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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Bettina Bair: Inside your computer | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

gremlin

n. a mischievous or troublesome creature, often depicted in folklore as causing malfunctions or problems, especially in mechanical or technological systems

synonym: imp, goblin, sprite

(1) **gremlin** behavior, (2) mischievous **gremlin**

The mechanic found and fixed the **gremlin** causing the car's engine trouble.

inject

v. to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)

synonym: shoot, infiltrate, insinuate

(1) **inject** under the skin, (2) **inject** a personal opinion into a debate

Let's try to **inject** a bit of enthusiasm into your performance.

overwhelm

v. to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

synonym: conquer, crush, dominate

(1) he was **overwhelmed** with gratitude, (2) **overwhelm** opponents by numbers

Too much variety may **overwhelm** and confuse viewers.

distract

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

synonym: divert, preoccupy, confuse

(1) **distract** attention from the real issue, (2) **distract** public opinion

Please don't **distract** me while I'm studying.

multitasking

n. the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

synonym: juggling, multihandling, parallelism

(1) computer **multitasking**, (2) **multitasking** ability

She could finish all her work on time because of her **multitasking** skills.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--|----|--|
| 1. in___t under the skin | v. | to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube) |
| 2. mul_____ing ability | n. | the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time |
| 3. computer mul_____ing | n. | the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time |
| 4. in___t a personal opinion into a debate | v. | to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube) |
| 5. mischievous gr_____n | n. | a mischievous or troublesome creature, often depicted in folklore as causing malfunctions or problems, especially in mechanical or technological systems |
| 6. ov_____lm opponents by numbers | v. | to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody |
| 7. gr_____n behavior | n. | a mischievous or troublesome creature, often depicted in folklore as causing malfunctions or problems, especially in mechanical or technological systems |
| 8. he was ov_____lmed with gratitude | v. | to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody |

ANSWERS: 1. inject, 2. multitasking, 3. multitasking, 4. inject, 5. gremlin, 6. overwhelm, 7. gremlin, 8. overwhelm

9. di____ct public opinion

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

10. di____ct attention from the real issue

v. to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

ANSWERS: 9. distract, 10. distract

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She could finish all her work on time because of her _____ skills.
 - n.* the ability to do more than one task at the same time; the state of doing more than one task at the same time

2. Let's try to _____ a bit of enthusiasm into your performance.
 - v.* to put a liquid such as a drug or other substance into a person's or an animal's body using a needle and syringe (= small tube)

3. Please don't _____ me while I'm studying.
 - v.* to draw someone's attention away from what they are trying to do

4. The mechanic found and fixed the _____ causing the car's engine trouble.
 - n.* a mischievous or troublesome creature, often depicted in folklore as causing malfunctions or problems, especially in mechanical or technological systems

5. Too much variety may _____ and confuse viewers.
 - v.* to defeat someone or something by using a great deal of force; to have a strong emotional effect on somebody

ANSWERS: 1. multitasking, 2. inject, 3. distract, 4. gremlin, 5. overwhelm