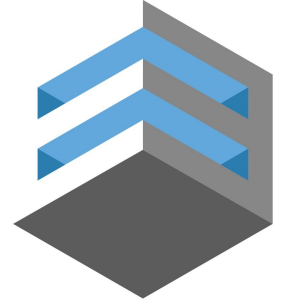


Englist.me



Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kwame Anthony Appiah: Is religion good or bad?

(This is a trick question) | TED Talk

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

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

subtitle

n. a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language

synonym : caption, heading, inscription

(1) chart **subtitle**, (2) foreign-language **subtitle**

Make sure to turn on **subtitles** so you can understand the foreign film.

rabbi

n. a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher

synonym : clergyman, priest, teacher

(1) son of a **rabbi**, (2) the city's communal **rabbi**

The chief **rabbi** chanted a prayer.

indifferent

adj. having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral

synonym : apathetic, disinterested, unmoved

(1) an **indifferent** glance, (2) emotionally **indifferent**

Despite the good news, she remained **indifferent** to the situation.

preposterous

adj. absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason or common sense

synonym : ridiculous, absurd, nonsensical

(1) **preposterous** claim, (2) **preposterous** price

The idea that aliens built the pyramids is **preposterous**.

purported

adj. claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated

synonym : alleged, claimed, supposed

(1) **purported** evidence, (2) **purported** biography

The **purported** benefits of the new product were not supported by research.

anthropology

n. the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

(1) social **anthropology**, (2) **anthropology** of religion

The areas of **anthropology** and psychology are significantly related to one another.

animism

n. the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world

synonym : spirit worship, anthropomorphism, paganism

(1) traditional **animism**, (2) **animism** practices

The belief that objects have spirits is a central tenet of **animism**.

tuff

adj. (an informal variant spelling of "tough") resilient, durable, or strong; having a rough or rugged appearance; (noun, of geology) a type of rock that's made up of volcanic ash ejected from a vent during a volcanic eruption

synonym : tough, durable, rugged

(1) **tuff** fabric, (2) igneous **tuff**

The hiker climbed the **tuff** hill with great difficulty.

Jewish

adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism

synonym: Judaic

(1) **Jewish** history, (2) **Jewish** culture

My friend is a **Jewish** woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.

counterintuitive

adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

synonym: unreasonable, paradoxical, nonsensical

(1) **counterintuitive** results, (2) **counterintuitive** behavior

The **counterintuitive** nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

atheist

n. a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities

synonym: nonbeliever, unbeliever, secularist

(1) **atheist** community, (2) **atheist** belief

She was an **atheist** without any belief in a higher power.

atheistic

adj. pertaining to or characterized by atheism, which is the belief or doctrine that there is no God or higher power

synonym: godless, nonreligious, irreligious

(1) **atheistic** beliefs, (2) **atheistic** approach

The author's **atheistic** views were evident in her writing, where she denounced the existence of a higher power.

purport

v. to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication

synonym: claim, allege, assert

(1) **purport** to answer the question, (2) the main **purport** of his speech

The document **purports** to have been signed by the president, but the signature is a forgery.

contentious

adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue

synonym : antagonistic, combative, confrontational

(1) **contentious** subject, (2) **contentious** debate

There are many **contentious** issues in claiming a patent.

Christ

n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity

synonym : Savior, Jesus Christ, Jesus

(1) teaching of **Christ**, (2) before **Christ**

Christmas is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.

infidelity

n. the quality or state of being unfaithful, especially having sex with someone who is not your partner

synonym : disloyalty, adultery, affair

(1) alleged **infidelity**, (2) act of **infidelity**

She forgave him for his **infidelity**.

intellect

n. the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

synonym : mind, brightness, cleverness

(1) enrich my **intellect**, (2) human **intellect**

Your **intellect** is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

genesis

n. the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind

synonym : beginning, creation, provenance

(1) the **genesis** of civilization, (2) in the Book of **Genesis**

The politician's remarks became the **genesis** of the clash between the two countries.

constrain

v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something

synonym : restrict, limit, confine

(1) **constrain** his freedom, (2) **constrain** information flow
The political situation **constrained** the country's economic growth and foreign relations.

ancestor

n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
synonym: forebear, forefather, progenitor

(1) **ancestor** language, (2) earliest human **ancestor**
My remote **ancestor** immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.

whiskey

n. a type of distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grains, typically barley, corn, rye, or wheat, aged in barrels and often consumed straight or with mixers

synonym: bourbon, scotch, rye

(1) bootleg **whiskey**, (2) **whiskey** barrel

I enjoy a glass of **whiskey** on the rocks after a long day.

ceremonial

adj. of or relating to a ceremony (= a formal event performed on a special occasion) or ritual, especially a formal or elaborate one

synonym: ritual, formal, solemn

(1) wear a **ceremonial** dress, (2) **ceremonial** speech

The wedding was a grand **ceremonial** occasion with many traditional elements.

ancestral

adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past

synonym: hereditary, inherited, patrimonial

(1) an **ancestral** graveyard, (2) **ancestral** roots

The **ancestral** home has been in the family for generations.

groom

v. to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat; (noun, also "bridegroom") a man who is about to be married or has recently been married

synonym : brush, comb, neaten

(1) **groom** duties, (2) **groom** a horse

I need to **groom** my dog before his fur gets too long.

figurative

adj. using figures of speech, especially metaphors, to create a special effect; not literal

synonym : metaphorical, symbolic, allegorical

(1) in a **figurative** sense, (2) **figurative** painting

When he said he was starving to death, it was a **figurative** way of saying he was very hungry.

Session 2: Spelling

1. fig_____ve painting *adj.* using figures of speech, especially metaphors, to create a special effect; not literal
2. an_____al roots *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
3. gr__m duties *v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat; (noun, also "bridegroom") a man who is about to be married or has recently been married
4. cou_____ive behavior *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
5. at_____t belief *n.* a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities
6. pu_____ed evidence *adj.* claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated
7. alleged inf_____ty *n.* the quality or state of being unfaithful, especially having sex with someone who is not your partner
8. pu_____ed biography *adj.* claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated

ANSWERS: 1. figurative, 2. ancestral, 3. groom, 4. counterintuitive, 5. atheist, 6. purported, 7. infidelity, 8. purported

9. pre_____ous price *adj.* absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason or common sense
10. bootleg wh_____y *n.* a type of distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grains, typically barley, corn, rye, or wheat, aged in barrels and often consumed straight or with mixers
11. traditional an_____m *n.* the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world
12. an_____m practices *n.* the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world
13. teaching of Ch____t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
14. cer_____al speech *adj.* of or relating to a ceremony (= a formal event performed on a special occasion) or ritual, especially a formal or elaborate one
15. an an_____al graveyard *adj.* related to or connected with members of your family from the past
16. Je____h history *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
17. in a fig_____ve sense *adj.* using figures of speech, especially metaphors, to create a special effect; not literal

ANSWERS: 9. preposterous, 10. whiskey, 11. animism, 12. animism, 13. Christ, 14. ceremonial, 15. ancestral, 16. Jewish, 17. figurative

18. foreign-language su_____le *n.* a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language
19. human in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
20. co_____in information flow *v.* to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
21. t__f fabric *adj.* (an informal variant spelling of "tough") resilient, durable, or strong; having a rough or rugged appearance; (noun, of geology) a type of rock that's made up of volcanic ash ejected from a vent during a volcanic eruption
22. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
23. an ind_____nt glance *adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral
24. social ant_____ogy *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

ANSWERS: 18. subtitle, 19. intellect, 20. constrain, 21. tuff, 22. intellect, 23. indifferent, 24. anthropology

25. gr__m a horse
- v. to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat; (noun, also "bridegroom") a man who is about to be married or has recently been married
26. igneous t__f
- adj.* (an informal variant spelling of "tough") resilient, durable, or strong; having a rough or rugged appearance; (noun, of geology) a type of rock that's made up of volcanic ash ejected from a vent during a volcanic eruption
27. cou_____ive results
- adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
28. wh_____y barrel
- n.* a type of distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grains, typically barley, corn, rye, or wheat, aged in barrels and often consumed straight or with mixers
29. con_____us debate
- adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
30. co_____in his freedom
- v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
31. chart su_____le
- n.* a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language

ANSWERS: 25. groom, 26. tuff, 27. counterintuitive, 28. whiskey, 29. contentious, 30. constrain, 31. subtitle

32. in the Book of Ge_____s
33. pu_____t to answer the question
34. the main pu_____t of his speech
35. the ge_____s of civilization
36. emotionally ind_____nt
37. at_____ic beliefs
38. act of inf_____ty
39. con_____us subject
40. at_____t community
- n.* the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind
- v.* to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication
- v.* to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication
- n.* the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind
- adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral
- adj.* pertaining to or characterized by atheism, which is the belief or doctrine that there is no God or higher power
- n.* the quality or state of being unfaithful, especially having sex with someone who is not your partner
- adj.* likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
- n.* a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities

ANSWERS: 32. genesis, 33. purport, 34. purport, 35. genesis, 36. indifferent, 37. atheistic, 38. infidelity, 39. contentious, 40. atheist

41. pre_____ous claim *adj.* absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason or common sense
42. before Ch____t *n.* the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
43. son of a ra__i *n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
44. earliest human an____or *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
45. the city's communal ra__i *n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
46. an____or language *n.* a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
47. Je____h culture *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
48. wear a cer_____al dress *adj.* of or relating to a ceremony (= a formal event performed on a special occasion) or ritual, especially a formal or elaborate one
49. at_____ic approach *adj.* pertaining to or characterized by atheism, which is the belief or doctrine that there is no God or higher power
50. ant_____ogy of religion *n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species

ANSWERS: 41. preposterous, 42. Christ, 43. rabbi, 44. ancestor, 45. rabbi, 46. ancestor, 47. Jewish, 48. ceremonial, 49. atheistic, 50. anthropology

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. My remote _____ immigrated to the United States from Ireland in the 1800s.
n. a person from whom one is descended; a forefather
2. My friend is a _____ woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.
adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
3. The author's _____ views were evident in her writing, where she denounced the existence of a higher power.
adj. pertaining to or characterized by atheism, which is the belief or doctrine that there is no God or higher power
4. She forgave him for his _____.
n. the quality or state of being unfaithful, especially having sex with someone who is not your partner
5. The idea that aliens built the pyramids is _____.
adj. absurd, ridiculous, or contrary to reason or common sense
6. The hiker climbed the _____ hill with great difficulty.
adj. (an informal variant spelling of "tough") resilient, durable, or strong; having a rough or rugged appearance; (noun, of geology) a type of rock that's made up of volcanic ash ejected from a vent during a volcanic eruption
7. The belief that objects have spirits is a central tenet of _____.
n. the belief that objects, places, and creatures possess a spiritual essence or soul; a belief system that emphasizes the interconnectedness of all living things and the natural world

ANSWERS: 1. ancestor, 2. Jewish, 3. atheistic, 4. infidelity, 5. preposterous, 6. tuff, 7. animism

8. The political situation _____ the country's economic growth and foreign relations.
v. to restrict or limit someone or something's freedom or ability to do something
9. The wedding was a grand _____ occasion with many traditional elements.
adj. of or relating to a ceremony (= a formal event performed on a special occasion) or ritual, especially a formal or elaborate one
10. When he said he was starving to death, it was a _____ way of saying he was very hungry.
adj. using figures of speech, especially metaphors, to create a special effect; not literal
11. There are many _____ issues in claiming a patent.
adj. likely to cause people to disagree and argue; liking to argue
12. The document _____ to have been signed by the president, but the signature is a forgery.
v. to claim or suggest that something is true or has a particular character or quality; (noun) the intended meaning of a communication
13. _____ is the day to celebrate the birth of Christ.
n. the man that Christians believe is the prophet and the son of God, and whose life and sermons form the basis for Christianity
14. She was an _____ without any belief in a higher power.
n. a person who denies or disbelieves the existence of a deity or deities
15. The _____ home has been in the family for generations.
adj. related to or connected with members of your family from the past

ANSWERS: 8. constrained, 9. ceremonial, 10. figurative, 11. contentious, 12. purports, 13. Christmas, 14. atheist, 15. ancestral

16. The areas of _____ and psychology are significantly related to one another.
- n.* the scientific study of humanity, concerned with human behavior, human biology, cultures, societies, and linguistics in both the present and past, including past human species
17. Make sure to turn on _____ so you can understand the foreign film.
- n.* a secondary title or alternate title that is displayed below the primary title often used to provide additional information or translation for a movie or video; a text that appears at the bottom of a movie, TV show, or video to provide a written translation or transcription of the spoken dialogue in another language
18. The _____ benefits of the new product were not supported by research.
- adj.* claimed or alleged, usually without proof or confirmation; rumored or supposed; asserted but not verified or substantiated
19. The politician's remarks became the _____ of the clash between the two countries.
- n.* the origin or beginning of something; the first book of the biblical scriptures of both Judaism and Christianity, describing the creation of the Earth and humankind
20. The _____ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.
- adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
21. The chief _____ chanted a prayer.
- n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
22. Despite the good news, she remained _____ to the situation.
- adj.* having no strong feelings or preferences one way or the other, neutral

ANSWERS: 16. anthropology, 17. subtitles, 18. purported, 19. genesis, 20. counterintuitive, 21. rabbi, 22. indifferent

23. I enjoy a glass of _____ on the rocks after a long day.

- n.* a type of distilled alcoholic beverage made from fermented grains, typically barley, corn, rye, or wheat, aged in barrels and often consumed straight or with mixers

24. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.

- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level

25. I need to _____ my dog before his fur gets too long.

- v.* to clean, brush, and care for the fur or feathers of an animal; to prepare oneself or someone else for a special event or occasion; to make something neat; (noun, also "bridegroom") a man who is about to be married or has recently been married

ANSWERS: 23. whiskey, 24. intellect, 25. groom