

Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Peter Doolittle: How your "working memory" makes sense of the world | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

This material is a commentary and does not contain any copyrighted material of the reference source. We strongly recommend accessing/buying the reference source at the same time.

Session 1: Word List

multitasking

n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

synonym: juggling, multihandling, parallelism

(1) computer **multitasking**, (2) **multitasking** ability

She could finish all her work on time because of her **multitasking** skills.

mundane

adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement

synonym: ordinary, everyday, prosaic

(1) **mundane** affairs, (2) **mundane** objects

After returning from the war, he had a pretty **mundane** life.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

mumble

v. to speak quietly, unclearly, or in a way that is difficult to understand; to murmur or mutter inarticulately

synonym: murmur, mutter, whisper

(1) **mumble** a reply, (2) **mumble** under your breath

She tended to **mumble** when she was nervous or unsure of herself.

neurological

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

synonym: nervous, neural, brain-related

(1) fever with **neurological** signs, (2) **neurological** symptoms

The patient was diagnosed with a **neurological** disorder affecting their motor skills.

recite

v. to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,

synonym: repeat, replicate, recount

(1) **recite** a charm, (2) **recite** a long list of the article

He could **recite** all of Shakespeare's works.

amorphous

adj. without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless

synonym: formless, shapeless, structureless

(1) **amorphous** amoeba, (2) **amorphous** mass

The clouded jellyfish has an **amorphous** shape, making it difficult to identify.

pea

n. a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable

synonym: legume, bean, pulse

(1) **pea** protein, (2) **pea** family

She shelled the **peas** and added them to the pot.

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 **noded** quietly in response to the question.

sophistication

n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined

synonym : refinement, culture, elegance

(1) cultural **sophistication**, (2) linguistic **sophistication**

The new technology added a level of **sophistication** to the manufacturing process.

Session 2: Spelling

1. am_____us amoeba *adj.* without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless
2. computer mul_____ing *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
3. p_a protein *n.* a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable
4. p_a family *n.* a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable
5. n_d at each other *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
6. n_d courteously *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
7. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
8. cultural sop_____ion *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
9. fever with neu_____cal signs *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

ANSWERS: 1. amorphous, 2. multitasking, 3. pea, 4. pea, 5. nod, 6. nod, 7. storytelling, 8. sophistication, 9. neurological

10. am_____us mass *adj.* without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless
11. mu___e under your breath *v.* to speak quietly, unclearly, or in a way that is difficult to understand; to murmur or mutter inarticulately
12. mu___e a reply *v.* to speak quietly, unclearly, or in a way that is difficult to understand; to murmur or mutter inarticulately
13. linguistic sop_____ion *n.* the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
14. mu_____e affairs *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
15. neu_____cal symptoms *adj.* of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system
16. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
17. mu_____e objects *adj.* very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
18. mul_____ing ability *n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
19. re___e a long list of the article *v.* to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,
20. re___e a charm *v.* to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,

ANSWERS: 10. amorphous, 11. mumble, 12. mumble, 13. sophistication, 14. mundane, 15. neurological, 16. storytelling, 17. mundane, 18. multitasking, 19. recite, 20. recite

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. After returning from the war, he had a pretty _____ life.
adj. very ordinary and therefore lacking interest or excitement
2. He could _____ all of Shakespeare's works.
v. to say a poem, piece of literature, etc. aloud from memory,
3. She could finish all her work on time because of her _____ skills.
n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time
4. The clouded jellyfish has an _____ shape, making it difficult to identify.
adj. without a definite or clear shape or form; lacking a specific structure or organization; shapeless or formless
5. She tended to _____ when she was nervous or unsure of herself.
v. to speak quietly, unclearly, or in a way that is difficult to understand; to murmur or mutter inarticulately
6. The new technology added a level of _____ to the manufacturing process.
n. the quality or state of having a great deal of worldly experience; the quality or state of being intellectually or culturally refined
7. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 1. mundane, 2. recite, 3. multitasking, 4. amorphous, 5. mumble, 6. sophistication, 7. storytelling

8. She shelled the _____ and added them to the pot.

n. a small, round, green vegetable that grows in pods on a climbing plant and is eaten as a vegetable

9. 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

10. The patient was diagnosed with a _____ disorder affecting their motor skills.

adj. of or relating to the science of neurology or the nervous system

ANSWERS: 8. peas, 9. nodded, 10. neurological