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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

David Brooks: Should you live for your résumé ... or your eulogy? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

eulogy

n. a speech or writing in praise of someone who has died, typically given at a funeral or memorial service

synonym: tribute, praise, commendation

(1) **eulogy** speech, (2) deliver **eulogy**

The pastor's **eulogy** touched everyone's heart and brought many to tears.

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.

conquer

v. to bring under control by force or authority

synonym: defeat, overpower, subdue

(1) **conquer** fatal disease, (2) **conquer** the world

You must **conquer** your anxiety about driving.

motto

n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

synonym: slogan, catchphrase, phrase

(1) the **motto** for safe traffic, (2) company **motto**

The company's **motto** is "Innovation and Service," which is

reflected in its products and customer support.

perpetual

adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted

synonym: enduring, unchanging, incessant

(1) **perpetual** motion machine, (2) **perpetual** struggle

The company employs a **perpetual** inventory system.

confrontation

n. the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement

synonym: face-off, conflict, competition

(1) violent **confrontation**, (2) verbal **confrontation**

The **confrontation** between the two nations escalated into a full-blown war.

shrewd

adj. marked by sharp intelligence and keen awareness; having good judgment and practical know-how; characterized by a savvy or astute manner

synonym: astute, sharp, clever

(1) **shrewd** negotiation tactics, (2) **shrewd** observation

The **shrewd** businessman always knew the right moves to make to succeed.

mediocrity

n. the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

synonym: averageness, ordinariness, unoriginality

(1) sink into **mediocrity**, (2) escape **mediocrity**

He was content with living a life of **mediocrity**.

gravitation

n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass

synonym: attraction, pull, gravity

(1) terrestrial **gravitation**, (2) universal **gravitation**

The force of **gravitation** keeps the planets in our solar

system in orbit around the sun.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym: bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

inarticulate

adj. struggling to express oneself clearly or effectively in speech or writing; lacking the ability to communicate ideas or feelings fluently or coherently

synonym: incoherent, unintelligible, muddled

(1) **inarticulate** speech, (2) **inarticulate** mumble

The author's **inarticulate** writing style made it difficult for readers to follow his story.

foe

n. an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another

synonym: enemy, adversary, opponent

(1) a political **foe**, (2) bitter **foe**

The superhero's arch- **foe** was an evil mastermind who always got away.

Session 2: Spelling

1. sh___d observation
adj. marked by sharp intelligence and keen awareness; having good judgment and practical know-how; characterized by a savvy or astute manner
2. pe_____al struggle
adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
3. terrestrial gra_____on
n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass
4. ina_____ate speech
adj. struggling to express oneself clearly or effectively in speech or writing; lacking the ability to communicate ideas or feelings fluently or coherently
5. pe_____al motion machine
adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
6. deliver eu___y
n. a speech or writing in praise of someone who has died, typically given at a funeral or memorial service
7. company mo__o
n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
8. turn out to be all s__m
n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

ANSWERS: 1. shrewd, 2. perpetual, 3. gravitation, 4. inarticulate, 5. perpetual, 6. eulogy, 7. motto, 8. sham

9. verbal con_____ion *n.* the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement
10. co_____r the world *v.* to bring under control by force or authority
11. sink into med_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal
12. sh____d negotiation tactics *adj.* marked by sharp intelligence and keen awareness; having good judgment and practical know-how; characterized by a savvy or astute manner
13. universal gra_____on *n.* the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass
14. ina_____ate mumble *adj.* struggling to express oneself clearly or effectively in speech or writing; lacking the ability to communicate ideas or feelings fluently or coherently
15. co_____r fatal disease *v.* to bring under control by force or authority
16. a s__m battle *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
17. a political f_e *n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another

ANSWERS: 9. confrontation, 10. conquer, 11. mediocrity, 12. shrewd, 13. gravitation, 14. inarticulate, 15. conquer, 16. sham, 17. foe

18. escape med_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal
19. bitter f_e *n.* an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
20. son of a ra__i *n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
21. eu___y speech *n.* a speech or writing in praise of someone who has died, typically given at a funeral or memorial service
22. violent con_____ion *n.* the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement
23. the city's communal ra__i *n.* a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
24. the mo__o for safe traffic *n.* a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal

ANSWERS: 18. mediocrity, 19. foe, 20. rabbi, 21. eulogy, 22. confrontation, 23. rabbi, 24. motto

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ businessman always knew the right moves to make to succeed.
adj. marked by sharp intelligence and keen awareness; having good judgment and practical know-how; characterized by a savvy or astute manner
2. You must _____ your anxiety about driving.
v. to bring under control by force or authority
3. The company's _____ is "Innovation and Service," which is reflected in its products and customer support.
n. a phrase or slogan that expresses a guiding principle or goal
4. The author's _____ writing style made it difficult for readers to follow his story.
adj. struggling to express oneself clearly or effectively in speech or writing; lacking the ability to communicate ideas or feelings fluently or coherently
5. The superhero's arch-____ was an evil mastermind who always got away.
n. an enemy or opponent; someone or something that is opposed to or in conflict with another
6. The company employs a _____ inventory system.
adj. continuing for an extended period in the same way without stopping or being interrupted
7. He was content with living a life of _____.
n. the state or quality of being average or of having only moderate ability, success, or value; the state or quality of being uninspired or unoriginal

ANSWERS: 1. shrewd, 2. conquer, 3. motto, 4. inarticulate, 5. foe, 6. perpetual, 7. mediocrity

8. The pastor's _____ touched everyone's heart and brought many to tears.
n. a speech or writing in praise of someone who has died, typically given at a funeral or memorial service
9. The force of _____ keeps the planets in our solar system in orbit around the sun.
n. the force by which a celestial body, such as the Earth, pulls objects toward its center; the attraction between two or more objects due to their mass
10. The chief _____ chanted a prayer.
n. a Jewish religious leader or a Jewish scholar or teacher
11. The _____ between the two nations escalated into a full-blown war.
n. the act of facing or dealing with something directly and openly; a direct and often hostile encounter or disagreement
12. The data he prepared was completely _____.
n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

ANSWERS: 8. eulogy, 9. gravitation, 10. rabbi, 11. confrontation, 12. sham