidance of something
25. have un___y eyes *adj.* causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
26. take a s_p of beer *v.* to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink
27. un___y relationship *adj.* causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
28. on terms of in____cy *n.* close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person
29. water co_____t *n.* a channel, pipe, or tube that is used to direct the flow of fluids or other material from one place to another; figuratively, a means of communication or channel for transmitting information, ideas, or concepts
30. for a fl_____ng moment *adj.* brief or temporary, lasting only a short time

ANSWERS: 21. intimacy, 22. counterintuitive, 23. counterintuitive, 24. averse, 25. uneasy, 26. sip, 27. uneasy, 28. intimacy, 29. conduit, 30. fleeting

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He was _____ about the situation and didn't know what to do.
adj. causing or feeling anxiety or discomfort
2. _____ studies the changes in family structure due to modernization.
n. a person who studies the institutions and development of human society
3. He _____ his tea slowly, savoring the taste.
v. to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink
4. They were looking for _____ in their relationship and wanted to be close to each other.
n. close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person
5. His _____ to detail caused him to make several mistakes on the final project.
n. lack of attention or focus; failure or inability to pay attention or concentrate on something
6. She savored the _____ happiness she felt during the vacation.
adj. brief or temporary, lasting only a short time
7. The sunset was so beautiful it looked like a _____ scene from a movie.
adj. of or relating to poetry (= a piece of writing that emphasizes the expression of feelings and ideas); using language in an imaginative and expressive way
8. The _____ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.
adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

ANSWERS: 1. uneasy, 2. Sociologist, 3. sipped, 4. intimacy, 5. inattention, 6. fleeting, 7. poetic, 8. counterintuitive

9. The pastor _____ about the importance of forgiveness.
v. to deliver a religious or moral message to an audience
10. This experiment's results are _____ because the other conditions are not identical.
adj. having no meaning, direction, or purpose
11. The archaeologists used GPS _____ to accurately map the ancient ruins.
n. the process of determining the location or position of something, such as an object, place, or point, by measuring the angles or distances between multiple reference points or landmarks
12. He dashed down a _____ to a bathroom.
n. an interior passage or corridor onto which rooms open
13. I am _____ to making hasty decisions without carefully considering the consequences.
adj. feeling strong dislike, opposition, or reluctance towards something; having a strong inclination against or avoidance of something
14. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.
v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
15. The _____ between the two buildings carried water and electricity.
n. a channel, pipe, or tube that is used to direct the flow of fluids or other material from one place to another; figuratively, a means of communication or channel for transmitting information, ideas, or concepts

ANSWERS: 9. preached, 10. meaningless, 11. triangulation, 12. hallway, 13. averse, 14. obsessed, 15. conduit