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Addison Anderson: The most groundbreaking scientist you've never heard of | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

goldsmith

n. a person who works in gold, creating items such as jewelry, coins, and other decorative items

synonym : jeweler, silversmith, metalworker

(1) **goldsmith** artisan, (2) **goldsmith** bank

The skilled **goldsmith** was renowned for his intricate jewelry designs and high-quality craftsmanship.

chum

n. a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish

synonym : friend, companion, mate

(1) school **chum**, (2) new **chum**

He always had a **chum** to play with when he was a child.

saliva

n. the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion

synonym : spit, drool, slobber

(1) dog's **saliva**, (2) dry mouth with little **saliva**

The dentist asked him to spit out the excess **saliva** into the sink.

refute

v. to say or prove that something is wrong or false

synonym : disavow, rebut, counter

(1) **refute** an opponent, (2) **refute** the foolish idea
The latest experimental results have **refuted** the previous speculation.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

metaphysics

n. the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space

(1) **metaphysics** study, (2) the nature of **metaphysics**

Kant's thoughts provided the foundational ideas for treating **metaphysics** as a discipline.

deduct

v. to take away an amount or part of the money, points, etc. from a total

synonym: remove, subtract, withdraw

(1) **deduct** the interest, (2) **deduct** \$100 from the price

The bank **deducted** the premium amount from his bank account.

overrule

v. to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action

synonym: override, countermand, supersede

(1) **overrule** decision, (2) **overrule** judgment

The judge **overruled** the objection and allowed the evidence to be presented.

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.

gall

n. rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will

synonym: bitterness, boldness, vexation

(1) **gall** and wormwood, (2) have the **gall**

He sometimes recalls **gall** past mistakes.

accretion

n. the process of gradual growth or accumulation, particularly of layers or matter building up over time; the result of such a process

synonym: accumulation, buildup, growth

(1) stellar **accretion**, (2) island **accretion**

The rock was formed by the slow **accretion** of sediments over millions of years.

mold

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

synonym: cavity, cast, mildew

(1) a casting **mold**, (2) **mold** allergy

Mushrooms and **mold** are fungi.

dissect

v. to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail

synonym: analyze, examine, study

(1) **dissect** the data, (2) **dissect** a personality

The scientist **dissected** the frog to study its internal organs.

naturalism

n. a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws

(1) **naturalism** in literature, (2) philosophical **naturalism**
The scientific method is often seen as an embodiment of **naturalism**, as it seeks to understand the natural world through observation and experimentation.

petrify

v. to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding
synonym: fossilize, mineralize, calcify

(1) **petrify** with fear, (2) **petrify** into stone

The thought of public speaking will **petrify** her.

watery

adj. full of or containing water; wet
synonym: liquid, wet, damp

(1) a **watery** fluid, (2) go to a **watery** grave

The soup was too **watery** and needed more flavor.

atop

adv. on, to, or at the top
synonym: upon, onto

(1) stand **atop**, (2) sit **atop** a stack of books

The eagle perched **atop** the tallest tree in the forest.

deformity

n. a physical abnormality or distortion
synonym: abnormality, malformation, disfigurement

(1) **deformity** of character, (2) physical **deformity**

The **deformity** in the steel beam caused the bridge to collapse.

canyon

n. a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river
synonym: gorge, valley, ravine

(1) twisty **canyon** road, (2) **canyon** of skyscrapers

The Grand **Canyon** has an awe-inspiring sight.

stratigraphy

n. the scientific study and analysis of rock layers (strata) and their arrangement to understand the geological history of the Earth, often used in fields such as geology and archaeology

synonym:

layering, rock sequencing, geological record

(1) **stratigraphy** analysis, (2) marine **stratigraphy**

The **stratigraphy** diagram displayed in the museum helps visitors understand the various epochs in Earth's history.

uniformitarianism

n. (of geology) the idea that the Earth's past geological changes can and should be explained by processes still in operation today, operating at similar intensities; any scenario where it's believed that processes operating in the past are like those that can be observed in the present

synonym: gradualism, steady-state theory

(1) **uniformitarianism** theory, (2) critique of **uniformitarianism**

He presented a **uniformitarianism-based** approach to understanding the sedimentary layers in the region.

observable

adj. that can be noticed or seen

synonym: visible, perceptible, detectable

(1) **observable** change, (2) experimentally **observable**

Any theorem relies on both **observable** fact and assumption.

guesstimate

n. an approximate calculation that is based more on guessing than on information

synonym: ballpark, approximation, guess

(1) give a **guesstimate**, (2) **guesstimate** of the numbers involved

Please make a quick **guesstimate** about the workload and cost.

tectonics

n. the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity

synonym: geology, plate tectonics, earth movements

(1) plate **tectonics**, (2) collision **tectonics**

Global **tectonics** plays a critical role in the formation of

mountain ranges and the movement of Earth's crustal plates.

molten

adj. in a liquid state as a result of being heated

synonym : melted, liquefied, fused

(1) a **molten** image, (2) **molten** lava

The **molten** metal was poured into the mold.

quake

v. to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time

synonym : shake, trembler, tremor

(1) **quake** in his boots, (2) **quake** with cold

The earth began to **quake**, and he knew he had to leave the building immediately.

encircle

v. to form a circle or ring around something or someone; to surround or encompass something or someone completely

synonym : enclose, surround, encompass

(1) **encircle** the lake, (2) **encircle** the waist

The castle walls **encircled** the entire village for protection.

ponder

v. to think deeply or carefully about something

synonym : think about, consider, reflect on

(1) **ponder** divine matters, (2) **ponder** life's meaning

She sat quietly, **pondering** the difficult decision.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--|--|
| 1. collision te _____cs | <i>n.</i> the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity |
| 2. gue _____te of the numbers involved | <i>n.</i> an approximate calculation that is based more on guessing than on information |
| 3. critique of uni _____ism | <i>n.</i> (of geology) the idea that the Earth's past geological changes can and should be explained by processes still in operation today, operating at similar intensities; any scenario where it's believed that processes operating in the past are like those that can be observed in the present |
| 4. ov _____le decision | <i>v.</i> to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action |
| 5. po _____r life's meaning | <i>v.</i> to think deeply or carefully about something |
| 6. en _____le the lake | <i>v.</i> to form a circle or ring around something or someone; to surround or encompass something or someone completely |
| 7. po _____r divine matters | <i>v.</i> to think deeply or carefully about something |
| 8. obs _____le change | <i>adj.</i> that can be noticed or seen |

ANSWERS: 1. tectonics, 2. guesstimate, 3. uniformitarianism, 4. overrule, 5. ponder, 6. encircle, 7. ponder, 8. observable

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|--|
| 9. sp_____te about the reason | v. | to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence |
| 10. re___e an opponent | v. | to say or prove that something is wrong or false |
| 11. di_____t a personality | v. | to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail |
| 12. dry mouth with little sa___a | n. | the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion |
| 13. g__l and wormwood | n. | rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will |
| 14. de_____ty of character | n. | a physical abnormality or distortion |
| 15. school c__m | n. | a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish |
| 16. physical de_____ty | n. | a physical abnormality or distortion |
| 17. stand a__p | adv. | on, to, or at the top |
| 18. human in_____ct | n. | the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level |
| 19. met_____cs study | n. | the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space |
| 20. di_____t the data | v. | to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail |

ANSWERS: 9. speculate, 10. refute, 11. dissect, 12. saliva, 13. gall, 14. deformity, 15. chum, 16. deformity, 17. atop, 18. intellect, 19. metaphysics, 20. dissect

21. uni_____ism theory *n.* (of geology) the idea that the Earth's past geological changes can and should be explained by processes still in operation today, operating at similar intensities; any scenario where it's believed that processes operating in the past are like those that can be observed in the present
22. philosophical nat_____sm *n.* a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws
23. dog's sa___a *n.* the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion
24. plate te_____cs *n.* the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity
25. re___e the foolish idea *v.* to say or prove that something is wrong or false
26. ov_____le judgment *v.* to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action
27. go_____th bank *n.* a person who works in gold, creating items such as jewelry, coins, and other decorative items
28. new c__m *n.* a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish

ANSWERS: 21. uniformitarianism, 22. naturalism, 23. saliva, 24. tectonics, 25. refute, 26. overrule, 27. goldsmith, 28. chum

29. a wa___y fluid *adj.* full of or containing water; wet
30. qu__e with cold *v.* to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time
31. de___t the interest *v.* to take away an amount or part of the money, points, etc. from a total
32. en_____le the waist *v.* to form a circle or ring around something or someone; to surround or encompass something or someone completely
33. ca___n of skyscrapers *n.* a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river
34. enrich my in_____ct *n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
35. go_____th artisan *n.* a person who works in gold, creating items such as jewelry, coins, and other decorative items
36. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
37. a casting m__d *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
38. nat_____sm in literature *n.* a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws

ANSWERS: 29. watery, 30. quake, 31. deduct, 32. encircle, 33. canyon, 34. intellect, 35. goldsmith, 36. neuroscience, 37. mold, 38. naturalism

39. sit a__p a stack of books *adv.* on, to, or at the top
40. a mo___n image *adj.* in a liquid state as a result of being heated
41. experimentally obs_____le *adj.* that can be noticed or seen
42. m__d allergy *n.* a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long
43. sp_____te on the outcome *v.* to form a theory or conjecture or guess about a subject without solid evidence
44. island ac_____on *n.* the process of gradual growth or accumulation, particularly of layers or matter building up over time; the result of such a process
45. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
46. go to a wa___y grave *adj.* full of or containing water; wet
47. marine str_____phy *n.* the scientific study and analysis of rock layers (strata) and their arrangement to understand the geological history of the Earth, often used in fields such as geology and archaeology
48. give a gue_____te *n.* an approximate calculation that is based more on guessing than on information

ANSWERS: 39. atop, 40. molten, 41. observable, 42. mold, 43. speculate, 44. accretion, 45. neuroscience, 46. watery, 47. stratigraphy, 48. guesstimate

49. twisty ca___n road *n.* a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river
50. de___t \$100 from the price *v.* to take away an amount or part of the money, points, etc. from a total
51. pe____y with fear *v.* to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding
52. str______phy analysis *n.* the scientific study and analysis of rock layers (strata) and their arrangement to understand the geological history of the Earth, often used in fields such as geology and archaeology
53. stellar ac____on *n.* the process of gradual growth or accumulation, particularly of layers or matter building up over time; the result of such a process
54. pe____y into stone *v.* to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding
55. the nature of met____cs *n.* the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space
56. qu__e in his boots *v.* to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time
57. mo___n lava *adj.* in a liquid state as a result of being heated
58. have the g__l *n.* rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will

ANSWERS: 49. canyon, 50. deduct, 51. petrify, 52. stratigraphy, 53. accretion, 54. petrify, 55. metaphysics, 56. quake, 57. molten, 58. gall

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The rock was formed by the slow _____ of sediments over millions of years.
n. the process of gradual growth or accumulation, particularly of layers or matter building up over time; the result of such a process
2. The judge _____ the objection and allowed the evidence to be presented.
v. to make a decision or judgment that is different from an earlier one; to overturn or override a decision or action
3. The skilled _____ was renowned for his intricate jewelry designs and high-quality craftsmanship.
n. a person who works in gold, creating items such as jewelry, coins, and other decorative items
4. Global _____ plays a critical role in the formation of mountain ranges and the movement of Earth's crustal plates.
n. the study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, including the movements of tectonic plates, earthquakes, and volcanic activity
5. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
6. Any theorem relies on both _____ fact and assumption.
adj. that can be noticed or seen
7. The latest experimental results have _____ the previous speculation.
v. to say or prove that something is wrong or false

ANSWERS: 1. accretion, 2. overruled, 3. goldsmith, 4. tectonics, 5. neuroscience, 6. observable, 7. refuted

8. The eagle perched _____ the tallest tree in the forest.

adv. on, to, or at the top

9. The thought of public speaking will _____ her.

v. to turn to stone; to make hard and unyielding

10. He always had a _____ to play with when he was a child.

n. a close friend; a companion; also refers to bait used in fishing to attract fish

11. The _____ diagram displayed in the museum helps visitors understand the various epochs in Earth's history.

n. the scientific study and analysis of rock layers (strata) and their arrangement to understand the geological history of the Earth, often used in fields such as geology and archaeology

12. The dentist asked him to spit out the excess _____ into the sink.

n. the clear liquid that is secreted into the mouth by glands in the walls of the mouth and throat, helping to lubricate food during chewing and digestion

13. The scientist _____ the frog to study its internal organs.

v. to cut into pieces to study the structure of something in detail

14. He presented a _____ approach to understanding the sedimentary layers in the region.

n. (of geology) the idea that the Earth's past geological changes can and should be explained by processes still in operation today, operating at similar intensities; any scenario where it's believed that processes operating in the past are like those that can be observed in the present

15. The bank _____ the premium amount from his bank account.

v. to take away an amount or part of the money, points, etc. from a total

ANSWERS: 8. atop, 9. petrify, 10. chum, 11. stratigraphy, 12. saliva, 13. dissected, 14. uniformitarianism-based, 15. deducted

16. The _____ metal was poured into the mold.

adj. in a liquid state as a result of being heated

17. The soup was too _____ and needed more flavor.

adj. full of or containing water; wet

18. The scientific method is often seen as an embodiment of _____ as it seeks to understand the natural world through observation and experimentation.

n. a philosophical belief that everything, including human behavior and cognition, can be explained solely by natural causes and laws

19. The earth began to _____ and he knew he had to leave the building immediately.

v. to shake or vibrate violently and for a short time

20. Mushrooms and _____ are fungi.

n. a hollow container used to give shape to liquid or soft substance, which then becomes solid in the same shape as the container; a soft, green, or gray growth that forms on stale food or objects exposed to warm, moist air for too long

21. She sat quietly, _____ the difficult decision.

v. to think deeply or carefully about something

22. The Grand _____ has an awe-inspiring sight.

n. a large deep valley with very steep sides of rock and usually formed by a river

23. He _____ that this investment would lead to success.

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

ANSWERS: 16. molten, 17. watery, 18. naturalism, 19. quake, 20. mold, 21. pondering, 22. Canyon, 23. speculated

24. The castle walls _____ the entire village for protection.
- v.* to form a circle or ring around something or someone; to surround or encompass something or someone completely
25. He sometimes recalls _____ past mistakes.
- n.* rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will
26. Your _____ is capable of distinguishing among similar objects.
- n.* the ability to think logically and comprehend information, especially at an advanced level
27. Kant's thoughts provided the foundational ideas for treating _____ as a discipline.
- n.* the branch of philosophy that deals with the fundamental nature and the first principles of reality, including abstract concepts such as being, knowing, identity, time, and space
28. Please make a quick _____ about the workload and cost.
- n.* an approximate calculation that is based more on guessing than on information
29. The _____ in the steel beam caused the bridge to collapse.
- n.* a physical abnormality or distortion

ANSWERS: 24. encircled, 25. gall, 26. intellect, 27. metaphysics, 28. guesstimate, 29. deformity