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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Dan Gross: Why gun violence can't be our new normal | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

confession

n. a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal

synonym: admission, avowal, acknowledgment

(1) a **confession** of guilt, (2) a **confession** of faith

The prisoner made a full **confession** and admitted to his crime.

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.

matte

adj. having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy

synonym: dull, flat, lusterless

(1) **matte** coating, (2) photo with a **matte** finish

The body of his car has a **matte** finish.

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.

courageous

adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

synonym: brave, valiant, fearless

(1) make a **courageous** decision, (2) **courageous** rescue attempt

He was a **courageous** soldier who had served his country with honor.

unnoticed

adj. not seen or noticed

synonym: ignored, overlooked, unrecognized

(1) **unnoticed** by all, (2) go **unnoticed** for a long period

His research went largely **unnoticed** until a prominent researcher cited it.

disgrace

n. a loss of respect, honor, or dignity; a state of shame or public humiliation; an action or behavior that is seen as immoral or unacceptable; (verb) to bring shame, dishonor, or discredit upon someone or something

synonym: shame, dishonor, humiliation

(1) **disgrace** our family name, (2) political **disgrace**

The government's failure to address the poverty issue was a **disgrace** to their leadership

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

convict

v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime;
(noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison

synonym: condemn, sentence, judge

(1) **convict** him of manslaughter, (2) **convict** in a jail

He was **convicted** on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.

firearm

n. a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell

synonym: gun, weapon

(1) stolen **firearm**, (2) legal **firearms**

I am a responsible **firearm** owner who follows all safety protocols.

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.

pediatrics

n. the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children

synonym: pedology, child health

(1) **pediatrics** department, (2) **pediatrics** clinic

I am studying **pediatrics** in medical school because I love working with children.

unintentional

adj. not done or made on purpose; accidental

synonym: accidental, unforeseen, spontaneous

(1) avoid **unintentional** harm, (2) **unintentional** insult

The mistake was **unintentional** and made in good faith.

heartbreak

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

synonym: grief, sorrow, bitterness

(1) ease her **heartbreak**, (2) go through **heartbreak**

They had experienced the **heartbreak** of losing two children

due to premature births.

unimaginable

adj. beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision

synonym: unthinkable, inconceivable, incredulous

(1) **unimaginable** horror, (2) **unimaginable** depths

The complexity of scientific theories was **unimaginable** for most people.

craven

adj. lacking courage; cowardly; characterized by a complete lack of bravery or boldness; excessively timid

synonym: cowardly, fearful, timid

(1) **craven** behavior, (2) **craven** apology

The **craven** employee refused to speak up in the meeting, even though he had valuable input.

pundit

n. an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue

synonym: expert, commentator, punditry

(1) conservative **pundit**, (2) sports **pundit**

The political **pundit** provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.

surreal

adj. strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality

synonym: dreamlike, fantastical, unreal

(1) **surreal** number, (2) **surreal** art

The dreamlike quality of the painting gave it a **surreal** feel.

converge

v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

synonym: congregate, assemble, concentrate

(1) **converge** of a series, (2) **converge** from different points

The two rivers **converge** into one near this area.

outnumber

v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number

synonym : surpass, exceed

(1) **outnumber** our opponents, (2) **outnumber** males
The number of tourists in the city now **outnumbers** the locals.

stranglehold

n. a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control

synonym : grip, tight control, hold

(1) escape their **stranglehold**, (2) information **stranglehold**
The monopoly has a **stranglehold** on the market, making it difficult for new businesses to compete.

insanity

n. the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness

synonym : madness, psychosis, lunacy

(1) sheer **insanity**, (2) alcoholic **insanity**

His behavior became increasingly erratic, leading many to believe he was experiencing a bout of **insanity**.

intimidate

v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

synonym : frighten, threaten, terrify

(1) **intimidate** an opponent, (2) effectively **intimidate** a thief
The boss tried to **intimidate** his subordinate with threats.

binge

n. a period of excessive or uncontrolled consumption, often of food or alcohol; a spree or bout of reckless behavior or indulgence

synonym : spree, overindulgence, splurge

(1) **binge** on social media, (2) alcohol **binge**

She stayed up all night **binge-watching** her favorite TV show.

harass

v. to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention

synonym : pester, annoy, bother

(1) **harass** the enemy, (2) **harass** with constant criticism
She was constantly **harassed** by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.

coworker

n. a person who works with another in the same company or organization

synonym: colleague, peer, associate

(1) **coworker** relationship, (2) argue with a **coworker**
My ex- **coworker** and I had different working styles but managed to get along.

commonplace

adj. occurring very often; lacking originality or interest

synonym: ordinary, routine, mundane

(1) become a **commonplace** sight, (2) **commonplace** event

Forgetting someone's name is a **commonplace** occurrence.

glamorous

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

synonym: alluring, bewitching, enchanting

(1) **glamorous** movie stars, (2) cast **glamorous** eyes

The south coast is less **glamorous** yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

stigmatize

v. to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect

synonym: brand, mark, denounce

(1) **stigmatize** the deviant as criminal, (2) **stigmatize** him as a swindler

She was **stigmatized** by society because she had a child out of wedlock.

depict

v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph

synonym: illustrate, describe, express

(1) **depict** a scene, (2) **depict** a feeling of isolation

His son had accurately **depicted** the bloom.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. de___t a scene | <i>v.</i> to illustrate someone or something in a photograph |
| 2. rep_____an ideology | <i>n.</i> 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 |
| 3. uni_____ble horror | <i>adj.</i> beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision |
| 4. make a cou_____us decision | <i>adj.</i> able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching |
| 5. ha___s with constant criticism | <i>v.</i> to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention |
| 6. legal fi_____ms | <i>n.</i> a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell |
| 7. alcohol bi___e | <i>n.</i> a period of excessive or uncontrolled consumption, often of food or alcohol; a spree or bout of reckless behavior or indulgence |
| 8. uni_____nal insult | <i>adj.</i> not done or made on purpose; accidental |
| 9. sti_____ze the deviant as criminal | <i>v.</i> to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect |

ANSWERS: 1. depict, 2. republican, 3. unimaginable, 4. courageous, 5. harass, 6. firearm, 7. binge, 8. unintentional, 9. stigmatize

10. stolen fi____m *n.* a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell
11. sheer in____ty *n.* the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness
12. escape their str____old *n.* a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control
13. co____t in a jail *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
14. ha____s the enemy *v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention
15. cou____us rescue attempt *adj.* able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching
16. photo with a ma__e finish *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
17. cr____n apology *adj.* lacking courage; cowardly; characterized by a complete lack of bravery or boldness; excessively timid
18. ou____er males *v.* to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
19. a con____on of faith *n.* a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal
20. gl____us movie stars *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

ANSWERS: 10. firearm, 11. insanity, 12. stranglehold, 13. convict, 14. harass, 15. courageous, 16. matte, 17. craven, 18. outnumber, 19. confession, 20. glamorous

21. sports pu___t *n.* an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
22. sti_____ze him as a swindler *v.* to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect
23. co_____t him of manslaughter *v.* to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
24. co_____ge of a series *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
25. ped_____cs clinic *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
26. su_____l number *adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
27. ma__e coating *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
28. de___t a feeling of isolation *v.* to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
29. su_____l art *adj.* strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
30. cr___n behavior *adj.* lacking courage; cowardly; characterized by a complete lack of bravery or boldness; excessively timid
31. political di_____ce *n.* a loss of respect, honor, or dignity; a state of shame or public humiliation; an action or behavior that is seen as immoral or unacceptable; (verb) to bring shame, dishonor, or discredit upon someone or something

ANSWERS: 21. pundit, 22. stigmatize, 23. convict, 24. converge, 25. pediatrics, 26. surreal, 27. matte, 28. depict, 29. surreal, 30. craven, 31. disgrace

32. un_____ed by all *adj.* not seen or noticed
33. co_____ge from different points *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
34. alcoholic in_____ty *n.* the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness
35. int_____te an opponent *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
36. argue with a co_____er *n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization
37. ease her hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
38. information str_____old *n.* a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control
39. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
40. go through hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
41. cast gl_____us eyes *adj.* highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people
42. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
43. avoid uni_____nal harm *adj.* not done or made on purpose; accidental
44. go un_____ed for a long period *adj.* not seen or noticed

ANSWERS: 32. unnoticed, 33. converge, 34. insanity, 35. intimidate, 36. coworker, 37. heartbreak, 38. stranglehold, 39. quitter, 40. heartbreak, 41. glamorous, 42. opportune, 43. unintentional, 44. unnoticed

45. di_____ce our family name *n.* a loss of respect, honor, or dignity; a state of shame or public humiliation; an action or behavior that is seen as immoral or unacceptable; (verb) to bring shame, dishonor, or discredit upon someone or something
46. a con_____on of guilt *n.* a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal
47. serial qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
48. uni_____ble depths *adj.* beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision
49. ped_____cs department *n.* the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
50. he is ob___sed with the fear *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
51. com_____ce event *adj.* occurring very often; lacking originality or interest
52. become a com_____ce sight *adj.* occurring very often; lacking originality or interest
53. bi___e on social media *n.* a period of excessive or uncontrolled consumption, often of food or alcohol; a spree or bout of reckless behavior or indulgence
54. 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

ANSWERS: 45. disgrace, 46. confession, 47. quitter, 48. unimaginable, 49. pediatrics, 50. obsess, 51. commonplace, 52. commonplace, 53. binge, 54. republican

55. conservative pu___t *n.* an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue
56. effectively int_____te a thief *v.* to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do
57. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
58. co_____er relationship *n.* a person who works with another in the same company or organization
59. ob___s over her weight *v.* to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else
60. ou_____er our opponents *v.* to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number

ANSWERS: 55. pundit, 56. intimidate, 57. opportune, 58. coworker, 59. obsess, 60. outnumber

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His son had accurately _____ the bloom.
v. to illustrate someone or something in a photograph
2. I am studying _____ in medical school because I love working with children.
n. the branch of medicine that deals with the care and treatment of children
3. My ex-_____ and I had different working styles but managed to get along.
n. a person who works with another in the same company or organization
4. She stayed up all night _____ her favorite TV show.
n. a period of excessive or uncontrolled consumption, often of food or alcohol; a spree or bout of reckless behavior or indulgence
5. His research went largely _____ until a prominent researcher cited it.
adj. not seen or noticed
6. The dreamlike quality of the painting gave it a _____ feel.
adj. strange and unreal; having an oddly dreamlike quality
7. He was _____ on fraud charges and sentenced to five years in prison.
v. to prove or declare someone to be guilty of a crime; (noun) a person serving a sentence in a jail or prison
8. 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

ANSWERS: 1. depicted, 2. pediatrics, 3. coworker, 4. binge-watching, 5. unnoticed, 6. surreal, 7. convicted, 8. republican

9. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

10. She was constantly _____ by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.

v. to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention

11. I am a responsible _____ owner who follows all safety protocols.

n. a weapon that is designed to be fired and uses an explosive charge to propel a projectile, such as a bullet or a shell

12. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

13. The body of his car has a _____ finish.

adj. having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy

14. The prisoner made a full _____ and admitted to his crime.

n. a formal statement in which one admits that they have done something wrong or illegal

15. His behavior became increasingly erratic, leading many to believe he was experiencing a bout of _____.

n. the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness

16. She was _____ by society because she had a child out of wedlock.

v. to accuse, condemn, or openly or formally consider somebody or something as not deserving respect

ANSWERS: 9. opportune, 10. harassed, 11. firearm, 12. heartbreak, 13. matte, 14. confession, 15. insanity, 16. stigmatized

17. The _____ employee refused to speak up in the meeting, even though he had valuable input.

adj. lacking courage; cowardly; characterized by a complete lack of bravery or boldness; excessively timid

18. He's utterly _____ with his promotion.

v. to fill the mind of someone continually so that one can't think of anything else

19. The south coast is less _____ yet has many clean and appealing hotels.

adj. highly attractive and exciting, and different from ordinary things or people

20. The political _____ provided analysis and commentary on the latest election results.

n. an expert, authority, or knowledgeable commentator who frequently expresses opinions or gives analysis on a particular subject or issue

21. He was a _____ soldier who had served his country with honor.

adj. able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching

22. The boss tried to _____ his subordinate with threats.

v. to make someone fearful or uneasy so that they will do something that you want them to do

23. The monopoly has a _____ on the market, making it difficult for new businesses to compete.

n. a grip that strangles or suffocates; an excessive grip or control

24. The government's failure to address the poverty issue was a _____ to their leadership

n. a loss of respect, honor, or dignity; a state of shame or public humiliation; an action or behavior that is seen as immoral or unacceptable; (verb) to bring shame, dishonor, or discredit upon someone or something

ANSWERS: 17. craven, 18. obsessed, 19. glamorous, 20. pundit, 21. courageous, 22. intimidate, 23. stranglehold, 24. disgrace

25. The number of tourists in the city now _____ the locals.
v. to be more numerous or greater in number than another group or entity; to exceed in quantity or number
26. The complexity of scientific theories was _____ for most people.
adj. beyond what can be imagined or conceived; impossible to comprehend or envision
27. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.
n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
28. The mistake was _____ and made in good faith.
adj. not done or made on purpose; accidental
29. The two rivers _____ into one near this area.
v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
30. Forgetting someone's name is a _____ occurrence.
adj. occurring very often; lacking originality or interest

ANSWERS: 25. outnumber, 26. unimaginable, 27. quitter, 28. unintentional, 29. converge, 30. commonplace