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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jeremy Heimans: What new power looks like | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

tweak

v. to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely

synonym: nip, pinch, fine-tune

(1) **tweak** his cheek, (2) **tweak** the economy

He didn't **tweak** the plan, even though he had time.

nod

v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym: respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **nodded** quietly in response to the question.

resemblance

n. similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details

synonym: closeness, likeness, similarity

(1) striking **resemblance**, (2) faint **resemblance**

The **resemblance** between Anna and her mother was astonishing.

traipse

v. to walk or move casually or without urgency; to wander aimlessly or leisurely; to go on foot with little purpose or direction

synonym: wander, roam, meander

(1) **traipse** around town, (2) **traipse** through the woods
I decided to **traipse** through the muddy field to get a better view of the sunset.

gulf *n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
synonym: chasm, divide, abyss
(1) **gulf** war, (2) **gulf** stream
The **Gulf** of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.

intercontinental *adj.* relating to or occurring between continents, usually referring to travel, communication, or transport
synonym: transoceanic, transcontinental, global
(1) **intercontinental** phone call, (2) **intercontinental** ballistic missile
The airline offers **intercontinental** flights to destinations around the world.

unsurprising *adj.* not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
synonym: predictable, expected, foreseeable
(1) **unsurprising** success, (2) **unsurprising** result
The **unsurprising** outcome of the election was a victory for the incumbent candidate.

sputter *v.* to emit or make a series of explosive popping or spitting sounds; to speak quickly or in a confused or agitated manner; to work or operate in an erratic or uneven manner
synonym: cough, spit, splutter
(1) **sputter** into silence, (2) **sputter** due to lack of fuel
The car's engine began to **sputter** as it ran out of gas.

cofounder *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business

(1) **cofounder** of the university, (2) late **cofounder**
He is the **cofounder** and chairman of this tech company.

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.

deterministic

adj. characterized by an assumption of cause and effect and the absence of chance or randomness, often used to describe scientific or engineering calculations

synonym : predictable, predetermined, certain

(1) **deterministic** approach, (2) **deterministic** system

The **deterministic** algorithm always produces the same result for a given input.

disrupt

v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance

synonym : interrupt, disturb, break into

(1) **disrupt** a well-ordered condition, (2) **disrupt** sleep

I'm so sorry to **disrupt** you when you're pretty busy.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym : diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

dictator

n. a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force

synonym : autocrat, tyrant, despot

(1) military **dictator**, (2) a **dictator** with enormous powers

A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the **dictator**.

normative

adj. setting, constituting, or relating to a standard or norm; prescribing or advocating a standard of correctness or right behavior

synonym : standard, conventional, usual

(1) **normative** behavior, (2) **normative** standards

The **normative** approach to morality focuses on what is considered socially acceptable behavior.

distort

v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear

synonym : fudge, deform, contort

(1) **distort** the facts, (2) **distort** the economy

Economists contend that taxes **distort** consumer behavior in general.

victor

n. one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.

synonym : winner, conqueror, champion

(1) **victor** country, (2) the outright **victor**

The **victor** of the race was the favorite to win.

exile

n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons

synonym : banishment, expulsion, deportation

(1) **exile** community, (2) political **exile**

The **exiled** king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.

prosper

v. to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish

synonym : thrive, flourish, succeed

(1) **prosper** in the long run, (2) **prosper** as a trading hub

With careful planning and hard work, she was able to **prosper** in her new business venture.

embolden

v. to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief

synonym: encourage, inspire, empower

(1) **embolden** the opposition, (2) **embolden** a country's leadership

She was **emboldened** by her success and decided to take on a more significant challenge.

engender

v. to make a feeling or situation exist; to cause or give rise to

synonym: beget, spawn, generate

(1) **engender** a crisis, (2) **engender** the trust

The discussion about war helps **engender** a sense of shared humanity.

eschew

v. to deliberately avoid or abstain from something; to keep away from or shun a particular action, habit, or behavior

synonym: avoid, shun, abstain

(1) **eschew** violence, (2) **eschew** alcohol

I decided to **eschew** fast food and opt for healthier, home-cooked meals.

descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

synonym: dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

Wikipedia

n. an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics

synonym: online encyclopedia, webpedia

(1) **Wikipedia** entry, (2) **Wikipedia** article

Not all teachers accept citing **Wikipedia** as a valid source for academic papers.

skeptic

n. a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion

or the supernatural

synonym : doubter, disbeliever, questioner

(1) an ingrained **skeptic**, (2) climate **skeptic**

He was a **skeptic** who doubted the existence of supernatural phenomena.

nascent

adj. in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed

synonym : emerging, developing, budding

(1) **nascent** industry, (2) **nascent** idea

The company was still **nascent** and had much growing to do.

meme

n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

synonym : buzzword, trend

(1) pronounce **meme**, (2) religious **meme**

This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet **meme**.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym : formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

Session 2: Spelling

1. int_____tal phone call
adj. relating to or occurring between continents, usually referring to travel, communication, or transport
2. tr_____e around town
v. to walk or move casually or without urgency; to wander aimlessly or leisurely; to go on foot with little purpose or direction
3. co_____er of the university
n. one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
4. Wi_____ia article
n. an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
5. es_____w violence
v. to deliberately avoid or abstain from something; to keep away from or shun a particular action, habit, or behavior
6. an ingrained sk_____c
n. a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
7. faint res_____ce
n. similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
8. en_____er the trust
v. to make a feeling or situation exist; to cause or give rise to
9. ind_____us student
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

ANSWERS: 1. intercontinental, 2. traipse, 3. cofounder, 4. Wikipedia, 5. eschew, 6. skeptic, 7. resemblance, 8. engender, 9. industrious

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 10. vi___r country | <i>n.</i> one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc. |
| 11. striking res_____ce | <i>n.</i> similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details |
| 12. a di_____or with enormous powers | <i>n.</i> a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force |
| 13. em_____en a country's leadership | <i>v.</i> to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief |
| 14. em_____en the opposition | <i>v.</i> to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief |
| 15. pr_____r in the long run | <i>v.</i> to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish |
| 16. de_____d by elevator | <i>v.</i> to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood |
| 17. det_____tic approach | <i>adj.</i> characterized by an assumption of cause and effect and the absence of chance or randomness, often used to describe scientific or engineering calculations |
| 18. the outright vi___r | <i>n.</i> one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc. |
| 19. mo_____ze cooperation | <i>v.</i> to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose |

ANSWERS: 10. victor, 11. resemblance, 12. dictator, 13. embolden, 14. embolden, 15. prosper, 16. descend, 17. deterministic, 18. victor, 19. mobilize

20. ex__e community *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
21. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
22. di_____t the facts *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
23. de_____d a steep hill *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
24. es___w alcohol *v.* to deliberately avoid or abstain from something; to keep away from or shun a particular action, habit, or behavior
25. no_____ve standards *adj.* setting, constituting, or relating to a standard or norm; prescribing or advocating a standard of correctness or right behavior
26. late co_____er *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
27. g__f stream *n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
28. na_____t idea *adj.* in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed
29. pr_____r as a trading hub *v.* to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish

ANSWERS: 20. exile, 21. institutionalize, 22. distort, 23. descend, 24. eschew, 25. normative, 26. cofounder, 27. gulf, 28. nascent, 29. prosper

30. di____t a well-ordered condition *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
31. g__f war *n.* a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
32. mo____ze a stiff joint *v.* to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
33. di____t the economy *v.* to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
34. sp____r into silence *v.* to emit or make a series of explosive popping or spitting sounds; to speak quickly or in a confused or agitated manner; to work or operate in an erratic or uneven manner
35. na____t industry *adj.* in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed
36. ind____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
37. tw__k the economy *v.* to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely
38. tr____e through the woods *v.* to walk or move casually or without urgency; to wander aimlessly or leisurely; to go on foot with little purpose or direction
39. n_d courteously *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

ANSWERS: 30. disrupt, 31. gulf, 32. mobilize, 33. distort, 34. sputter, 35. nascent, 36. industrious, 37. tweak, 38. traipse, 39. nod

40. Wi_____ia entry *n.* an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
41. religious m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online
42. int_____tal ballistic missile *adj.* relating to or occurring between continents, usually referring to travel, communication, or transport
43. en_____er a crisis *v.* to make a feeling or situation exist; to cause or give rise to
44. no_____ve behavior *adj.* setting, constituting, or relating to a standard or norm; prescribing or advocating a standard of correctness or right behavior
45. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
46. n_d at each other *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
47. tw__k his cheek *v.* to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely

ANSWERS: 40. Wikipedia, 41. meme, 42. intercontinental, 43. engender, 44. normative, 45. institutionalize, 46. nod, 47. tweak

48. climate sk____c *n.* a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
49. political ex__e *n.* the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
50. di____t sleep *v.* to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
51. uns_____ing result *adj.* not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
52. uns_____ing success *adj.* not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted
53. det_____tic system *adj.* characterized by an assumption of cause and effect and the absence of chance or randomness, often used to describe scientific or engineering calculations
54. military di____or *n.* a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
55. pronounce m__e *n.* a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

ANSWERS: 48. skeptic, 49. exile, 50. disrupt, 51. unsurprising, 52. unsurprising, 53. deterministic, 54. dictator, 55. meme

56. sp____r due to lack of fuel

v. to emit or make a series of explosive popping or spitting sounds; to speak quickly or in a confused or agitated manner; to work or operate in an erratic or uneven manner

ANSWERS: 56. sputter

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. This cute dog's photo spread around the world as an Internet _____.
n. a cultural idea, value, or pattern of behavior that is passed from one generation to another by imitation rather than genetic means; (as an Internet meme) an image, a video, a piece of text, etc. that is remixed, copied, and circulated in a shared cultural experience online

2. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

3. The _____ algorithm always produces the same result for a given input.
adj. characterized by an assumption of cause and effect and the absence of chance or randomness, often used to describe scientific or engineering calculations

4. I decided to _____ through the muddy field to get a better view of the sunset.
v. to walk or move casually or without urgency; to wander aimlessly or leisurely; to go on foot with little purpose or direction

5. The _____ outcome of the election was a victory for the incumbent candidate.
adj. not surprising, and what was expected; able to be predicted

6. The _____ approach to morality focuses on what is considered socially acceptable behavior.
adj. setting, constituting, or relating to a standard or norm; prescribing or advocating a standard of correctness or right behavior

ANSWERS: 1. meme, 2. institutionalize, 3. deterministic, 4. traipse, 5. unsurprising, 6. normative

7. The airline offers _____ flights to destinations around the world.
adj. relating to or occurring between continents, usually referring to travel, communication, or transport
8. The _____ between Anna and her mother was astonishing.
n. similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
9. A popular uprising led to the overthrow of the _____.
n. a political leader who has complete power over a country, especially one who has obtained control by force
10. With careful planning and hard work, she was able to _____ in her new business venture.
v. to be successful or thriving, especially financially; to grow and develop well; to flourish
11. I'm so sorry to _____ you when you're pretty busy.
v. to prevent or stop something, especially an event, activity, or process, from continuing in the usual way by causing a problem or disturbance
12. The _____ of the race was the favorite to win.
n. one who wins a game, competition, election, war, etc.
13. The military _____ troops to the border.
v. to make something ready for action or use; to organize people or resources for a particular purpose
14. The discussion about war helps _____ a sense of shared humanity.
v. to make a feeling or situation exist; to cause or give rise to

ANSWERS: 7. intercontinental, 8. resemblance, 9. dictator, 10. prosper, 11. disrupt, 12. victor, 13. mobilized, 14. engender

15. The _____ of Mexico is a body of water in the southern United States.
n. a large ocean inlet or deep bay that is partially enclosed by land
16. She was _____ from an old Italian noble family.
v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
17. The _____ king lived in poverty in a foreign country for many years.
n. the state of being forced to leave one's country or home, typically for political or punitive reasons
18. I decided to _____ fast food and opt for healthier, home-cooked meals.
v. to deliberately avoid or abstain from something; to keep away from or shun a particular action, habit, or behavior
19. He didn't _____ the plan, even though he had time.
v. to pinch or squeeze something sharply; to adjust something finely
20. The company was still _____ and had much growing to do.
adj. in the process of emerging, becoming apparent, or coming into existence; recently formed or developed
21. Not all teachers accept citing _____ as a valid source for academic papers.
n. an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
22. The car's engine began to _____ as it ran out of gas.
v. to emit or make a series of explosive popping or spitting sounds; to speak quickly or in a confused or agitated manner; to work or operate in an erratic or uneven manner

ANSWERS: 15. Gulf, 16. descended, 17. exiled, 18. eschew, 19. tweak, 20. nascent, 21. Wikipedia, 22. sputter

23. He was a _____ who doubted the existence of supernatural phenomena.
n. a person who doubts or questions the truth of specific claims, beliefs, or doctrines, especially those in religion or the supernatural
24. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
25. He is the _____ and chairman of this tech company.
n. one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
26. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
27. Economists contend that taxes _____ consumer behavior in general.
v. to change something's shape, appearance, or sound so that it appears weird or unclear
28. She was _____ by her success and decided to take on a more significant challenge.
v. to give courage or confidence to someone; to make someone feel brave or empowered; to strengthen or reinforce a position or belief

ANSWERS: 23. skeptic, 24. nodded, 25. cofounder, 26. industrious, 27. distort, 28. emboldened