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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

All Words

IMPORTANT

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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.

jersey

n. a knitted garment typically made of wool or cotton, worn as a shirt or pullover

synonym: shirt, sweater, top

(1) **jersey** material, (2) fabric of the **jersey**

I always wear my favorite basketball player's **jersey** to the games.

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.

discovery

n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known

synonym : finding, uncovering, detection

(1) a scientific **discovery**, (2) the great **discovery** of the century

Her research team made an important **discovery**.

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.

tune

n. a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard

synonym : melody, harmony, (verb) adjust

(1) the **tune** of a song, (2) **tune** a piano

The band played a beautiful **tune** on their instruments.

introduction

n. a preliminary explanation or remarks given before the start of a text, performance, or event; the act of bringing something new into existence or introducing something to a wider audience or new market

synonym : initiation, preamble, prologue

(1) **introduction** education, (2) self- **introduction**

The **introduction** to the new class was informative and engaging.

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.

decide

- v. to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options

synonym: choose, determine, settle

(1) **decide** a question, (2) **decide** on a course of action

She couldn't **decide** whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.

weigh

- v. to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion

synonym: consider, cogitate, count

(1) **weigh** heavily on stock prices, (2) **weigh** a cargo

The baby **weighs** 1 pound 3 oz.

pound

- n. the standard unit of money in the UK; the standard unit of weight equal to 16 ounces

(1) three-fourths of a **pound**, (2) thousands of **pounds**

The car's front bumper cost fifteen hundred **pounds**.

Session 2: Spelling

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|------------------------------------|----|---|
| 1. 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 |
| 2. a scientific di_____ry | n. | the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known |
| 3. we__h a cargo | v. | to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion |
| 4. we__h heavily on stock prices | v. | to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion |
| 5. ex___e the crowd | v. | to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 6. ex___e rebellion | v. | to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 7. de___e a question | v. | to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options |
| 8. de___e on a course of action | v. | to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options |
| 9. 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 |

ANSWERS: 1. fiddle, 2. discovery, 3. weigh, 4. weigh, 5. excite, 6. excite, 7. decide, 8. decide, 9. bluegrass

10. 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
11. the t__e of a song *n.* a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard
12. three-fourths of a po__d *n.* the standard unit of money in the UK; the standard unit of weight equal to 16 ounces
13. t__e a piano *n.* a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard
14. 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
15. je___y material *n.* a knitted garment typically made of wool or cotton, worn as a shirt or pullover
16. 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

ANSWERS: 10. lapse, 11. tune, 12. pound, 13. tune, 14. banjo, 15. jersey, 16. banjo

17. 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
18. 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
19. int_____ion education *n.* a preliminary explanation or remarks given before the start of a text, performance, or event; the act of bringing something new into existence or introducing something to a wider audience or new market
20. thousands of po__ds *n.* the standard unit of money in the UK; the standard unit of weight equal to 16 ounces
21. self-int_____ion *n.* a preliminary explanation or remarks given before the start of a text, performance, or event; the act of bringing something new into existence or introducing something to a wider audience or new market
22. 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: 17. fiddle, 18. lapse, 19. introduction, 20. pound, 21. introduction, 22. bluegrass

23. the great di_____ry of the century *n.* the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known
24. fabric of the je___y *n.* a knitted garment typically made of wool or cotton, worn as a shirt or pullover

ANSWERS: 23. discovery, 24. jersey

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The baby _____ 1 pound 3 oz.
 - v. to have a particular weight; to carefully evaluate things before making a conclusion

2. The car's front bumper cost fifteen hundred _____.
 - n. the standard unit of money in the UK; the standard unit of weight equal to 16 ounces

3. 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

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

5. I always wear my favorite basketball player's _____ to the games.
 - n. a knitted garment typically made of wool or cotton, worn as a shirt or pullover

6. Her research team made an important _____.
 - n. the act or process of finding information, a place, or an object, or learning about something that was previously not known

7. 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

ANSWERS: 1. weighs, 2. pounds, 3. fiddle, 4. excited, 5. jersey, 6. discovery, 7. lapse

8. She couldn't _____ whether to order the pizza or the pasta for dinner.
- v.* to make up someone's mind about something; to come to a conclusion or judgment after considering options
9. 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
10. The _____ to the new class was informative and engaging.
- n.* a preliminary explanation or remarks given before the start of a text, performance, or event; the act of bringing something new into existence or introducing something to a wider audience or new market
11. 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
12. The band played a beautiful _____ on their instruments.
- n.* a musical composition or set of musical notes that are played or sung; (verb) to adjust or set something to a specific condition or standard

ANSWERS: 8. decide, 9. bluegrass, 10. introduction, 11. banjo, 12. tune