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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Thomas Piketty: New thoughts on capital in the twenty-first century | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

converge

v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

synonym: congregate, assemble, concentrate

(1) **converge** of a series, (2) **converge** from different points

The two rivers **converge** into one near this area.

unequal

adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair

synonym: unfair, uneven, imbalanced

(1) **unequal** distribution, (2) **unequal** opportunity

The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly **unequal**.

diffuse

adj. spread out widely; not concentrated in one place

synonym: spread, scatter

(1) **diffuse** bleeding, (2) **diffuse** cloud

Direct lighting is preferable to **diffuse** lighting when reading.

speculate

v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence

synonym: assume, conjecture, infer

(1) **speculate** about the reason, (2) **speculate** on the outcome

He **speculated** that this investment would lead to success.

dynasty

n. a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country

(1) **dynasty** of China, (2) during the Ming **dynasty**

During the Habsburg **dynasty**, colonization began.

prestige

n. respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality

synonym: honor, distinction, reputation

(1) national **prestige**, (2) **prestige** company

The university has great **prestige** in the academic community.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym: intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

perpetuate

v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time

synonym: eternalize, preserve, maintain

(1) **perpetuate** a myth, (2) **perpetuate** chronic pain

That work **perpetuates** his fame.

capita

n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone

synonym: head, headcount, person

(1) per **capita** sales, (2) the agricultural yield per **capita**

GDP per **capita** shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.

postwar

adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies

synonym: subsequent, aftermath

(1) **postwar** years, (2) **postwar** society

The **postwar** period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.

deregulation

n. the process of reducing or removing government regulations and restrictions in a particular industry or sector, often to promote competition and reduce costs

synonym: liberalization

(1) **deregulation** of the economy, (2) aviation **deregulation**

The government's **deregulation** of the telecommunications industry led to increased competition.

billionaire

n. a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars

synonym: mega-rich, wealthy, tycoon

(1) Silicon Valley **billionaire**, (2) oil **billionaire**

The self-made **billionaire** donated millions to charity.

endowment

n. a fund or financial support, either from a charitable organization or from an individual or group of individuals, to support a specific purpose or organization

synonym: fund, gift, donation

(1) education **endowment** insurance, (2) **endowment** gift

The wealthy benefactor's **endowment** helped the university build a new library.

tempting

adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe

synonym: alluring, attractive, inviting

(1) **tempting** offer, (2) sound very **tempting**

The chocolate cake was too **tempting** for me to resist.

expropriate

v. to take away privately owned property or assets, typically by the government, without the owner's consent, often for public use or benefit, and with or without compensation

synonym: seize, confiscate, commandeer

(1) **expropriate** assets, (2) government's power to **expropriate**

The government decided to **expropriate** the land for a new highway.

secrecy

n. the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others

synonym: confidentiality, clandestineness, closeness

(1) government **secrecy**, (2) maintain **secrecy**

The company's **secrecy** surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.

sanction

n. official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement

synonym: approve, authorize, endorse

(1) Imperial **sanction**, (2) popular **sanction**

The government imposed economic **sanctions** on the country.

pragmatic

adj. practical rather than idealistic

synonym: practical, realistic, down-to-earth

(1) **pragmatic** approach, (2) **pragmatic** politics

He was a **pragmatic** leader who made decisions based on what was practical rather than ideal.

opacity

n. the quality or state of being opaque (= not allowing light to pass through); a lack of transparency or clarity in a person's behavior, motives, or communication

synonym: translucency, cloudiness, opaqueness

(1) light **opacity**, (2) **opacity** level

The **opacity** of the company's financial statements raised suspicions of fraud.

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.

accuse

v. to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing

synonym: charge, blame, criticize

(1) **accuse** his rudeness, (2) **accuse** each other

The witness **accused** the defendant of committing the robbery.

stimming

n. a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

synonym: self-stimulation, repetitive behaviors

(1) autistic **stimming**, (2) **stimming** therapy

Autistic children may engage in **stimming** behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.

beaucoup

adj. (a French term often used colloquially in English) a lot or very much

synonym: very much, a lot, many

(1) **beaucoup** compliments, (2) **beaucoup** of experience

With her successful tech start-up, she is now earning **beaucoup** bucks.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. oil bil_____re | <i>n.</i> a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars |
| 2. government se_____y | <i>n.</i> the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others |
| 3. during the Ming dy_____y | <i>n.</i> a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country |
| 4. maintain se_____y | <i>n.</i> the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others |
| 5. pr_____ic approach | <i>adj.</i> practical rather than idealistic |
| 6. ac_____e his rudeness | <i>v.</i> to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing |
| 7. ins_____ize a system | <i>v.</i> to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.) |
| 8. education en_____nt insurance | <i>n.</i> a fund or financial support, either from a charitable organization or from an individual or group of individuals, to support a specific purpose or organization |
| 9. op_____y level | <i>n.</i> the quality or state of being opaque (= not allowing light to pass through); a lack of transparency or clarity in a person's behavior, motives, or communication |

ANSWERS: 1. billionaire, 2. secrecy, 3. dynasty, 4. secrecy, 5. pragmatic, 6. accuse, 7. institutionalize, 8. endowment, 9. opacity

10. per_____te a myth *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
11. sp_____te on the outcome *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
12. en_____nt gift *n.* a fund or financial support, either from a charitable organization or from an individual or group of individuals, to support a specific purpose or organization
13. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
14. dy_____y of China *n.* a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country
15. co_____ge from different points *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
16. am_____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
17. un_____l distribution *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
18. pr_____ic politics *adj.* practical rather than idealistic
19. pr_____ge company *n.* respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality
20. po_____r years *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies

ANSWERS: 10. perpetuate, 11. speculate, 12. endowment, 13. amplify, 14. dynasty, 15. converge, 16. amplify, 17. unequal, 18. pragmatic, 19. prestige, 20. postwar

21. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
22. un_____l opportunity *adj.* different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
23. ac_____e each other *v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
24. be_____up compliments *adj.* (a French term often used colloquially in English) a lot or very much
25. te_____ng offer *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
26. sound very te_____ng *adj.* likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
27. der_____ion of the economy *n.* the process of reducing or removing government regulations and restrictions in a particular industry or sector, often to promote competition and reduce costs
28. be_____up of experience *adj.* (a French term often used colloquially in English) a lot or very much
29. sp_____te about the reason *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
30. co_____ge of a series *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
31. di_____e bleeding *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place

ANSWERS: 21. institutionalize, 22. unequal, 23. accuse, 24. beaucoup, 25. tempting, 26. tempting, 27. deregulation, 28. beaucoup, 29. speculate, 30. converge, 31. diffuse

32. per ca___a sales *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
33. national pr____ge *n.* respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality
34. po____r society *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
35. per____te chronic pain *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
36. government's power to exp____te *v.* to take away privately owned property or assets, typically by the government, without the owner's consent, often for public use or benefit, and with or without compensation
37. st____ng therapy *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
38. autistic st____ng *n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation

ANSWERS: 32. capita, 33. prestige, 34. postwar, 35. perpetuate, 36. expropriate, 37. stimming, 38. stimming

39. Imperial sa____on
40. exp____te assets
41. di____e cloud
42. light op____y
43. Silicon Valley bil____re
44. popular sa____on
- n.* official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement
- v.* to take away privately owned property or assets, typically by the government, without the owner's consent, often for public use or benefit, and with or without compensation
- adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
- n.* the quality or state of being opaque (= not allowing light to pass through); a lack of transparency or clarity in a person's behavior, motives, or communication
- n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
- n.* official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement

ANSWERS: 39. sanction, 40. expropriate, 41. diffuse, 42. opacity, 43. billionaire, 44. sanction

45. the agricultural yield per ca___a *n.* a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
46. aviation der_____ion *n.* the process of reducing or removing government regulations and restrictions in a particular industry or sector, often to promote competition and reduce costs

ANSWERS: 45. capita, 46. deregulation

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The wealthy benefactor's _____ helped the university build a new library.
n. a fund or financial support, either from a charitable organization or from an individual or group of individuals, to support a specific purpose or organization
2. The company's _____ surrounding its new product launch has created consumer excitement and anticipation.
n. the state or quality of being kept hidden or private; the act of keeping something confidential or unknown to others
3. The government imposed economic _____ on the country.
n. official permission or approval for an action, especially an economic or political action by a government or international organization; a penalty or punishment imposed for breaking the law, rule, or agreement; (verb) to impose a penalty or punishment for breaking the law, rule, or agreement
4. The university has great _____ in the academic community.
n. respect and admiration felt or shown for someone or something based on a perception of their achievements or quality
5. The income inequality in the country is becoming increasingly _____.
adj. different in amount, size, degree, or value; not fair
6. That work _____ his fame.
v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time
7. The government's _____ of the telecommunications industry led to increased competition.
n. the process of reducing or removing government regulations and restrictions in a particular industry or sector, often to promote competition and reduce costs

ANSWERS: 1. endowment, 2. secrecy, 3. sanctions, 4. prestige, 5. unequal, 6. perpetuates, 7. deregulation

8. During the Habsburg _____ colonization began.
- n.* a sequence of influential leaders who are all from the same family or a period when they rule a country
9. Autistic children may engage in _____ behaviors, such as rocking or hand flapping, to self-regulate.
- n.* a behavior often exhibited by individuals on the autism spectrum characterized by repetitive bodily movements or sounds, such as hand flapping or rocking, often used as a form of self-regulation or sensory stimulation
10. You might need to _____ this point.
- v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
11. The witness _____ the defendant of committing the robbery.
- v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
12. He was a _____ leader who made decisions based on what was practical rather than ideal.
- adj.* practical rather than idealistic
13. The government decided to _____ the land for a new highway.
- v.* to take away privately owned property or assets, typically by the government, without the owner's consent, often for public use or benefit, and with or without compensation
14. The self-made _____ donated millions to charity.
- n.* a person who has a net worth of at least one billion dollars
15. The two rivers _____ into one near this area.
- v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

ANSWERS: 8. dynasty, 9. stimming, 10. amplify, 11. accused, 12. pragmatic, 13. expropriate, 14. billionaire, 15. converge

16. GDP per _____ shrunk by almost 10 percent for the third consecutive year.
n. a Latin word meaning "head," used to express the amount for each person; any head or headlike expansion on a structure, as on a bone
17. The chocolate cake was too _____ for me to resist.
adj. likely to attract or persuade someone to do something, especially something that may not be wise or safe
18. The _____ period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.
adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
19. The _____ of the company's financial statements raised suspicions of fraud.
n. the quality or state of being opaque (= not allowing light to pass through); a lack of transparency or clarity in a person's behavior, motives, or communication
20. He _____ that this investment would lead to success.
v. to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
21. Direct lighting is preferable to _____ lighting when reading.
adj. spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
22. With her successful tech start-up, she is now earning _____ bucks.
adj. (a French term often used colloquially in English) a lot or very much
23. 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.)

ANSWERS: 16. capita, 17. tempting, 18. postwar, 19. opacity, 20. speculated, 21. diffuse, 22. beaucoup, 23. institutionalize

ANSWERS: