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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Catharine Young: How memories form and how we lose them | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/catharine_young_how_memories_form_and_how_we Lose_them

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

synonym: nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

hippocampus

n. a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory

(1) involvement of the **hippocampus**, (2) neurons in the **hippocampus**

The **hippocampus** is crucial for learning and memory storage.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

synapse

n. the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it

(1) **synapse** circuit, (2) end at a **synapse**

Animals transmit nerve impulses through **synapses**.

neurotransmitter

n. a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles

(1) **neurotransmitter** receptor, (2) **neurotransmitters** released from the brain

Endorphins are a type of **neurotransmitter** that gives a sense of well-being.

potentiate

v. to increase the effect, likelihood, or power of something, such as a drug or a physiological or biochemical phenomenon

synonym: increase, boost, enhance

(1) **potentiate** the drug, (2) **potentiate** the immune response

The author's war and suffering experience **potentiates** this novel's reality.

falter

v. to hesitate or stumble in action or speech; to lose strength or momentum; to become unsteady or shaky

synonym: hesitate, stumble, waver

(1) **falter** in decision-making, (2) **falter** in speech

My confidence began to **falter** as I gave my presentation in front of the class.

deteriorate

v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate

synonym: decline, degenerate, regress

(1) **deteriorate** at a slow pace, (2) **deteriorate** condition

The patient's health **deteriorated** rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.

shrinkage

n. the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished

synonym: loss, decrease, reduction

(1) muscle **shrinkage**, (2) budget **shrinkage**

The **shrinkage** in the wool sweater was caused by washing it in hot water.

acetylcholine

n. a neurotransmitter chemical that is involved in the transmission of signals between nerve cells and the activation of muscle cells, which plays an important role in the functioning of the nervous system and in generating movement and behavior in animals

synonym: neurotransmitter, cholinergic

(1) **acetylcholine** receptor, (2) **acetylcholine** molecule

Low levels of **acetylcholine** have been linked to symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.

mobilize

v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

synonym: activate, rally, marshal

(1) **mobilize** cooperation, (2) **mobilize** a stiff joint

The military **mobilized** troops to the border.

culprit

n. someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing

synonym: criminal, felon, fugitive

(1) the **culprit** of global warming, (2) the arrest of the **culprit**

They finally found the **culprit** of the bug after a long time.

serotonin

n. a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory

(1) **serotonin** drug, (2) **serotonin** levels

The medicine works by boosting **serotonin** levels in the brain.

exposition

n. a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display

synonym: explanation, description, account

(1) an international **exposition**, (2) rational **exposition**

The **exposition** in the novel provides background information on the characters and setting.

Session 2: Spelling

1. the arrest of the cu____t *n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing
2. ne___n cell body *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
3. ace_____ine molecule *n.* a neurotransmitter chemical that is involved in the transmission of signals between nerve cells and the activation of muscle cells, which plays an important role in the functioning of the nervous system and in generating movement and behavior in animals
4. mo_____ze cooperation *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
5. pot_____te the immune response *v.* to increase the effect, likelihood, or power of something, such as a drug or a physiological or biochemical phenomenon
6. neurons in the hip_____us *n.* a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory
7. ace_____ine receptor *n.* a neurotransmitter chemical that is involved in the transmission of signals between nerve cells and the activation of muscle cells, which plays an important role in the functioning of the nervous system and in generating movement and behavior in animals

ANSWERS: 1. culprit, 2. neuron, 3. acetylcholine, 4. mobilize, 5. potentiate, 6. hippocampus, 7. acetylcholine

8. de_____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
9. se_____in levels *n.* a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory
10. end at a sy_____e *n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it
11. budget sh_____ge *n.* the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished
12. de_____te a few hours *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
13. the cu_____t of global warming *n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing
14. involvement of the hip_____us *n.* a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory
15. det_____te at a slow pace *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
16. mo_____ze a stiff joint *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 8. dedicate, 9. serotonin, 10. synapse, 11. shrinkage, 12. dedicate, 13. culprit, 14. hippocampus, 15. deteriorate, 16. mobilize

17. rational exp_____on *n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
18. muscle sh_____ge *n.* the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished
19. det_____te condition *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
20. neu_____ters released from the brain *n.* a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
21. sy_____e circuit *n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it
22. an international exp_____on *n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
23. excite the ne____ns *n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
24. neu_____ter receptor *n.* a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
25. fa____r in speech *v.* to hesitate or stumble in action or speech; to lose strength or momentum; to become unsteady or shaky

ANSWERS: 17. exposition, 18. shrinkage, 19. deteriorate, 20. neurotransmitter, 21. synapse, 22. exposition, 23. neuron, 24. neurotransmitter, 25. falter

26. se_____in drug *n.* a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory
27. pot_____te the drug *v.* to increase the effect, likelihood, or power of something, such as a drug or a physiological or biochemical phenomenon
28. fa___r in decision-making *v.* to hesitate or stumble in action or speech; to lose strength or momentum; to become unsteady or shaky

ANSWERS: 26. serotonin, 27. potentiate, 28. falter

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Animals transmit nerve impulses through _____.
 - n.* the fact or state of failing to finish an activity and of stopping using, making, or doing it

2. My confidence began to _____ as I gave my presentation in front of the class.
 - v.* to hesitate or stumble in action or speech; to lose strength or momentum; to become unsteady or shaky

3. He _____ his life to helping others.
 - v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

4. The _____ in the wool sweater was caused by washing it in hot water.
 - n.* the process of becoming smaller or less in size or quantity; the amount by which something has shrunk, contracted, or diminished

5. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
 - n.* a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

6. They finally found the _____ of the bug after a long time.
 - n.* someone who is responsible for a crime or wrongdoing

7. The military _____ troops to the border.
 - v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 1. synapses, 2. falter, 3. dedicated, 4. shrinkage, 5. neuron, 6. culprit, 7. mobilized

8. The medicine works by boosting _____ levels in the brain.
- n.* a neurotransmitter (= a chemical that carries nerve impulses) involved in, e.g., sleep, emotion, and memory
9. The _____ in the novel provides background information on the characters and setting.
- n.* a comprehensive description and explanation of an idea or theory; a collection of things, such as goods or works of art, etc., for public display
10. The patient's health _____ rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.
- v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
11. The author's war and suffering experience _____ this novel's reality.
- v.* to increase the effect, likelihood, or power of something, such as a drug or a physiological or biochemical phenomenon
12. Endorphins are a type of _____ that gives a sense of well-being.
- n.* a chemical that carries nerve impulses between neurons or between neurons and muscles
13. The _____ is crucial for learning and memory storage.
- n.* a major component of the brain of humans and other vertebrates that is part of the limbic system and is vital for memory
14. Low levels of _____ have been linked to symptoms of Alzheimer's disease.
- n.* a neurotransmitter chemical that is involved in the transmission of signals between nerve cells and the activation of muscle cells, which plays an important role in the functioning of the nervous system and in generating movement and behavior in animals

ANSWERS: 8. serotonin, 9. exposition, 10. deteriorated, 11. potentiates, 12. neurotransmitter, 13. hippocampus, 14. acetylcholine

ANSWERS: