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Arthur Brooks: A conservative's plea: Let's work together | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

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.

symphony

n. a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements

synonym: orchestra, harmony, concert

(1) a **symphony** orchestra, (2) a beautiful **symphony**

The frequent performances of the **symphony** prove its popularity.

republican

n. a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States

synonym: conservative, right-winger, rightist

(1) **republican** ideology, (2) **Republican** party

Many **republican** lawmakers are advocating for stricter

immigration policies.

epiphany

n. a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

synonym: revelation, enlightenment, insight

(1) **epiphany** about life, (2) Feast of **Epiphany**

She had an **epiphany** while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.

enthusiast

n. a person having a strong liking for something

synonym: buff, aficionado, devotee

(1) classic car **enthusiasts**, (2) an **enthusiastic** response

The country's economic situation has improved markedly due to reform **enthusiasts**.

prosaic

adj. lacking excitement, imagination, or originality; dull, ordinary, or commonplace; relating to or characteristic of prose rather than poetry

synonym: mundane, ordinary, dull

(1) **prosaic** language, (2) **prosaic** approach

The book's **prosaic** writing style left me uninterested despite the dramatic premise.

trite

adj. lacking originality or freshness; overused, common, or clichéd; lacking in depth or significance due to being overly familiar or predictable

synonym: clichéd, banal, overused

(1) **trite** joke, (2) **trite** melody

The speaker's speech was full of **trite** phrases and platitudes.

distend

v. to expand, inflate, or stretch out in all directions, especially as a result of internal pressure or force; to swell or bulge out of shape

synonym: swell, inflate, puff up

(1) **distend** the veins, (2) **distend** balloon

Eating too much can **distend** your stomach and cause

discomfort.

helpless

adj. unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help

synonym: defenseless, powerless, susceptible

(1) **helpless** baby, (2) **helpless** victims

I feel so **helpless** without you.

grind

v. to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

synonym: mill, crush, grate

(1) **grind** away at my work, (2) **grind** your teeth

She had to **grind** the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.

haunted

adj. inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions

synonym: spooky, eerie, ghostly

(1) **haunted** house, (2) **haunted** by memories

The old mansion was known to be **haunted**, with strange noises and eerie sightings reported by visitors.

starvation

n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death

synonym: hunger, malnutrition, emaciation

(1) die of **starvation**, (2) **starvation** wages

The drought led to widespread **starvation** in the region.

entrepreneurship

n. the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one

synonym: self-employment, risk-taking

(1) **entrepreneurship** culture, (2) embody **entrepreneurship**

The government is investing in programs to support **entrepreneurship** and small business development.

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.

hallelujah

n. an exclamation of praise or thanksgiving, particularly in religious contexts; a song or composition expressing such praise or worship

synonym: praise, worship, exultation

(1) **hallelujah** chorus, (2) **hallelujah** moment

The choir ended the performance with a powerful **hallelujah**.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

polarization

n. the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles

synonym: polarity, division, separation

(1) **polarization** effect, (2) dielectric **polarization**

The **polarization** of political views has created a deep divide in the country.

asymmetrical

adj. lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position

synonym: uneven, lopsided, crooked

(1) **asymmetrical** design, (2) **asymmetrical** haircut

The **asymmetrical** shape of the vase made it unique and exciting.

motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.

benevolence

n. the quality or any act of kindness or well-doing

synonym: altruism, generosity, philanthropy

(1) display **benevolence**, (2) render **benevolence** to people

They have both virtue and **benevolence**.

irreconcilable

adj. unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts

synonym: irresolvable, intractable, uncompromising

(1) **irreconcilable** differences, (2) **irreconcilable** conflict

The opposing sides in the debate held **irreconcilable** views.

obsession

n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person

synonym: compulsion, fixation, enthusiasm

(1) **obsession** with character, (2) national **obsession**

Gambling became an **obsession** for him, and he eventually lost everything.

phenomenal

adj. extremely good or impressive; outstanding

synonym: extraordinary, remarkable, impressive

(1) **phenomenal** success, (2) **phenomenal** growth

The athlete's **phenomenal** performance broke all previous records.

oversea

adj. situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries

synonym: foreign, abroad, international

(1) **oversea** shipments, (2) for **oversea** use

The company enhanced **oversea** operations to tap into new markets.

starve

v. to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

synonym : famish, hunger

(1) **starve** for a victory, (2) **starve** to death

If you don't eat soon, you're going to **starve**.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym : divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

blur

n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision

synonym : smudge, smear, fuzz

(1) **blur** image, (2) motion **blur**

The camera's focus was off, and the image was a **blur** of colors and shapes.

ghastly

adj. causing great horror or fear; shockingly unpleasant or bad

synonym : horrifying, dreadful, terrifying

(1) **ghastly** sight, (2) **ghastly** mistake

The child's **ghastly** scream echoed through the haunted house.

Session 2: Spelling

1. hal_____ah chorus *n.* an exclamation of praise or thanksgiving, particularly in religious contexts; a song or composition expressing such praise or worship

2. 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

3. tr__e melody *adj.* lacking originality or freshness; overused, common, or clichéd; lacking in depth or significance due to being overly familiar or predictable

4. pr_____c language *adj.* lacking excitement, imagination, or originality; dull, ordinary, or commonplace; relating to or characteristic of prose rather than poetry

5. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

6. he_____ss baby *adj.* unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help

7. phe_____al success *adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding

8. di_____ct public opinion *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

9. sta_____on wages *n.* a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death

ANSWERS: 1. hallelujah, 2. upbringing, 3. trite, 4. prosaic, 5. opportune, 6. helpless, 7. phenomenal, 8. distract, 9. starvation

10. ha____d house *adj.* inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions
11. classic car ent____sts *n.* a person having a strong liking for something
12. irr____ble differences *adj.* unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts
13. ent____hip culture *n.* the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one
14. di____d balloon *v.* to expand, inflate, or stretch out in all directions, especially as a result of internal pressure or force; to swell or bulge out of shape
15. ep____ny about life *n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
16. a beautiful sy____ny *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
17. st____e to death *v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance

ANSWERS: 10. haunted, 11. enthusiast, 12. irreconcilable, 13. entrepreneurship, 14. distend, 15. epiphany, 16. symphony, 17. starve

18. motion b__r *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
19. rep_____an ideology *n.* a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
20. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
21. gh_____y sight *adj.* causing great horror or fear; shockingly unpleasant or bad
22. ha_____d by memories *adj.* inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions
23. Feast of Ep_____ny *n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
24. asy_____cal haircut *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position
25. di_____ct attention from the real issue *v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

ANSWERS: 18. blur, 19. republican, 20. opportune, 21. ghastly, 22. haunted, 23. epiphany, 24. asymmetrical, 25. distract

26. hal_____ah moment *n.* an exclamation of praise or thanksgiving, particularly in religious contexts; a song or composition expressing such praise or worship
27. di_____d the veins *v.* to expand, inflate, or stretch out in all directions, especially as a result of internal pressure or force; to swell or bulge out of shape
28. ob_____on with character *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
29. st___e for a victory *v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
30. for ov_____a use *adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
31. an ent_____stic response *n.* a person having a strong liking for something
32. ov_____a shipments *adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
33. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
34. asp_____on into the lungs *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
35. gr__d your teeth *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time

ANSWERS: 26. hallelujah, 27. distend, 28. obsession, 29. starve, 30. oversea, 31. enthusiast, 32. oversea, 33. motto, 34. aspiration, 35. grind

36. Rep_____an party *n.* a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
37. asy_____cal design *adj.* lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position
38. he_____ss victims *adj.* unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help
39. national ob_____on *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
40. embody ent_____hip *n.* the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one
41. die of sta_____on *n.* a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
42. a sy_____ny orchestra *n.* a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements
43. display ben_____ce *n.* the quality or any act of kindness or well-doing
44. 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

ANSWERS: 36. republican, 37. asymmetrical, 38. helpless, 39. obsession, 40. entrepreneurship, 41. starvation, 42. symphony, 43. benevolence, 44. upbringing

45. pol_____ion effect *n.* the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles
46. render ben_____ce to people *n.* the quality or any act of kindness or well-doing
47. phe_____al growth *adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
48. tr__e joke *adj.* lacking originality or freshness; overused, common, or clichéd; lacking in depth or significance due to being overly familiar or predictable
49. b__r image *n.* a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
50. gh_____y mistake *adj.* causing great horror or fear; shockingly unpleasant or bad
51. gr__d away at my work *v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
52. no asp_____on for fame *n.* a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
53. irr_____ble conflict *adj.* unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts
54. dielectric pol_____ion *n.* the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles

ANSWERS: 45. polarization, 46. benevolence, 47. phenomenal, 48. trite, 49. blur, 50. ghastly, 51. grind, 52. aspiration, 53. irreconcilable, 54. polarization

55. company mo__o

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

56. pr____c approach

adj. lacking excitement, imagination, or originality; dull, ordinary, or commonplace; relating to or characteristic of prose rather than poetry

ANSWERS: 55. motto, 56. prosaic

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The old mansion was known to be _____ with strange noises and eerie sightings reported by visitors.
adj. inhabited, visited, or frequented by ghosts or spirits; disturbed or troubled by persistent or disturbing memories or emotions
2. The drought led to widespread _____ in the region.
n. a severe lack of food that leads to malnutrition and, ultimately, death
3. Gambling became an _____ for him, and he eventually lost everything.
n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
4. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
5. He has an _____ to become a doctor.
n. a strong desire to achieve something; the action or process of drawing breath
6. The _____ shape of the vase made it unique and exciting.
adj. lacking symmetry or balance; unevenly or irregularly shaped; not corresponding in terms of quantity, size, or position
7. The frequent performances of the _____ prove its popularity.
n. a long musical composition in Western classical music for orchestra, usually with three or four main parts called movements

ANSWERS: 1. haunted, 2. starvation, 3. obsession, 4. motto, 5. aspiration, 6. asymmetrical, 7. symphony

8. The opposing sides in the debate held _____ views.
adj. unable to be resolved or made compatible; not able to be in harmony or agreement due to fundamental differences or conflicts
9. The country's economic situation has improved markedly due to reform _____.
n. a person having a strong liking for something
10. The book's _____ writing style left me uninterested despite the dramatic premise.
adj. lacking excitement, imagination, or originality; dull, ordinary, or commonplace; relating to or characteristic of prose rather than poetry
11. The athlete's _____ performance broke all previous records.
adj. extremely good or impressive; outstanding
12. Eating too much can _____ your stomach and cause discomfort.
v. to expand, inflate, or stretch out in all directions, especially as a result of internal pressure or force; to swell or bulge out of shape
13. The child's _____ scream echoed through the haunted house.
adj. causing great horror or fear; shockingly unpleasant or bad
14. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
15. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.
v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

ANSWERS: 8. irreconcilable, 9. enthusiasts, 10. prosaic, 11. phenomenal, 12. distend, 13. ghastly, 14. opportune, 15. distract

16. Many _____ lawmakers are advocating for stricter immigration policies.
- n.* a person who supports or advocates for a particular form of government, typically one that has an elected head of state rather than a monarch; a member or supporter of the Republican Party in the United States
17. She had to _____ the coffee beans before making a fresh cup.
- v.* to reduce something to small particles or powder by crushing or rubbing it; to work hard over a long period of time
18. The company enhanced _____ operations to tap into new markets.
- adj.* situated or operating beyond national boundaries; in, from, or to foreign countries
19. 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
20. They have both virtue and _____.
- n.* the quality or any act of kindness or well-doing
21. If you don't eat soon, you're going to _____.
- v.* to suffer or die from lack of food; to cause someone or something to suffer or die from lack of food; to deprive something of necessary nourishment or sustenance
22. The government is investing in programs to support _____ and small business development.
- n.* the process or skill of starting and running a business, particularly a new and innovative one

ANSWERS: 16. republican, 17. grind, 18. oversea, 19. upbringing, 20. benevolence, 21. starve, 22. entrepreneurship

23. The camera's focus was off, and the image was a _____ of colors and shapes.
n. a faint or indistinct image or sound; something that is not clear or distinct; (verb) to become unclear; to lose clear vision
24. The _____ of political views has created a deep divide in the country.
n. the division or separation of something into two opposing or contrasting groups or factions; the condition of being polarized or having poles
25. I feel so _____ without you.
adj. unable to take care of oneself or to do things without help
26. She had an _____ while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.
n. a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
27. The speaker's speech was full of _____ phrases and platitudes.
adj. lacking originality or freshness; overused, common, or clichéd; lacking in depth or significance due to being overly familiar or predictable
28. The choir ended the performance with a powerful _____.
n. an exclamation of praise or thanksgiving, particularly in religious contexts; a song or composition expressing such praise or worship

ANSWERS: 23. blur, 24. polarization, 25. helpless, 26. epiphany, 27. trite, 28. hallelujah