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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Alaa Murabit: What my religion really says about women | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

whisper

v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you

synonym: murmur, rumor, mutter

(1) answer in a **whisper**, (2) the **whisper** of the leaves

He took me aside and **whispered** in my ear.

tornado

n. a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud

synonym: whirlwind, twister, cyclone

(1) **tornado** alley, (2) **tornado** warning

The deadly **tornado** that hit the town yesterday destroyed many buildings and injured several people.

peacemaker

n. a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace

synonym: mediator, arbitrator, conciliator

(1) act as **peacemaker**, (2) **peacemaker** effort

The dedicated **peacemaker** worked tirelessly to resolve the conflict between the two sides.

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.

reclaim

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

synonym: recoup, regain, retake

(1) **reclaim** a competitive position, (2) **reclaim** land from the sea

You may be entitled to **reclaim** some tax.

overlook

v. to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

synonym: disregard, look down, supervise

(1) **overlook** a street, (2) **overlook** that fact

We cannot **overlook** an opportunity for great success.

misrepresent

v. to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone

synonym: distort, misinterpret, falsify

(1) **misrepresent** a company's policies, (2) **misrepresent** the situation

The article **misrepresents** the true intentions of the author's argument.

scripture

n. the sacred writings of a particular religion or belief system, often regarded as authoritative and containing moral or spiritual teachings

synonym: religious text, Bible, holy writ

(1) **scripture** study, (2) biblical **scripture**

Many people find comfort in reading **scripture** during times of hardship.

devout

adj. deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety

synonym: pious, religious, faithful

(1) **devout** Buddhist, (2) act in a **devout** manner
The **devout** monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.

limitless

adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite

synonym: boundless, infinite, unrestricted

(1) for a **limitless** time, (2) **limitless** potential

The possibilities for scientific discovery are **limitless**.

upbringing

n. the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development

synonym: childhood, background, nurturing

(1) Catholic **upbringing**, (2) family **upbringing**

His strict **upbringing** instilled in him a strong sense of responsibility.

diplomacy

n. the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

synonym: tact, negotiation, delicacy

(1) the language of **diplomacy**, (2) the art of **diplomacy**

Effective **diplomacy** is necessary to resolve conflicts and maintain relationships between countries.

sibling

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

synonym: brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**

Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

haram

adj. (opposite of "halal") a term in Islam that refers to something forbidden or prohibited based on religious or moral grounds

synonym : forbidden, prohibited

(1) **haram** food, (2) **haram** activity

The community leaders worked to educate people about **haram** practices that are not allowed in their faith.

aspiration

n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

synonym : ambition, inhalation, intake

(1) no **aspiration** for fame, (2) **aspiration** into the lungs

He has an **aspiration** to become a doctor.

infancy

n. the state or period of being a baby or very young child

synonym : childhood, babyhood, juvenescence

(1) **infancy** stage, (2) in early **infancy**

The technology is still in its **infancy** and has much room for improvement.

relegate

v. to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote

synonym : demote, assign, transfer

(1) **relegate** a matter to another authority, (2) **relegate** task

The underperforming team was **relegated** to a lower division.

predate

v. to have existed or happened earlier than something

synonym : foredate, antedate, precede

(1) **predate** A.D. 200., (2) **predate** the modern age

The idea of virtual worlds **predates** computers.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym : formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

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.

empower

v. to give someone the power or authority to do something

synonym : authorize, endow, entitle

(1) **empower** my life, (2) **empower** the secretary to do the same

The company **empowered** employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.

mosque

n. a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)

(1) domed **mosque**, (2) the sacred **mosque**

Jumeirah **Mosque** is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.

billboard

n. a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads

synonym : hoarding, signboard, advertisement

(1) **billboard** advertising, (2) digital **billboard**

The new **billboard** on the highway promotes a popular vacation destination.

oppress

v. to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

synonym : antagonize, distress, burden

(1) **oppress** the minority, (2) **oppress** the people with force
Historically, many countries have often **oppressed** certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.

sermon

n. a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service

synonym: homily, discourse, lecture

(1) lengthy **sermon**, (2) a lay **sermon**

The preacher delivered a powerful **sermon** on the importance of forgiveness.

imam

n. a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community

synonym: leader, cleric, spiritual guide

(1) **imam** of mosque, (2) spiritual **imam**

In some Muslim countries, the **imam's** position is appointed by the government.

intern

v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria

synonym: apprentice, trainee, student

(1) **intern** civilians, (2) medical **intern**

The navy **interned** ships of defeated nations.

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.

extremism

n. the holding of extreme political or religious views; actions or beliefs that fall outside of what is considered acceptable or reasonable

synonym : fanaticism, radicalism, zealotry

(1) violent **extremism**, (2) political **extremism**

The rise of far-right **extremism** has sparked concern among many civil rights organizations.

cripple

v. to cause severe damage or injury that greatly impairs someone's ability to function or move; to weaken or undermine

synonym : disable, impair, paralyze

(1) **cripple** economy, (2) **cripple** opposition

The injury was severe enough to **cripple** the athlete's chances of playing again this season.

distort

v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

synonym : fudge, deform, contort

(1) **distort** the facts, (2) **distort** the economy

Economists contend that taxes **distort** consumer behavior in general.

ridicule

n. speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way

synonym : derision, mockery, satire

(1) public **ridicule**, (2) **ridicule** at his expense

The **ridicule** from his classmates made him feel embarrassed and ashamed.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--|------|--|
| 1. medical in___n | v. | to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria |
| 2. em_____r the secretary to do the same | v. | to give someone the power or authority to do something |
| 3. digital bi_____rd | n. | a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads |
| 4. ov_____ok a street | v. | to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above |
| 5. di_____t the facts | v. | to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear |
| 6. de___t Buddhist | adj. | deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety |
| 7. in early in_____y | n. | the state or period of being a baby or very young child |
| 8. am_____y the effect | v. | to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness |
| 9. violent ex_____sm | n. | the holding of extreme political or religious views; actions or beliefs that fall outside of what is considered acceptable or reasonable |

ANSWERS: 1. intern, 2. empower, 3. billboard, 4. overlook, 5. distort, 6. devout, 7. infancy, 8. amplify, 9. extremism

10. re____m land from the sea *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
11. pea_____er effort *n.* a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace
12. in___n civilians *v.* to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
13. public ri_____le *n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way
14. no asp_____on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
15. in_____y stage *n.* the state or period of being a baby or very young child
16. a lay se____n *n.* a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service
17. stubborn dis_____er *n.* a person who does not believe in something, such as a religion or idea
18. lengthy se____n *n.* a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service

ANSWERS: 10. reclaim, 11. peacemaker, 12. intern, 13. ridicule, 14. aspiration, 15. infancy, 16. sermon, 17. disbeliever, 18. sermon

19. answer in a wh_____r *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
20. Catholic upb_____ng *n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development
21. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
22. family upb_____ng *n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development
23. 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
24. 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
25. em_____r my life *v.* to give someone the power or authority to do something
26. play with my si_____gs *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
27. mis_____ent the situation *v.* to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone

ANSWERS: 19. whisper, 20. upbringing, 21. excite, 22. upbringing, 23. crooked, 24. crooked, 25. empower, 26. sibling, 27. misrepresent

28. re____te a matter to another authority *v.* to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote
29. political ex_____sm *n.* the holding of extreme political or religious views; actions or beliefs that fall outside of what is considered acceptable or reasonable
30. ha__m food *adj.* (opposite of "halal") a term in Islam that refers to something forbidden or prohibited based on religious or moral grounds
31. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
32. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
33. mis_____ent a company's policies *v.* to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone
34. the wh____r of the leaves *v.* to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
35. pr____e the modern age *v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something
36. bi_____rd advertising *n.* a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads
37. i__m of mosque *n.* a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community

ANSWERS: 28. relegate, 29. extremism, 30. haram, 31. institutionalize, 32. institutionalize, 33. misrepresent, 34. whisper, 35. predate, 36. billboard, 37. imam

38. biblical sc_____re *n.* the sacred writings of a particular religion or belief system, often regarded as authoritative and containing moral or spiritual teachings
39. act as pea_____er *n.* a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace
40. to_____o alley *n.* a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud
41. domed mo_____e *n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
42. cr_____e economy *v.* to cause severe damage or injury that greatly impairs someone's ability to function or move; to weaken or undermine
43. ri_____le at his expense *n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way
44. the art of di_____cy *n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

ANSWERS: 38. scripture, 39. peacemaker, 40. tornado, 41. mosque, 42. cripple, 43. ridicule, 44. diplomacy

45. for a li_____ss time *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
46. asp_____on into the lungs *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
47. li_____ss potential *adj.* without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
48. ha__m activity *adj.* (opposite of "halal") a term in Islam that refers to something forbidden or prohibited based on religious or moral grounds
49. the sacred mo____e *n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)
50. the language of di_____cy *n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way
51. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
52. sc_____re study *n.* the sacred writings of a particular religion or belief system, often regarded as authoritative and containing moral or spiritual teachings
53. act in a de____t manner *adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety
54. have a si_____g quarrel *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
55. re_____m a competitive position *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

ANSWERS: 45. limitless, 46. aspiration, 47. limitless, 48. haram, 49. mosque, 50. diplomacy, 51. excite, 52. scripture, 53. devout, 54. sibling, 55. reclaim

56. spiritual i__m *n.* a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community
57. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
58. ov_____ok that fact *v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above
59. op_____s the people with force *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people
60. to_____o warning *n.* a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud
61. di_____t the economy *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
62. re_____te task *v.* to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote
63. cr_____e opposition *v.* to cause severe damage or injury that greatly impairs someone's ability to function or move; to weaken or undermine
64. pr_____e A.D. 200. *v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something
65. op_____s the minority *v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

ANSWERS: 56. imam, 57. amplify, 58. overlook, 59. oppress, 60. tornado, 61. distort, 62. relegate, 63. cripple, 64. predate, 65. oppress

66. persuade a dis_____er

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

ANSWERS: 66. disbeliever

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Many people find comfort in reading _____ during times of hardship.
 - n.* the sacred writings of a particular religion or belief system, often regarded as authoritative and containing moral or spiritual teachings

2. The _____ from his classmates made him feel embarrassed and ashamed.
 - n.* speech or behavior that makes fun of or mocks someone or something; teasing, sarcasm, or scornful remarks that are intended to belittle or humiliate; (verb) to mock, criticize, or make fun of someone or something in a scornful or derisive way

3. You might need to _____ this point.
 - v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

4. Historically, many countries have often _____ certain religions to gain the support of the majority of the population.
 - v.* to treat people in a cruel and authoritarian way, especially by denying them the same freedoms, rights, etc. as other people

5. His strict _____ instilled in him a strong sense of responsibility.
 - n.* the conditions and experiences in which a child is cared for and taught, especially in relation to their moral and social development

6. Jumeirah _____ is one of the most beautiful buildings in the United Arab Emirates.
 - n.* a Muslim place of worship that usually has a minaret (= slender tower with balconies)

7. Effective _____ is necessary to resolve conflicts and maintain relationships between countries.
 - n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

ANSWERS: 1. scripture, 2. ridicule, 3. amplify, 4. oppressed, 5. upbringing, 6. Mosque, 7. diplomacy

8. He took me aside and _____ in my ear.
v. to speak very quietly to somebody using the breath rather than the voice so that only those close to you can hear you
9. The possibilities for scientific discovery are _____.
adj. without end, limit, or boundary; infinite
10. The preacher delivered a powerful _____ on the importance of forgiveness.
n. a speech or lecture given by a religious leader, especially a minister or priest, as part of a worship service
11. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
12. The rise of far-right _____ has sparked concern among many civil rights organizations.
n. the holding of extreme political or religious views; actions or beliefs that fall outside of what is considered acceptable or reasonable
13. Children often copy their parents or elder _____.
n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
14. The dedicated _____ worked tirelessly to resolve the conflict between the two sides.
n. a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace
15. The underperforming team was _____ to a lower division.
v. to assign or dismiss to a lower or less important status or place; to demote

ANSWERS: 8. whispered, 9. limitless, 10. sermon, 11. institutionalize, 12. extremism, 13. siblings, 14. peacemaker, 15. relegated

16. The technology is still in its _____ and has much room for improvement.
n. the state or period of being a baby or very young child
17. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
18. The article _____ the true intentions of the author's argument.
v. to present a false or misleading interpretation or impression of something or someone
19. The community leaders worked to educate people about _____ practices that are not allowed in their faith.
adj. (opposite of "halal") a term in Islam that refers to something forbidden or prohibited based on religious or moral grounds
20. The navy _____ ships of defeated nations.
v. to put someone in prison, especially for political or military reasons; (noun) a student or trainee who works, sometimes for free, to get work experience or to fulfill qualification criteria
21. The company _____ employees to buy low-price items without approval to achieve efficient purchasing.
v. to give someone the power or authority to do something
22. 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
23. The new _____ on the highway promotes a popular vacation destination.
n. a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads

ANSWERS: 16. infancy, 17. excited, 18. misrepresents, 19. haram, 20. interned, 21. empowered, 22. disbeliever, 23. billboard

24. We cannot _____ an opportunity for great success.

- v.* to fail to notice something; to watch over someone; to provide a view from above

25. You may be entitled to _____ some tax.

- v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

26. 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

27. The idea of virtual worlds _____ computers.

- v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something

28. The deadly _____ that hit the town yesterday destroyed many buildings and injured several people.

- n.* a violent, rotating column of air that is in contact with both the surface of the earth and a cumulonimbus cloud, characterized by a twisting, funnel-shaped cloud

29. In some Muslim countries, the _____ position is appointed by the government.

- n.* a religious leader of the Muslim community, especially the leader of a mosque and a community

30. The _____ monk spent hours each day in prayer and contemplation.

- adj.* deeply committed to a specific religious faith or practice, often showing great reverence or piety

31. Economists contend that taxes _____ consumer behavior in general.

- v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

ANSWERS: 24. overlook, 25. reclaim, 26. crooked, 27. predates, 28. tornado, 29. imam's, 30. devout, 31. distort

32. The injury was severe enough to _____ the athlete's chances of playing again this season.

- v.* to cause severe damage or injury that greatly impairs someone's ability to function or move; to weaken or undermine

33. He has an _____ to become a doctor.

- n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath

ANSWERS: 32. cripple, 33. aspiration