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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Bruce Aylward: Humanity vs. Ebola. How we could win a terrifying war | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

Ebola

n. a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa

synonym: viral hemorrhagic fever, EVD

(1) **Ebola** epidemic, (2) **Ebola** virus

The **Ebola** outbreak in West Africa caused widespread panic and fear.

escalate

v. to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious

synonym: increase, intensify, expand

(1) **escalate** into a major international incident, (2) to **escalate**

The situation quickly **escalated** and turned violent.

terrify

v. to frighten someone very much

synonym: unnerve, scare, horrify

(1) **terrify** people, (2) the threats **terrify** him

It would be best not to **terrify** your associates into doing complex tasks.

clement

adj. mild, merciful, or forgiving in temperament or actions; lenient

synonym : merciful, compassionate, forgiving

(1) **clement** weather, (2) **clement** response

The teacher's **clement** demeanor helped ease the students' nerves before the exam.

epicenter

n. the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake

synonym : ground zero, focus, center

(1) the **epicenter** of the sports world, (2) **epicenter** magnitude

The **epicenter** of the earthquake was located deep beneath the earth's surface.

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.

devastation

n. the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale

synonym : destruction, ruin, havoc

(1) financial **devastation**, (2) **devastation** to life

The economic recession caused **devastation** in the housing market, with many people losing their homes.

bury

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

synonym : entomb, sink, forget

(1) **bury** in the earth, (2) **bury** emotion

There is plenty of space to **bury** everyone.

disturb

v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.

synonym : agitate, bother, intrude

(1) **disturb** the peace, (2) **disturb** his sleep

Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.

unravel

v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
synonym: separate, unknot, ravel

(1) **unravel** a knit, (2) **unravel** a plot

Detectives are still attempting to **unravel** the mystery of his death.

undetected

adj. not perceived or discovered

synonym: undiscovered, hidden, concealed

(1) **undetected** cancer, (2) leave the house **undetected**

Doctors made mistakes, and diseases remained **undetected**.

evade

v. to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something

synonym: dodge, avoid, bypass

(1) **evade** capture, (2) **evade** an issue

The jailbroken criminal is continuously attempting to **evade** the cops.

outstrip

v. to exceed or surpass a particular, measurable quality or attribute, such as speed, efficiency, or quality

synonym: outdo, surpass, exceed

(1) **outstrip** competitors, (2) **outstrip** population growth

The company's sales have **outstripped** expectations for the quarter.

guinea

n. a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic

synonym: coin, money, currency

(1) **guinea** coins, (2) **guinea** pig

The cost of the antique vase is three **guineas**.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym: pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus

Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

teem

v. to be abuzz; to move in large numbers; to fall heavily
synonym: brim, swarm, overflow

(1) **teem** with activity, (2) **teem** down

The city **teems** with traffic on holiday.

metropolis

n. a large and densely populated city, typically the most important city or the capital of a country or region; a major center of commerce, culture, and activity

synonym: city, megacity, urban center

(1) **metropolis** skyline, (2) bustling **metropolis**

Paris is a romantic **metropolis** famous for its art, fashion, and cuisine.

outpouring

n. a sudden and abundant flow or expression of thoughts, feelings, emotion, or information; an overwhelming amount of something expressed in a short period of time

synonym: outflow, surge, torrent

(1) artistic **outpouring**, (2) emotional **outpouring**

The **outpouring** of support from the community was overwhelming after the tragic event.

misinformation

n. information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately

synonym: falsity, misreport, misstatement

(1) **misinformation** about a vaccine, (2) combat **misinformation** on social media

The government called for caution against pseudoscientific **misinformation** about vaccines.

recoil

v. to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain

synonym: flinch, shy, shrink

(1) **recoil** in horror, (2) **recoil** from a snake

The gun **recoiled** with a loud bang.

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.

quarantine

n. a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease

synonym: isolation, confinement, restriction

(1) out of **quarantine**, (2) mandatory **quarantine**

Due to the outbreak, the government imposed a two-week **quarantine** for all travelers.

riot

n. a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

synonym: disturbance, unrest, upheaval

(1) **riot** police, (2) **riot** control gas

The **riots** in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym: frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

contaminate

v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

synonym: defile, pollute, adulterate

(1) **contaminate** with a disease, (2) **contaminate** his ego

We strive not to **contaminate** the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

horrific

adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying

synonym: terrifying, alarming, shocking

(1) **horrific** experience, (2) **horrific** condition

The accident scene was **horrific**, with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.

vomit

v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

synonym: puke, throw up, spew

(1) **vomit** abuse, (2) **vomit** after ingesting

She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to **vomit**.

debilitating

adj. weakening or damaging; causing a loss of strength, energy, or success

synonym: weakening, exhausting

(1) **debilitating** virus, (2) **debilitating** effect

His **debilitating** illness made it difficult for him to leave the house.

dignify

v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

synonym: elevate, ennoble, honor

(1) **dignify** the role, (2) **dignify** the occasion

It's important to **dignify** other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.

complacency

n. a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems

synonym: self-satisfaction, smugness, satisfaction

(1) dangerous **complacency**, (2) avoid **complacency**

The team's **complacency** led to their defeat, as they didn't put in the effort needed to win the game.

creep

v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard

synonym: crawl, glide, encroach

(1) **creep** along the leaf, (2) **creep** toward the mouse

Aging **creeps** up slowly with time.

complacent

adj. satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes

synonym: content, satisfied, self-satisfied

(1) **complacent** attitude, (2) **complacent** with past successes

He became **complacent** in his job and stopped trying to improve.

unwavering

adj. not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment

synonym: steadfast, resolute, firm

(1) **unwavering** commitment, (2) **unwavering** confidence

She showed **unwavering** loyalty to her friend through thick and thin.

bolster

v. to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources

synonym: reinforce, support, strengthen

(1) **bolster** confidence, (2) **bolster** the economy

The company hired a new advertising agency to **bolster** its marketing efforts.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--------------------------------|----|--|
| 1. bo____r the economy | v. | to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources |
| 2. un____l a plot | v. | undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it |
| 3. avoid com_____cy | n. | a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems |
| 4. in___t other animal species | v. | to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism |
| 5. un____l a knit | v. | undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it |
| 6. t__m with activity | v. | to be abuzz; to move in large numbers; to fall heavily |
| 7. r__t police | n. | a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals |
| 8. Eb__a virus | n. | a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa |
| 9. di_____b the peace | v. | to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc. |
| 10. ev__e capture | v. | to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something |

ANSWERS: 1. bolster, 2. unravel, 3. complacency, 4. infect, 5. unravel, 6. teem, 7. riot, 8. Ebola, 9. disturb, 10. evade

- | | |
|--|--|
| 11. ease her hea_____ak | <i>n.</i> a feeling of great sadness or disappointment |
| 12. com_____nt attitude | <i>adj.</i> satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes |
| 13. und_____ed cancer | <i>adj.</i> not perceived or discovered |
| 14. ev__e an issue | <i>v.</i> to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something |
| 15. deb_____ing virus | <i>adj.</i> weakening or damaging; causing a loss of strength, energy, or success |
| 16. combat mis_____ion on social media | <i>n.</i> information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately |
| 17. di_____y the occasion | <i>v.</i> to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant |
| 18. cr__p toward the mouse | <i>v.</i> to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard |
| 19. ho_____ic experience | <i>adj.</i> causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying |
| 20. r__t control gas | <i>n.</i> a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals |
| 21. met_____is skyline | <i>n.</i> a large and densely populated city, typically the most important city or the capital of a country or region; a major center of commerce, culture, and activity |

ANSWERS: 11. heartbreak, 12. complacent, 13. undetected, 14. evade, 15. debilitating, 16. misinformation, 17. dignify, 18. creep, 19. horrific, 20. riot, 21. metropolis

22. bustling met_____is *n.* a large and densely populated city, typically the most important city or the capital of a country or region; a major center of commerce, culture, and activity
23. artistic out_____ng *n.* a sudden and abundant flow or expression of thoughts, feelings, emotion, or information; an overwhelming amount of something expressed in a short period of time
24. the threats te_____y him *v.* to frighten someone very much
25. ho_____ic condition *adj.* causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
26. gu____a coins *n.* a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic
27. re____l in horror *v.* to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain
28. es_____te into a major international incident *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
29. the ep_____er of the sports world *n.* the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake
30. con_____te with a disease *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
31. cl_____t response *adj.* mild, merciful, or forgiving in temperament or actions; lenient

ANSWERS: 22. metropolis, 23. outpouring, 24. terrify, 25. horrific, 26. guinea, 27. recoil, 28. escalate, 29. epicenter, 30. contaminate, 31. clement

32. go through hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
33. det_____te at a slow pace *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
34. re___l from a snake *v.* to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain
35. b___y emotion *v.* to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
36. vo__t after ingesting *v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth
37. deb_____ing effect *adj.* weakening or damaging; causing a loss of strength, energy, or success
38. in___t a computer with a virus *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
39. out of qua_____ne *n.* a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease
40. gu___a pig *n.* a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic
41. dev_____on to life *n.* the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale
42. cr__p along the leaf *v.* to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
43. t__m down *v.* to be abuzz; to move in large numbers; to fall heavily

ANSWERS: 32. heartbreak, 33. deteriorate, 34. recoil, 35. bury, 36. vomit, 37. debilitating, 38. infect, 39. quarantine, 40. guinea, 41. devastation, 42. creep, 43. teem

44. dangerous com_____cy *n.* a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems
45. unw_____ng commitment *adj.* not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment
46. mandatory qua_____ne *n.* a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease
47. to es_____te *v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
48. Eb__a epidemic *n.* a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa
49. leave the house und_____ed *adj.* not perceived or discovered
50. ep_____er magnitude *n.* the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake
51. cl_____t weather *adj.* mild, merciful, or forgiving in temperament or actions; lenient
52. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
53. te_____y people *v.* to frighten someone very much
54. di_____y the role *v.* to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant

ANSWERS: 44. complacency, 45. unwavering, 46. quarantine, 47. escalate, 48. Ebola, 49. undetected, 50. epicenter, 51. clement, 52. terrifying, 53. terrify, 54. dignify

55. ou____ip population growth *v.* to exceed or surpass a particular, measurable quality or attribute, such as speed, efficiency, or quality
56. di____b his sleep *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
57. vo__t abuse *v.* to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth
58. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
59. unw_____ng confidence *adj.* not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment
60. con_____te his ego *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
61. com_____nt with past successes *adj.* satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes
62. emotional out_____ng *n.* a sudden and abundant flow or expression of thoughts, feelings, emotion, or information; an overwhelming amount of something expressed in a short period of time
63. mis_____ion about a vaccine *n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
64. ou____ip competitors *v.* to exceed or surpass a particular, measurable quality or attribute, such as speed, efficiency, or quality
65. det_____te condition *v.* to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate

ANSWERS: 55. outstrip, 56. disturb, 57. vomit, 58. terrifying, 59. unwavering, 60. contaminate, 61. complacent, 62. outpouring, 63. misinformation, 64. outstrip, 65. deteriorate

66. bo____r confidence

v. to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources

67. financial dev_____on

n. the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale

68. b__y in the earth

v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb

ANSWERS: 66. bolster, 67. devastation, 68. bury

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Aging _____ up slowly with time.
v. to move slowly, quietly, and carefully, usually to avoid being seen or heard
2. The _____ of the earthquake was located deep beneath the earth's surface.
n. the point on the earth's surface directly above the focus of an earthquake
3. Due to the outbreak, the government imposed a two-week _____ for all travelers.
n. a state of isolation imposed on people or animals to prevent the spread of disease
4. The _____ of support from the community was overwhelming after the tragic event.
n. a sudden and abundant flow or expression of thoughts, feelings, emotion, or information; an overwhelming amount of something expressed in a short period of time
5. The cost of the antique vase is three _____.
n. a former British gold coin worth 21 shillings or a unit of currency used in some West African countries; (Guinea) a republic in western Africa on the Atlantic
6. The gun _____ with a loud bang.
v. to spring or flinch back, as in surprise, fear, or pain
7. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.
v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

ANSWERS: 1. creeps, 2. epicenter, 3. quarantine, 4. outpouring, 5. guineas, 6. recoiled, 7. infect

8. The government called for caution against pseudoscientific _____ about vaccines.
- n.* information that is false or inaccurate, or the act of giving wrong information, especially deliberately
9. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.
- n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
10. He became _____ in his job and stopped trying to improve.
- adj.* satisfied with the status quo and not wishing to make changes
11. The situation quickly _____ and turned violent.
- v.* to increase in intensity, size, or severity; to make something greater, worse, or more serious
12. The _____ outbreak in West Africa caused widespread panic and fear.
- n.* a highly contagious and often fatal viral disease that causes severe fever and internal bleeding, primarily occurring in remote areas of Central and West Africa
13. The teacher's _____ demeanor helped ease the students' nerves before the exam.
- adj.* mild, merciful, or forgiving in temperament or actions; lenient
14. The team's _____ led to their defeat, as they didn't put in the effort needed to win the game.
- n.* a feeling of self-satisfaction or contentment, often resulting in a lack of motivation to improve or address problems

ANSWERS: 8. misinformation, 9. heartbreak, 10. complacent, 11. escalated, 12. Ebola, 13. clement, 14. complacency

15. The city _____ with traffic on holiday.

v. to be abuzz; to move in large numbers; to fall heavily

16. The economic recession caused _____ in the housing market, with many people losing their homes.

n. the act of causing great destruction or damage, often on a large scale

17. She felt sick and had to run to the bathroom to _____.

v. to eject food, blood, etc., from the stomach through the mouth; (noun) the matter ejected from the stomach through the mouth

18. The company's sales have _____ expectations for the quarter.

v. to exceed or surpass a particular, measurable quality or attribute, such as speed, efficiency, or quality

19. The _____ in the city have left many buildings damaged and several people injured.

n. a violent disturbance of the peace by a crowd, characterized by destruction of property, looting, arson, and attacks on individuals

20. The company hired a new advertising agency to _____ its marketing efforts.

v. to support or strengthen, often by adding extra assistance or resources

21. Doctors made mistakes, and diseases remained _____.

adj. not perceived or discovered

22. We strive not to _____ the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

ANSWERS: 15. teems, 16. devastation, 17. vomit, 18. outstripped, 19. riots, 20. bolster, 21. undetected, 22. contaminate

23. She showed _____ loyalty to her friend through thick and thin.
adj. not changing or becoming weaker in any way; remaining steadily fixed or resolute in purpose or commitment
24. Tourists frequently _____ the island's delicate natural balance.
v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
25. Paris is a romantic _____ famous for its art, fashion, and cuisine.
n. a large and densely populated city, typically the most important city or the capital of a country or region; a major center of commerce, culture, and activity
26. It's important to _____ other people's opinions and not dismiss them without consideration.
v. to make something worthy of respect or honor; to elevate or give importance to something that may otherwise be considered insignificant
27. The accident scene was _____ with bodies and debris scattered everywhere.
adj. causing horror or disgust; gruesome and terrifying
28. The patient's health _____ rapidly after being diagnosed with the disease.
v. to become worse in quality; to decline or degenerate
29. There is plenty of space to _____ everyone.
v. to place a dead body in the ground, grave, or tomb
30. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.
adj. very frightening or intimidating

ANSWERS: 23. unwavering, 24. disturb, 25. metropolis, 26. dignify, 27. horrific, 28. deteriorated, 29. bury, 30. terrifying

31. Detectives are still attempting to _____ the mystery of his death.
v. undo twisted, knitted, or woven threads by separating it
32. His _____ illness made it difficult for him to leave the house.
adj. weakening or damaging; causing a loss of strength, energy, or success
33. It would be best not to _____ your associates into doing complex tasks.
v. to frighten someone very much
34. The jailbroken criminal is continuously attempting to _____ the cops.
v. to escape from or avoid meeting someone or something

ANSWERS: 31. unravel, 32. debilitating, 33. terrify, 34. evade