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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Simon Stiell: Climate action is on the cusp of exponential growth | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

explode

v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

synonym: detonate, blast, rupture

(1) **explode** in anger, (2) **explode** in popularity

The old building **exploded** in a fiery inferno.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

synonym: surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict
Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

comprehend

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
synonym: understand, grasp, apprehend

(1) **comprehend** English, (2) **comprehend** instructions

She struggled to **comprehend** complex math problems.

apartheid

n. a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors

synonym: segregation, discrimination, oppression

(1) **apartheid** system, (2) **apartheid** policies

The South African government enforced **apartheid** laws that segregated people based on race.

halve

v. to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size

synonym: reduce by half, cut in half, split

(1) **halve** the price, (2) **halve** the workload

I need to **halve** the recipe to make just enough for two people.

catastrophic

adj. extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

synonym: fatal, disastrous, destructive

(1) victim of **catastrophic** injuries, (2) **catastrophic** climate change

The extinction rate of aquatic animals was **catastrophic**.

stocktake

n. the process of counting and evaluating the items in a store's inventory; (verb) to take inventory or assess the amount and condition of goods or merchandise typically done in a business or organizational setting

synonym: inventory, audit, check

(1) **stocktake** inventory, (2) annual **stocktake**

Despite technological advancements, some businesses still prefer a manual **stocktake** to ensure accuracy.

custodian

n. a person who is responsible for the care and maintenance of a building, institution, or collection; a guardian or keeper of something valuable or important

synonym: caretaker, keeper, guardian

(1) **custodian** bank, (2) **custodian** of the records

The school **custodian** worked tirelessly to keep the building clean and maintained for the students and faculty.

dither

v. to be indecisive or unsure about something; to tremble or shake with nervousness or excitement

synonym: hesitate, waver, vacillate

(1) **dither** over a decision, (2) **dither** in negotiations

I couldn't decide what to wear to the party, so I **dithered** over my outfit for hours.

indecision

n. the inability to make a decision; a state of uncertainty or hesitation

synonym: hesitation, vacillation, ambivalence

(1) **indecision** syndrome, (2) career **indecision**

The manager's **indecision** caused delays in the project.

inaction

n. the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed

synonym: idleness, passivity, inertia

(1) excuse for **inaction**, (2) consequences of **inaction**

Inaction in response to climate change poses a dire threat to our future.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. p__e a smoother road
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
2. ind_____on syndrome
n. the inability to make a decision; a state of uncertainty or hesitation
3. st_____ke inventory
n. the process of counting and evaluating the items in a store's inventory; (verb) to take inventory or assess the amount and condition of goods or merchandise typically done in a business or organizational setting
4. consequences of in_____on
n. the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
5. ex_____e in anger
v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
6. cu_____an bank
n. a person who is responsible for the care and maintenance of a building, institution, or collection; a guardian or keeper of something valuable or important
7. ap_____id system
n. a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors

ANSWERS: 1. pave, 2. indecision, 3. stocktake, 4. inaction, 5. explode, 6. custodian, 7. apartheid

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|-----------------------------|----|---|
| 8. com_____nd English | v. | to understand the nature or meaning of something fully |
| 9. di___r in negotiations | v. | to be indecisive or unsure about something; to tremble or shake with nervousness or excitement |
| 10. com_____nd instructions | v. | to understand the nature or meaning of something fully |
| 11. career ind_____on | n. | the inability to make a decision; a state of uncertainty or hesitation |
| 12. mo_____ze cooperation | v. | to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose |
| 13. ha__e the price | v. | to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size |
| 14. mo_____ze a stiff joint | v. | to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose |
| 15. annual st_____ke | n. | the process of counting and evaluating the items in a store's inventory; (verb) to take inventory or assess the amount and condition of goods or merchandise typically done in a business or organizational setting |
| 16. ap_____id policies | n. | a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors |

ANSWERS: 8. comprehend, 9. dither, 10. comprehend, 11. indecision, 12. mobilize, 13. halve, 14. mobilize, 15. stocktake, 16. apartheid

17. ha__e the workload *v.* to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size
18. p__e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
19. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
20. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
21. ex_____e in popularity *v.* to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open
22. cu_____an of the records *n.* a person who is responsible for the care and maintenance of a building, institution, or collection; a guardian or keeper of something valuable or important
23. di___r over a decision *v.* to be indecisive or unsure about something; to tremble or shake with nervousness or excitement
24. excuse for in_____on *n.* the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed
25. victim of cat_____hic injuries *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
26. cat_____hic climate change *adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction

ANSWERS: 17. halve, 18. pave, 19. smartphone, 20. smartphone, 21. explode, 22. custodian, 23. dither, 24. inaction, 25. catastrophic, 26. catastrophic

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

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

2. The old building _____ in a fiery inferno.
 - v. to burst or break open violently and noisily; to cause something to burst or break open

3. I couldn't decide what to wear to the party, so I _____ over my outfit for hours.
 - v. to be indecisive or unsure about something; to tremble or shake with nervousness or excitement

4. I need to _____ the recipe to make just enough for two people.
 - v. to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size

5. The manager's _____ caused delays in the project.
 - n. the inability to make a decision; a state of uncertainty or hesitation

6. Despite technological advancements, some businesses still prefer a manual _____ to ensure accuracy.
 - n. the process of counting and evaluating the items in a store's inventory; (verb) to take inventory or assess the amount and condition of goods or merchandise typically done in a business or organizational setting

7. _____ in response to climate change poses a dire threat to our future.
 - n. the lack of action or activity; the state of not doing anything; the failure to take action when action is needed

ANSWERS: 1. mobilized, 2. exploded, 3. dithered, 4. halve, 5. indecision, 6. stocktake, 7. Inaction

8. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
- n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
9. The South African government enforced _____ laws that segregated people based on race.
- n.* a system of racial segregation and discrimination that was enforced in South Africa from 1948 to 1994; any similar system of discrimination or segregation based on race, ethnicity, or other factors
10. She struggled to _____ complex math problems.
- v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
11. The school _____ worked tirelessly to keep the building clean and maintained for the students and faculty.
- n.* a person who is responsible for the care and maintenance of a building, institution, or collection; a guardian or keeper of something valuable or important
12. The extinction rate of aquatic animals was _____.
- adj.* extremely harmful; causing physical or financial destruction
13. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
- v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

ANSWERS: 8. smartphones, 9. apartheid, 10. comprehend, 11. custodian, 12. catastrophic, 13. paved