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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Magda Sayeg: How yarn bombing grew into a worldwide movement | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

crochet

n. a type of needlework or fabric-making that involves creating loops of thread or yarn with a hooked needle; an item or piece of clothing made using this technique

synonym : knitting, needlework, lacework

(1) **crochet** pattern, (2) **crochet** kit

She passed the time on the plane by doing some **crochet** work.

graffiti

n. writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place

synonym : street art, tagging, vandalism

(1) **graffiti** art, (2) **graffiti** tag

The city spent a lot of money cleaning up the **graffiti** on the buildings downtown.

sanction

n. official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement

synonym : approve, authorize, endorse

(1) Imperial **sanction**, (2) popular **sanction**

The government imposed economic **sanctions** on the country.

grandeur

n. the quality of being impressive or magnificent in appearance, size, or scope; the state of being majestic, impressive, or awe-inspiring

synonym : splendor, majesty, greatness

(1) natural **grandeur**, (2) lost in **grandeur**

The castle's **grandeur** was breathtaking, with its towering turrets and sweeping arches.

facade

n. the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant

synonym : front, camouflage, masquerade

(1) the outside **facade** of a castle, (2) **facade** of wealth

A gentle **facade** concealed his powerfulness.

intrigue

v. to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone

synonym : attract, captivate, charm

(1) **intrigue** him, (2) **intrigue** against his rival

The artist's innovative style of work **intrigues** me.

smite

v. to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction

synonym : hit, strike, batter

(1) **smite** enemies, (2) **smite** a blow

The hero was able to **smite** the monster with a single blow.

seductive

adj. tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief

synonym : alluring, tempting, enticing

(1) a **seductive** smile, (2) **seductive** behavior

The actor's **seductive** gaze drew the audience's attention on stage.

mundane

adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

synonym: ordinary, everyday, prosaic

(1) **mundane** affairs, (2) **mundane** objects

After returning from the war, he had a pretty **mundane** life.

inanimate

adj. not having life or spirit; not animate

synonym: lifeless, inert, passive

(1) **inanimate** nature, (2) **inanimate** matter

The **inanimate** object was not capable of movement or feeling.

crave

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

synonym: desire, yearn, long for

(1) **crave** chocolate, (2) **crave** advice from others

She **craves** success and is always pushing herself to do better.

sensitize

v. to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation

synonym: acclimate, sensitize, alert

(1) **sensitize** the immune system, (2) **sensitize** cells to radiation

We need to **sensitize** our staff to the needs of customers with disabilities.

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.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
synonym: bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

hydrant

n. a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes

synonym: fireplug, tap, spigot

(1) **hydrant** valve, (2) fire **hydrant**

The residents reported a leaky **hydrant** in their community, prompting the city to dispatch a maintenance crew

insurmountable

adj. impossible to overcome or conquer; too difficult or daunting to overcome

synonym: invincible, hopeless, overwhelming

(1) **insurmountable** odds, (2) **insurmountable** disadvantage

The challenge seemed **insurmountable**, but they overcame it with hard work and determination.

unassuming

adj. not arrogant, bold, or forward

synonym: diffident, humble, modest

(1) **unassuming** appearance, (2) an **unassuming** fashion

His **unassuming** manner concealed his ambition.

mural

adj. a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface

synonym: wall painting, fresco, wall art

(1) **mural** painting, (2) a **mural** decoration

The **mural** on the wall depicted the history of the city.

ponder

v. to think deeply or carefully about something

synonym: think about, consider, reflect on

(1) **ponder** divine matters, (2) **ponder** life's meaning

She sat quietly, **pondering** the difficult decision.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ins_____ble odds *adj.* impossible to overcome or conquer; too difficult or daunting to overcome
2. st_____e financially *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
3. a mu__l decoration *adj.* a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
4. se_____ve behavior *adj.* tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief
5. sm__e enemies *v.* to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction
6. fa___e of wealth *n.* the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant
7. cr_____t pattern *n.* a type of needlework or fabric-making that involves creating loops of thread or yarn with a hooked needle; an item or piece of clothing made using this technique
8. lost in gr_____ur *n.* the quality of being impressive or magnificent in appearance, size, or scope; the state of being majestic, impressive, or awe-inspiring

ANSWERS: 1. insurmountable, 2. stumble, 3. mural, 4. seductive, 5. smite, 6. facade, 7. crochet, 8. grandeur

9. cr__e chocolate *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely
10. fire hy____t *n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
11. mu____e affairs *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
12. ins_____ble disadvantage *adj.* impossible to overcome or conquer; too difficult or daunting to overcome
13. popular sa____on *n.* official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement
14. po___r life's meaning *v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
15. 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
16. gr____ti tag *n.* writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place
17. in_____ue him *v.* to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone

ANSWERS: 9. crave, 10. hydrant, 11. mundane, 12. insurmountable, 13. sanction, 14. ponder, 15. billboard, 16. graffiti, 17. intrigue

18. cr____t kit *n.* a type of needlework or fabric-making that involves creating loops of thread or yarn with a hooked needle; an item or piece of clothing made using this technique
19. natural gr____ur *n.* the quality of being impressive or magnificent in appearance, size, or scope; the state of being majestic, impressive, or awe-inspiring
20. gr____ti art *n.* writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place
21. po____r divine matters *v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
22. a se____ve smile *adj.* tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief
23. mu____e objects *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
24. in____ue against his rival *v.* to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone
25. hy____t valve *n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
26. in____te nature *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate

ANSWERS: 18. crochet, 19. grandeur, 20. graffiti, 21. ponder, 22. seductive, 23. mundane, 24. intrigue, 25. hydrant, 26. inanimate

27. Imperial sa_____on *n.* official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement
28. 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
29. the outside fa___e of a castle *n.* the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant
30. una_____ng appearance *adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward
31. st_____e through life *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
32. sm___e a blow *v.* to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction
33. an una_____ng fashion *adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward
34. in_____te matter *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
35. se_____ze the immune system *v.* to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation

ANSWERS: 27. sanction, 28. billboard, 29. facade, 30. unassuming, 31. stumble, 32. smite, 33. unassuming, 34. inanimate, 35. sensitize

36. mu__l painting *adj.* a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
37. se_____ze cells to radiation *v.* to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation
38. cr__e advice from others *v.* to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

ANSWERS: 36. mural, 37. sensitize, 38. crave

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His _____ manner concealed his ambition.
adj. not arrogant, bold, or forward

2. We need to _____ our staff to the needs of customers with disabilities.
v. to make someone or something more responsive to a particular stimulus or condition; to increase awareness or understanding of an issue, problem, or situation

3. She _____ over the tree root.
v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

4. After returning from the war, he had a pretty _____ life.
adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

5. The challenge seemed _____ but they overcame it with hard work and determination.
adj. impossible to overcome or conquer; too difficult or daunting to overcome

6. The hero was able to _____ the monster with a single blow.
v. to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction

7. A gentle _____ concealed his powerfulness.
n. the face or front of a building, especially a large one; superficial or false appearance intended to conceal something unpleasant

8. She passed the time on the plane by doing some _____ work.
n. a type of needlework or fabric-making that involves creating loops of thread or yarn with a hooked needle; an item or piece of clothing made using this technique

ANSWERS: 1. unassuming, 2. sensitize, 3. stumbled, 4. mundane, 5. insurmountable, 6. smite, 7. facade, 8. crochet

9. The government imposed economic _____ on the country.
- n.* official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement
10. The _____ on the wall depicted the history of the city.
- adj.* a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
11. The residents reported a leaky _____ in their community, prompting the city to dispatch a maintenance crew
- n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
12. The _____ object was not capable of movement or feeling.
- adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
13. The artist's innovative style of work _____ me.
- v.* to make someone interested, especially by being strange, unusual, or mysterious; to make a secret plan with other people to harm someone
14. 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
15. She sat quietly, _____ the difficult decision.
- v.* to think deeply or carefully about something
16. The city spent a lot of money cleaning up the _____ on the buildings downtown.
- n.* writing or drawings scribbled, scratched, or sprayed illicitly on a wall or other surface in a public place

ANSWERS: 9. sanctions, 10. mural, 11. hydrant, 12. inanimate, 13. intrigues, 14. billboard, 15. pondering, 16. graffiti

17. The actor's _____ gaze drew the audience's attention on stage.

adj. tempting or alluring attractively or persuasively; often used to describe a person, behavior, or idea that is intended to lure or entice someone into a specific action or belief

18. She _____ success and is always pushing herself to do better.

v. to have a strong desire for something; to long for or want intensely

19. The castle's _____ was breathtaking, with its towering turrets and sweeping arches.

n. the quality of being impressive or magnificent in appearance, size, or scope; the state of being majestic, impressive, or awe-inspiring

ANSWERS: 17. seductive, 18. craves, 19. grandeur