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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Sleepy Man Banjo Boys: Bluegrass virtuosity from ...

New Jersey? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

bluegrass

n. a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing

(1) **bluegrass** music, (2) **bluegrass** festival

The band played a lively **bluegrass** tune that got everyone dancing.

lapse

n. a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended

synonym: break, failure, blunder

(1) **lapse** back into recession, (2) **lapse** in payment

I missed the deadline due to a **lapse** in my memory.

banjo

n. a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound

(1) famous **banjo** player, (2) **banjo** music

The musician played the five-string **banjo** as part of his folk ensemble.

fiddle

v. to continuously touch or manipulate something with someone's hands, mainly when bored or nervous; to act dishonestly to try to get money, information, etc., or gain an advantage

synonym: tinker, diddle, play

(1) **fiddle** with a PC, (2) **fiddle** away the whole afternoon

She was able to **fiddle** a free trip to the United States.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ex___e rebellion
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
2. ba__o music
n. a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound
3. la__e in payment
n. a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended
4. bl_____ss music
n. a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing
5. ex___e the crowd
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
6. bl_____ss festival
n. a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing

ANSWERS: 1. excite, 2. banjo, 3. lapse, 4. bluegrass, 5. excite, 6. bluegrass

7. fi___e away the whole afternoon *v.* to continuously touch or manipulate something with someone's hands, mainly when bored or nervous; to act dishonestly to try to get money, information, etc., or gain an advantage
8. la__e back into recession *n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended
9. famous ba__o player *n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound
10. fi___e with a PC *v.* to continuously touch or manipulate something with someone's hands, mainly when bored or nervous; to act dishonestly to try to get money, information, etc., or gain an advantage

ANSWERS: 7. fiddle, 8. lapse, 9. banjo, 10. fiddle

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I missed the deadline due to a _____ in my memory.
 - n.* a temporary or brief failure in judgment, action, or behavior; a gradual or slow decline, often referring to a loss of performance, quality, or attention; a period of time that has passed; (verb) to fall or slip into a particular state, often one that is undesirable or unintended

2. She was able to _____ a free trip to the United States.
 - v.* to continuously touch or manipulate something with someone's hands, mainly when bored or nervous; to act dishonestly to try to get money, information, etc., or gain an advantage

3. The band played a lively _____ tune that got everyone dancing.
 - n.* a genre of American traditional music originating from the Appalachian region, typically characterized by lively tempo, acoustic instruments such as banjo, fiddle, and guitar, and close-harmony singing

4. The news of her promotion _____ her.
 - v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

5. The musician played the five-string _____ as part of his folk ensemble.
 - n.* a musical instrument with a long neck and a circular body covered in parchment or plastic, which is plucked or strummed to produce a twangy, resonant sound

ANSWERS: 1. lapse, 2. fiddle, 3. bluegrass, 4. excited, 5. banjo