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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ge Wang: The DIY orchestra of the future | TED Talk
https://www.ted.com/talks/ge_wang_the_diy_orchestra_of_the_future

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

deprive

v. to take away something from someone

synonym: deny, take away, divest

(1) **deprive** others of profit, (2) **deprive** him of his status
He was **deprived** of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.

spit

v. to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth

synonym: expectorate, saliva, spew

(1) **spit** a bullet, (2) **spit** a mouthful of saliva
She tried to **spit** out the gum that she had been chewing.

chuck

v. to throw something carelessly or casually; to get rid of something or someone

synonym: toss, throw, discard

(1) **chuck** the ball across the yard, (2) **chuck** my job
I will **chuck** these old shoes in the trash and buy a new pair.

nerd

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

synonym: geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck
He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

oscillate

v. to swing or move back and forth like a pendulum or a wave; to fluctuate or alternate between two points or states; to hesitate or be indecisive

synonym : fluctuate, swing, vibrate

(1) **oscillate** back and forth, (2) **oscillate** between joy and anger

The fan in the room **oscillates**, making the airflow more evenly.

hertz

n. the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals

synonym : frequency, cycles per second

(1) audio **hertz**, (2) tera- **hertz** radiation

The human ear can detect sounds with frequencies ranging from 20 to 20,000 **hertz**.

octave

n. a musical interval encompassing eight diatonic scale degrees, such as the interval from C to the next C in a C major scale

synonym : eighth, interval, range

(1) **octave** key, (2) **octave** range

The singer's range was impressive, covering three **octaves** with ease.

indent

v. to create a space or notch in something by making a cut or impression; to set or arrange in a way that leaves a recessed or indented pattern; to begin a line of text at a position further inward than the main margin

synonym : dent, notch, stamp

(1) **indent** the quotations, (2) **indent** for additional supplies
Please **indent** each new paragraph when you're writing your essay.

disintegrate

v. break or cause to break into small fragments

synonym : shatter, crumble, break down

(1) **disintegrate** in an explosion, (2) **disintegrate** over time

The vase **disintegrated** into pieces when it fell to the ground.

mainframe

n. a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications

(1) **mainframe** computer, (2) **mainframe** operating system
IBM has consistently been a significant supplier of **mainframes** for a long time.

acoustics

n. a branch of physics that deals with the study of mechanical waves in gases, liquids, and solids, including topics such as vibration, sound, ultrasound, and infrasound

(1) specialize in **acoustics**, (2) the engineer of **acoustics**
The physicist specializes in **acoustics**.

hemisphere

n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

(1) northern **hemisphere**, (2) cerebral **hemisphere**

This weather pattern is unique to the southern **hemisphere**.

artifact

n. a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

synonym: antique, relic, heirloom

(1) paleolithic **artifacts**, (2) Peruvian **artifacts**

The museum has a vast collection of Greek **artifacts**.

matte

adj. having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy

synonym: dull, flat, lusterless

(1) **matte** coating, (2) photo with a **matte** finish

The body of his car has a **matte** finish.

hem

n. the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish

synonym: edge, border, margin

(1) the **hem** of a dress, (2) **hem** the skirt

The **hem** length of her dress was perfect for the evening event.

amplify

v. to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

synonym: intensify, boost, argument

(1) **amplify** a signal, (2) **amplify** the effect

You might need to **amplify** this point.

tether

v. to tie or secure an animal, person, or object with a rope, chain, or other similar devices to prevent it from moving too far away; (noun) a rope or chain used to tie up or restrain an animal, such as a horse or dog

synonym: tie, fasten, secure

(1) **tether** a horse, (2) **tether** strap

The hiker **tethered** their dog to a tree while they camped for the night.

twilight

n. the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset

synonym: dusk, sunset, gloaming

(1) **twilight** sky, (2) **twilight** of an era

The sky was a beautiful pink and orange color at **twilight**.

hover

v. to stay in one place in the air

synonym: hang, float over, drift

(1) **hover** between life and death, (2) **hover** around the table

Two birds were **hovering** overhead.

ratchet

n. a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement

synonym: gear, wrench, spanner

(1) **ratchet** wrench, (2) **ratchet** effect

He turned the bolt with the **ratchet**, making sure it was secure.

drone

n. a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

synonym: hum, whirr, idler

(1) **drone** flight, (2) the speaker's **drone**

He heard a **drone** of sirens roar from the neighboring town.

insanity

n. the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness

synonym: madness, psychosis, lunacy

(1) sheer **insanity**, (2) alcoholic **insanity**

His behavior became increasingly erratic, leading many to believe he was experiencing a bout of **insanity**.

cofounder

n. one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business

(1) **cofounder** of the university, (2) late **cofounder**

He is the **cofounder** and chairman of this tech company.

ocarina

n. a small, simple wind instrument typically made of ceramic or clay, often shaped like an elongated egg with finger holes, and played by blowing into it

synonym: wind egg, vessel flute

(1) **ocarina** music, (2) alto **ocarina**

In the museum, you can see an ancient Mesoamerican **ocarina** collection.

synthesize

v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

synonym: incorporate, amalgamate

(1) **synthesize** molecules, (2) **synthesize** information

The spider can **synthesize** multiple different silk proteins.

vibrato

n. a musical technique in which a sustained note is varied in pitch and volume to produce a pulsating or wavering effect; a similar effect produced in speech or other forms of sound production

synonym: tremolo, fluctuation, modulation

(1) sing with **vibrato**, (2) **vibrato** technique

The violinist added a **vibrato** to the final notes of the piece, creating a beautiful effect.

accelerometer

n. a device that measures acceleration or changes in motion, typically used in aerospace, automotive, and other engineering applications to monitor and control movement or to measure things like speed or vibration

synonym: sensor, g-sensor, gravimeter

(1) **accelerometer** reading, (2) high-precision

accelerometer

The phone's **accelerometer** measures its movement and orientation in three-dimensional space.

ditty

n. a short, simple song or poem that is easy to sing or recite

synonym: jingle, tune, ballad

(1) **ditty** melody, (2) folk **ditty**

The new commercial features a catchy **ditty** that's hard to get out of your head.

accompaniment

n. something that is added to or goes along with something else as a supplement, complement, or support; music played or sung along with a solo instrument or vocalist

synonym: support, aide, attendant

(1) the piano **accompaniment**, (2) **accompaniment** to the main course

The piano provided a beautiful **accompaniment** to the singer's voice.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict

Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

foreground

n. the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer

(1) **foreground** segmentation, (2) **foreground** galaxy

A happy group of friends occupies the **foreground** of the picture.

app

n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

synonym: application, software

(1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**

The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.

converge

v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet

synonym: congregate, assemble, concentrate

(1) **converge** of a series, (2) **converge** from different points

The two rivers **converge** into one near this area.

rendition

n. a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering someone to another country for interrogation or punishment

synonym: interpretation, performance, presentation

(1) **rendition** of judgment, (2) film **rendition**

The singer gave a beautiful **rendition** of the classic song during the concert.

Session 2: Spelling

1. di__y melody *n.* a short, simple song or poem that is easy to sing or recite
2. ra____t effect *n.* a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement
3. te___r a horse *v.* to tie or secure an animal, person, or object with a rope, chain, or other similar devices to prevent it from moving too far away; (noun) a rope or chain used to tie up or restrain an animal, such as a horse or dog
4. the piano acc_____ent *n.* something that is added to or goes along with something else as a supplement, complement, or support; music played or sung along with a solo instrument or vocalist
5. s__t a mouthful of saliva *v.* to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
6. tw_____ht of an era *n.* the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset
7. cerebral hem_____re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
8. northern hem_____re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

ANSWERS: 1. ditty, 2. ratchet, 3. tether, 4. accompaniment, 5. spit, 6. twilight, 7. hemisphere, 8. hemisphere

9. for_____nd galaxy *n.* the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer
10. photo with a ma__e finish *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
11. audio he__z *n.* the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals
12. film re_____on *n.* a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering someone to another country for interrogation or punishment
13. acc_____ent to the main course *n.* something that is added to or goes along with something else as a supplement, complement, or support; music played or sung along with a solo instrument or vocalist
14. late co_____er *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
15. ma_____me operating system *n.* a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications
16. dis_____ate in an explosion *v.* break or cause to break into small fragments
17. the speaker's dr__e *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

ANSWERS: 9. foreground, 10. matte, 11. hertz, 12. rendition, 13. accompaniment, 14. cofounder, 15. mainframe, 16. disintegrate, 17. drone

18. oc___e key *n.* a musical interval encompassing eight diatonic scale degrees, such as the interval from C to the next C in a C major scale
19. oc___e range *n.* a musical interval encompassing eight diatonic scale degrees, such as the interval from C to the next C in a C major scale
20. specialize in ac_____cs *n.* a branch of physics that deals with the study of mechanical waves in gases, liquids, and solids, including topics such as vibration, sound, ultrasound, and infrasound
21. ma_____me computer *n.* a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications
22. Peruvian ar_____cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
23. de_____e him of his status *v.* to take away something from someone
24. ch__k the ball across the yard *v.* to throw something carelessly or casually; to get rid of something or someone
25. de_____e others of profit *v.* to take away something from someone
26. in___t the quotations *v.* to create a space or notch in something by making a cut or impression; to set or arrange in a way that leaves a recessed or indented pattern; to begin a line of text at a position further inward than the main margin

ANSWERS: 18. octave, 19. octave, 20. acoustics, 21. mainframe, 22. artifact, 23. deprive, 24. chuck, 25. deprive, 26. indent

27. ma__e coating *adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy
28. alcoholic in____ty *n.* the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness
29. co____ge from different points *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
30. alto oc____a *n.* a small, simple wind instrument typically made of ceramic or clay, often shaped like an elongated egg with finger holes, and played by blowing into it
31. dr__e flight *n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control
32. s__t a bullet *v.* to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth
33. ho__r between life and death *v.* to stay in one place in the air
34. te____r strap *v.* to tie or secure an animal, person, or object with a rope, chain, or other similar devices to prevent it from moving too far away; (noun) a rope or chain used to tie up or restrain an animal, such as a horse or dog
35. os____te back and forth *v.* to swing or move back and forth like a pendulum or a wave; to fluctuate or alternate between two points or states; to hesitate or be indecisive
36. tw____ht sky *n.* the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset

ANSWERS: 27. matte, 28. insanity, 29. converge, 30. ocarina, 31. drone, 32. spit, 33. hover, 34. tether, 35. oscillate, 36. twilight

37. dis_____ate over time *v.* break or cause to break into small fragments
38. sing with vi_____o *n.* a musical technique in which a sustained note is varied in pitch and volume to produce a pulsating or wavering effect; a similar effect produced in speech or other forms of sound production
39. ho__r around the table *v.* to stay in one place in the air
40. ch__k my job *v.* to throw something carelessly or casually; to get rid of something or someone
41. in___t for additional supplies *v.* to create a space or notch in something by making a cut or impression; to set or arrange in a way that leaves a recessed or indented pattern; to begin a line of text at a position further inward than the main margin
42. h_m the skirt *n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
43. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
44. ra_____t wrench *n.* a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement

ANSWERS: 37. disintegrate, 38. vibrato, 39. hover, 40. chuck, 41. indent, 42. hem, 43. nerd, 44. ratchet

45. high-precision acc_____ter *n.* a device that measures acceleration or changes in motion, typically used in aerospace, automotive, and other engineering applications to monitor and control movement or to measure things like speed or vibration
46. co_____er of the university *n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business
47. sheer in_____ty *n.* the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness
48. acc_____ter reading *n.* a device that measures acceleration or changes in motion, typically used in aerospace, automotive, and other engineering applications to monitor and control movement or to measure things like speed or vibration
49. the engineer of ac_____cs *n.* a branch of physics that deals with the study of mechanical waves in gases, liquids, and solids, including topics such as vibration, sound, ultrasound, and infrasound
50. cannot log in to the a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
51. vi_____o technique *n.* a musical technique in which a sustained note is varied in pitch and volume to produce a pulsating or wavering effect; a similar effect produced in speech or other forms of sound production

ANSWERS: 45. accelerometer, 46. cofounder, 47. insanity, 48. accelerometer, 49. acoustics, 50. app, 51. vibrato

52. for_____nd segmentation *n.* the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer
53. oc_____a music *n.* a small, simple wind instrument typically made of ceramic or clay, often shaped like an elongated egg with finger holes, and played by blowing into it
54. re_____on of judgment *n.* a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering someone to another country for interrogation or punishment
55. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
56. paleolithic ar_____cts *n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest
57. tera-he__z radiation *n.* the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals
58. am_____y a signal *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
59. os_____te between joy and anger *v.* to swing or move back and forth like a pendulum or a wave; to fluctuate or alternate between two points or states; to hesitate or be indecisive
60. syn_____ze molecules *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
61. folk di__y *n.* a short, simple song or poem that is easy to sing or recite

ANSWERS: 52. foreground, 53. ocarina, 54. rendition, 55. smartphone, 56. artifact, 57. hertz, 58. amplify, 59. oscillate, 60. synthesize, 61. ditty

62. co____ge of a series *v.* to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
63. am____y the effect *v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness
64. the h_m of a dress *n.* the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
65. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
66. sma_____ne app developer *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
67. syn_____ze information *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
68. killer a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

ANSWERS: 62. converge, 63. amplify, 64. hem, 65. nerd, 66. smartphone, 67. synthesize, 68. app

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The phone's _____ measures its movement and orientation in three-dimensional space.
 - n.* a device that measures acceleration or changes in motion, typically used in aerospace, automotive, and other engineering applications to monitor and control movement or to measure things like speed or vibration

2. He turned the bolt with the _____ making sure it was secure.
 - n.* a mechanical device with a toothed wheel that can rotate in only one direction used to transmit or control motion or to prevent backward movement

3. The singer gave a beautiful _____ of the classic song during the concert.
 - n.* a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering someone to another country for interrogation or punishment

4. The spider can _____ multiple different silk proteins.
 - v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

5. He heard a _____ of sirens roar from the neighboring town.
 - n.* a low continuous humming noise; someone who takes more time than necessary; a pilot-less aerial vehicle that is operated by remote control

6. You might need to _____ this point.
 - v.* to enhance something, particularly sound or brightness

7. The new commercial features a catchy _____ that's hard to get out of your head.
 - n.* a short, simple song or poem that is easy to sing or recite

ANSWERS: 1. accelerometer, 2. ratchet, 3. rendition, 4. synthesize, 5. drone, 6. amplify, 7. ditty

8. I will _____ these old shoes in the trash and buy a new pair.
v. to throw something carelessly or casually; to get rid of something or someone
9. The two rivers _____ into one near this area.
v. to move or draw together at a specific location; (of lines) to move towards the same point where they join or meet
10. He was _____ of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.
v. to take away something from someone
11. The singer's range was impressive, covering three _____ with ease.
n. a musical interval encompassing eight diatonic scale degrees, such as the interval from C to the next C in a C major scale
12. The sky was a beautiful pink and orange color at _____.
n. the soft, diffused light from the sky when the sun is below the horizon, either from sunrise to sunrise or sunset to sunset
13. The piano provided a beautiful _____ to the singer's voice.
n. something that is added to or goes along with something else as a supplement, complement, or support; music played or sung along with a solo instrument or vocalist
14. The ___ length of her dress was perfect for the evening event.
n. the edge or border of a piece of cloth, typically sewn to prevent fraying or unraveling; a small margin or border around something; (verb) to fold the edge of a piece of fabric and sew it down to create a neat and secure finish
15. She tried to ____ out the gum that she had been chewing.
v. to eject saliva or other liquid from the mouth

ANSWERS: 8. chuck, 9. converge, 10. deprived, 11. octaves, 12. twilight, 13. accompaniment, 14. hem, 15. spit

16. The physicist specializes in _____.

- n.* a branch of physics that deals with the study of mechanical waves in gases, liquids, and solids, including topics such as vibration, sound, ultrasound, and infrasound

17. In the museum, you can see an ancient Mesoamerican _____ collection.

- n.* a small, simple wind instrument typically made of ceramic or clay, often shaped like an elongated egg with finger holes, and played by blowing into it

18. The body of his car has a _____ finish.

- adj.* having a surface without a shine, luster; non-glossy

19. The vase _____ into pieces when it fell to the ground.

- v.* break or cause to break into small fragments

20. The museum has a vast collection of Greek _____.

- n.* a person-made object, especially one of historical or cultural interest

21. A happy group of friends occupies the _____ of the picture.

- n.* the part of a view, picture, etc., that is nearest to the viewer

22. The fan in the room _____ making the airflow more evenly.

- v.* to swing or move back and forth like a pendulum or a wave; to fluctuate or alternate between two points or states; to hesitate or be indecisive

23. Please _____ each new paragraph when you're writing your essay.

- v.* to create a space or notch in something by making a cut or impression; to set or arrange in a way that leaves a recessed or indented pattern; to begin a line of text at a position further inward than the main margin

ANSWERS: 16. acoustics, 17. ocarina, 18. matte, 19. disintegrated, 20. artifacts, 21. foreground, 22. oscillates, 23. indent

24. Two birds were _____ overhead.

v. to stay in one place in the air

25. The hiker _____ their dog to a tree while they camped for the night.

v. to tie or secure an animal, person, or object with a rope, chain, or other similar devices to prevent it from moving too far away; (noun) a rope or chain used to tie up or restrain an animal, such as a horse or dog

26. IBM has consistently been a significant supplier of _____ for a long time.

n. a large and powerful computer with a lot of memory used primarily by large organizations for critical applications

27. The violinist added a _____ to the final notes of the piece, creating a beautiful effect.

n. a musical technique in which a sustained note is varied in pitch and volume to produce a pulsating or wavering effect; a similar effect produced in speech or other forms of sound production

28. This weather pattern is unique to the southern _____.

n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

29. The human ear can detect sounds with frequencies ranging from 20 to 20,000 _____.

n. the unit of frequency, equal to one cycle per second, often used to describe the frequency of electromagnetic waves or electronic signals

30. His behavior became increasingly erratic, leading many to believe he was experiencing a bout of _____.

n. the state of being seriously mentally ill; madness

ANSWERS: 24. hovering, 25. tethered, 26. mainframes, 27. vibrato, 28. hemisphere, 29. hertz, 30. insanity

31. He was, by nature, a cyber _____.

- n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

32. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the _____ release.

- n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

33. He is the _____ and chairman of this tech company.

- n.* one of several people who establishes an organization or starts a business

34. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.

- n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

ANSWERS: 31. nerd, 32. app's, 33. cofounder, 34. smartphones