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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ron McCallum: How technology allowed me to read | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

darling

n. a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear

synonym: sweetheart, beloved, dear

(1) have a **darling** baby, (2) medium **darling**

My **darling** child, I love you so much.

fibrosis

n. the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure

synonym: scarring, hardening, fibrotic disease

(1) **fibrosis** diagnosis, (2) pulmonary **fibrosis**

The doctor diagnosed him with cardiac **fibrosis**, which put him at risk for heart failure.

prim

adj. excessively proper or formal in behavior, appearance, or dress; precise or meticulous in a fastidious or overbearing manner

synonym: neat, proper, demure

(1) **prim** etiquette, (2) **prim** behavior

She always wears **prim** and proper attire to important business meetings.

Braille

n. a system of raised dots that are used by people who are blind or visually impaired to read and write consisting of one to six dots arranged in a specific pattern that represents letters, numbers, punctuation, and other symbols

(1) **Braille** alphabet, (2) **Braille** system

The museum provided **Braille** labels for visually impaired visitors.

ingenious

adj. showing inventiveness and ability or skill

synonym: creative, innovative, inventive

(1) **ingenious** device, (2) **ingenious** idea

I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so **ingenious**.

morrow

n. the next day, or tomorrow:

synonym: future, tomorrow, dawn

(1) on the **morrow**, (2) take thought for the **morrow**

Seize the present day, trusting the **morrow** as little as may be.

transcribe

v. to copy or reproduce something in written or printed form; to translate spoken language into written text

synonym: copy, record, transliterate

(1) **transcribe** notes, (2) **transcribe** documents

She needs to **transcribe** the interview recording to write the article for the magazine.

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.

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.

surrogate

adj. acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose

synonym: substitute, replacement, deputy

(1) **surrogate** pregnancy, (2) **surrogate** decision

The **surrogate** mother gave birth to a healthy baby for the couple who couldn't conceive independently.

blacksmith

n. a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil

(1) **blacksmith** welding, (2) **blacksmith** shop

The **blacksmith** shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.

synthesizer

n. an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds

synonym: sampler, sequencer, module

(1) **synthesizer** bass, (2) music **synthesizer**

The electronic **synthesizer** created a range of unique sounds for the music.

typewriter

n. a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over

(1) **typewriter** keys, (2) electronic **typewriter**

I found an old **typewriter** at a thrift store and used it to write my novel.

flatbed

n. a type of truck or trailer with an open, flat platform for carrying cargo or equipment; a type of scanner or printer that uses a flat, stationary surface to capture or print

images

synonym : platform, truck bed, deck

(1) **flatbed** printing, (2) **flatbed** scanner

The construction workers used a **flatbed** truck to transport the heavy materials.

professorship

n. a university lecturer of the highest rank, or the position of it

synonym : chair, fellowship

(1) land a **professorship** at the university, (2) visiting **professorship**

His next goal is a full **professorship**.

censor

n. a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information

synonym : suppressor, scrutineer, examiner

(1) **censor** a book, (2) **censor** a TV program

The newspaper editor decided to **censor** the controversial headline to avoid backlash.

motorbike

n. a lightweight, two-wheeled vehicle with an engine designed for use on roads; also known as a motorcycle

synonym : motorcycle, bike, two-wheeler

(1) **motorbike** ride, (2) stolen **motorbike**

She identified the **motorbike** thief using the CCTV footage.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym : captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young

The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

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**.

manliness

n. the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with being a man, such as strength, courage, physical prowess, honor, and assertiveness

synonym: masculinity, virility, strength

(1) **manliness** qualities, (2) traditional **manliness**

Growing a beard has long been associated with **manliness** in many cultures.

predate

v. to have existed or happened earlier than something

synonym: foredate, antedate, precede

(1) **predate** A.D. 200., (2) **predate** the modern age

The idea of virtual worlds **predates** computers.

daisy

n. a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead

synonym: marguerite, bellis, chrysanthemum

(1) **daisy** chain, (2) lawn **daisy**

She picked a blue **daisy** from the meadow and placed it in her hair.

racy

adj. having an exciting or provocative quality; lively and entertaining, often with a sexual or scandalous connotation

synonym: spicy, rich, suggestive

(1) **racy** talker, (2) **racy** humor

The author's **racy** writing style added excitement to the novel.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. have a da____g baby | <i>n.</i> a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear |
| 2. syn_____er bass | <i>n.</i> an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds |
| 3. visiting pro_____hip | <i>n.</i> a university lecturer of the highest rank, or the position of it |
| 4. ce___r a book | <i>n.</i> a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information |
| 5. fa_____te the young | <i>v.</i> to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly |
| 6. mo_____ke ride | <i>n.</i> a lightweight, two-wheeled vehicle with an engine designed for use on roads; also known as a motorcycle |
| 7. medium da____g | <i>n.</i> a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear |
| 8. lawn da__y | <i>n.</i> a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead |
| 9. bla_____th welding | <i>n.</i> a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil |

ANSWERS: 1. darling, 2. synthesizer, 3. professorship, 4. censor, 5. fascinate, 6. motorbike, 7. darling, 8. daisy, 9. blacksmith

10. da__y chain *n.* a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead
11. tra_____be documents *v.* to copy or reproduce something in written or printed form; to translate spoken language into written text
12. fa_____te the public *v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
13. take thought for the mo___w *n.* the next day, or tomorrow:
14. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
15. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
16. in_____us idea *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
17. fi_____is diagnosis *n.* the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure
18. r__y talker *adj.* having an exciting or provocative quality; lively and entertaining, often with a sexual or scandalous connotation
19. p__m etiquette *adj.* excessively proper or formal in behavior, appearance, or dress; precise or meticulous in a fastidious or overbearing manner

ANSWERS: 10. daisy, 11. transcribe, 12. fascinate, 13. morrow, 14. opportune, 15. smartphone, 16. ingenious, 17. fibrosis, 18. racy, 19. prim

20. bla_____th shop *n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
21. traditional ma_____ss *n.* the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with being a man, such as strength, courage, physical prowess, honor, and assertiveness
22. in_____us device *adj.* showing inventiveness and ability or skill
23. pr_____e A.D. 200. *v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something
24. electronic typ_____er *n.* a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over
25. p__m behavior *adj.* excessively proper or formal in behavior, appearance, or dress; precise or meticulous in a fastidious or overbearing manner
26. r__y humor *adj.* having an exciting or provocative quality; lively and entertaining, often with a sexual or scandalous connotation
27. on the mo___w *n.* the next day, or tomorrow:
28. Br_____e system *n.* a system of raised dots that are used by people who are blind or visually impaired to read and write consisting of one to six dots arranged in a specific pattern that represents letters, numbers, punctuation, and other symbols

ANSWERS: 20. blacksmith, 21. manliness, 22. ingenious, 23. predate, 24. typewriter, 25. prim, 26. racy, 27. morrow, 28. Braille

29. ce___r a TV program *n.* a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information
30. 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
31. land a pro_____hip at the university *n.* a university lecturer of the highest rank, or the position of it
32. pr_____e the modern age *v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something
33. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
34. Br_____e alphabet *n.* a system of raised dots that are used by people who are blind or visually impaired to read and write consisting of one to six dots arranged in a specific pattern that represents letters, numbers, punctuation, and other symbols
35. ma_____ss qualities *n.* the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with being a man, such as strength, courage, physical prowess, honor, and assertiveness
36. music syn_____er *n.* an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds

ANSWERS: 29. censor, 30. dedicate, 31. professorship, 32. predate, 33. opportune, 34. Braille, 35. manliness, 36. synthesizer

37. stolen mo_____ke *n.* a lightweight, two-wheeled vehicle with an engine designed for use on roads; also known as a motorcycle
38. fl_____d printing *n.* a type of truck or trailer with an open, flat platform for carrying cargo or equipment; a type of scanner or printer that uses a flat, stationary surface to capture or print images
39. su_____te pregnancy *adj.* acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose
40. typ_____er keys *n.* a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over
41. tra_____be notes *v.* to copy or reproduce something in written or printed form; to translate spoken language into written text
42. fl_____d scanner *n.* a type of truck or trailer with an open, flat platform for carrying cargo or equipment; a type of scanner or printer that uses a flat, stationary surface to capture or print images
43. su_____te decision *adj.* acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose
44. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

ANSWERS: 37. motorbike, 38. flatbed, 39. surrogate, 40. typewriter, 41. transcribe, 42. flatbed, 43. surrogate, 44. smartphone

45. 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

46. pulmonary fi____is

n. the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure

ANSWERS: 45. dedicate, 46. fibrosis

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She picked a blue _____ from the meadow and placed it in her hair.
 - n.* a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead

2. The electronic _____ created a range of unique sounds for the music.
 - n.* an electronic musical instrument that generates audio signals and is used to create a wide range of sounds, from imitations of traditional instruments to entirely new sounds

3. The construction workers used a _____ truck to transport the heavy materials.
 - n.* a type of truck or trailer with an open, flat platform for carrying cargo or equipment; a type of scanner or printer that uses a flat, stationary surface to capture or print images

4. Seize the present day, trusting the _____ as little as may be.
 - n.* the next day, or tomorrow:

5. She needs to _____ the interview recording to write the article for the magazine.
 - v.* to copy or reproduce something in written or printed form; to translate spoken language into written text

6. The _____ shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.
 - n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil

7. The magic tricks _____ the children.
 - v.* to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

ANSWERS: 1. daisy, 2. synthesizer, 3. flatbed, 4. tomorrow, 5. transcribe, 6. blacksmith, 7. fascinated

8. The museum provided _____ labels for visually impaired visitors.
- n.* a system of raised dots that are used by people who are blind or visually impaired to read and write consisting of one to six dots arranged in a specific pattern that represents letters, numbers, punctuation, and other symbols
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. Growing a beard has long been associated with _____ in many cultures.
- n.* the qualities or attributes traditionally associated with being a man, such as strength, courage, physical prowess, honor, and assertiveness
11. 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
12. She always wears _____ and proper attire to important business meetings.
- adj.* excessively proper or formal in behavior, appearance, or dress; precise or meticulous in a fastidious or overbearing manner
13. She identified the _____ thief using the CCTV footage.
- n.* a lightweight, two-wheeled vehicle with an engine designed for use on roads; also known as a motorcycle
14. My _____ child, I love you so much.
- n.* a term of endearment or affectionate term for someone you love or hold dear
15. The idea of virtual worlds _____ computers.
- v.* to have existed or happened earlier than something

ANSWERS: 8. Braille, 9. opportune, 10. manliness, 11. dedicated, 12. prim, 13. motorbike, 14. darling, 15. predates

16. I always look forward to reading his stories since they're so _____.

adj. showing inventiveness and ability or skill

17. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.

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

18. I found an old _____ at a thrift store and used it to write my novel.

n. a mechanical device used for writing, consisting of type keys that, when pressed, imprint ink onto paper or other writing material, mainly used before modern computers, printers, and word processors took over

19. The doctor diagnosed him with cardiac _____ which put him at risk for heart failure.

n. the formation of excess fibrous connective tissue in an organ or tissue, often associated with inflammation, scarring, or injury; a pathological condition that can affect various organs and tissues of the body, leading to impaired function and potential organ failure

20. The _____ mother gave birth to a healthy baby for the couple who couldn't conceive independently.

adj. acting as a substitute or replacement for someone or something else; having a similar function or purpose

21. The newspaper editor decided to _____ the controversial headline to avoid backlash.

n. a person or institution responsible for examining books, movies, and other forms of media to determine if they are harmful or offensive and should be banned or altered; an official in charge of banning or suppressing information

ANSWERS: 16. ingenious, 17. smartphones, 18. typewriter, 19. fibrosis, 20. surrogate, 21. censor

22. His next goal is a full _____.

n. a university lecturer of the highest rank, or the position of it

23. The author's _____ writing style added excitement to the novel.

adj. having an exciting or provocative quality; lively and entertaining, often with a sexual or scandalous connotation

ANSWERS: 22. professorship, 23. racy