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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Hetain Patel: Who am I? Think again | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

mandarin

n. an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China

synonym : Chinese, Beijing dialect

(1) ancient **mandarin** house, (2) **Mandarin** Chinese

Mandarin dialects typically have relatively few vowels.

needless

adj. describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences

synonym : unnecessary, pointless, superfluous

(1) **needless** argument, (2) **needless** waste

This **needless** paperwork is wasting our time and resources.

pajama

n. a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging

synonym : nightgown, nightdress

(1) care **pajama**, (2) **pajama** pants

My little sister loves to have **pajama** parties with her friends on the weekends.

baggy

adj. loose-fitting or puffed out in shape, typically about clothing

synonym : loose, roomy, oversized

(1) **baggy** sweater, (2) **baggy** sweatpants
I prefer **baggy** clothes to tight-fitting ones.

trousers

n. a pair of leg coverings that extends from the waist to the ankles covering each leg separately, often referred to as pants

synonym: pants, slacks, jeans

(1) work **trousers**, (2) denim **trousers**

He wore black **trousers** and a white shirt to the job interview.

embarrass

v. to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
synonym: disconcert, unsettle, agitate

(1) **embarrass** political enemy, (2) **embarrass** my project
He looked for an opportunity to **embarrass** that actor in public.

pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

synonym: presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

teapot

n. a small, usually handleless pot with a spout used for boiling or brewing tea; it often has a lid to prevent heat loss during steeping and is typically made of ceramic or metal

synonym: kettle, pot, pitcher

(1) antique **teapot**, (2) porcelain **teapot**

The ceramic **teapot** shattered on the kitchen floor when I accidentally dropped it.

imitate

v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

synonym: mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

offend

v. to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

synonym: insult, hurt, anger

(1) **offend** his sensibilities, (2) **offend** a customer

His rude comments **offended** many people at the party.

shave

v. to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something

synonym: trim, cut down, prune

(1) **shave** my head, (2) **shave** cheese

That supermarket tried to **shave** certain costs by saving electricity.

emigrate

v. to leave one's country or region to settle in another

synonym: migrate, relocate, move

(1) **emigrate** to a new country, (2) **emigrate** for better opportunities

Many people **emigrated** from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.

mustache

n. an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip

synonym: whisker

(1) a gray **mustache**, (2) big **mustache**

The actor's **mustache** has become an icon.

underestimate

v. to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

synonym: underrate, misjudge, miscalculate

(1) **underestimate** an enemy, (2) **underestimate** the probability

They frequently **underestimated** their abilities and felt inferior.

etch

v. to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern

synonym: engrave, inscribe, carve

(1) **etch** a metal plate, (2) **etch** a design into wood

He used a sharp tool to **etch** his initials onto the metal.

fluent

adj. able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily

synonym: eloquent, articulate, smooth-spoken

(1) **fluent** Chinese, (2) in a **fluent** tone

She learned five languages but is only **fluent** in two of them.

imitation

n. a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something

synonym: fabrication, replica, fake

(1) **imitation** antique, (2) artificial **imitation**

Many individuals believe that children learn languages through **imitation**.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym: revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

Session 2: Spelling

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|---------------------------------------|------|---|
| 1. im_____e animal sounds | v. | to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something |
| 2. em_____te for better opportunities | v. | to leave one's country or region to settle in another |
| 3. of____d a customer | v. | to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed |
| 4. em_____te to a new country | v. | to leave one's country or region to settle in another |
| 5. ba__y sweatpants | adj. | loose-fitting or puffed out in shape, typically about clothing |
| 6. denim tr_____rs | n. | a pair of leg coverings that extends from the waist to the ankles covering each leg separately, often referred to as pants |
| 7. porcelain te____t | n. | a small, usually handleless pot with a spout used for boiling or brewing tea; it often has a lid to prevent heat loss during steeping and is typically made of ceramic or metal |
| 8. sh__e my head | v. | to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something |
| 9. em_____ss my project | v. | to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed |
| 10. of____d his sensibilities | v. | to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed |

ANSWERS: 1. imitate, 2. emigrate, 3. offend, 4. emigrate, 5. baggy, 6. trousers, 7. teapot, 8. shave, 9. embarrass, 10. offend

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 11. a gray mu_____he | <i>n.</i> an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip |
| 12. in a fl____t tone | <i>adj.</i> able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily |
| 13. ba__y sweater | <i>adj.</i> loose-fitting or puffed out in shape, typically about clothing |
| 14. im_____e painting styles | <i>v.</i> to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something |
| 15. pa____a pants | <i>n.</i> a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging |
| 16. sh__e cheese | <i>v.</i> to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something |
| 17. care pa____a | <i>n.</i> a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging |
| 18. e__h a design into wood | <i>v.</i> to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern |
| 19. im_____on antique | <i>n.</i> a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something |
| 20. ancient ma_____in house | <i>n.</i> an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China |
| 21. pre_____on to authority | <i>n.</i> the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition |

ANSWERS: 11. mustache, 12. fluent, 13. baggy, 14. imitate, 15. pajama, 16. shave, 17. pajama, 18. etch, 19. imitation, 20. mandarin, 21. pretension

22. em_____ss political enemy *v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed
23. e__h a metal plate *v.* to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern
24. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
25. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
26. big mu_____he *n.* an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip
27. ne_____ss waste *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
28. und_____ate an enemy *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
29. Ma_____in Chinese *n.* an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China
30. ne_____ss argument *adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences

ANSWERS: 22. embarrass, 23. etch, 24. rev, 25. rev, 26. mustache, 27. needless, 28. underestimate, 29. mandarin, 30. needless

31. work tr_____rs *n.* a pair of leg coverings that extends from the waist to the ankles covering each leg separately, often referred to as pants
32. baseless pre_____on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
33. fl____t Chinese *adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
34. und_____ate the probability *v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is
35. artificial im_____on *n.* a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something
36. antique te____t *n.* a small, usually handleless pot with a spout used for boiling or brewing tea; it often has a lid to prevent heat loss during steeping and is typically made of ceramic or metal

ANSWERS: 31. trousers, 32. pretension, 33. fluent, 34. underestimate, 35. imitation, 36. teapot

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. _____ dialects typically have relatively few vowels.
 - n.* an influential and high-ranking official, notably in the civil service; the branch of Chinese, which is the official language of China

2. He looked for an opportunity to _____ that actor in public.
 - v.* to cause someone to feel awkward, worried, or ashamed

3. He wore black _____ and a white shirt to the job interview.
 - n.* a pair of leg coverings that extends from the waist to the ankles covering each leg separately, often referred to as pants

4. He used a sharp tool to _____ his initials onto the metal.
 - v.* to carve, cut, or engrave (a design or text) into a hard surface; to corrode, erode or eat away at a metal surface using acid or another chemical substance to create a design or pattern

5. They frequently _____ their abilities and felt inferior.
 - v.* to think or suppose that a quantity, price, or size is smaller than it is

6. His rude comments _____ many people at the party.
 - v.* to cause someone to feel upset, angry, or annoyed

7. The actor's _____ has become an icon.
 - n.* an unshaved growth of hair on the upper lip

8. His _____ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
 - n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

ANSWERS: 1. Mandarin, 2. embarrass, 3. trousers, 4. etch, 5. underestimated, 6. offended, 7. mustache, 8. pretensions

9. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud ____.
- n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
10. This _____ paperwork is wasting our time and resources.
- adj.* describing something unnecessary, pointless, or superfluous and could be avoided without any harm or adverse consequences
11. She learned five languages but is only _____ in two of them.
- adj.* able to communicate in a specific language smoothly or effectively, or easily
12. The ceramic _____ shattered on the kitchen floor when I accidentally dropped it.
- n.* a small, usually handleless pot with a spout used for boiling or brewing tea; it often has a lid to prevent heat loss during steeping and is typically made of ceramic or metal
13. That supermarket tried to _____ certain costs by saving electricity.
- v.* to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something
14. I prefer _____ clothes to tight-fitting ones.
- adj.* loose-fitting or puffed out in shape, typically about clothing
15. He _____ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.
- v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
16. Many people _____ from Ireland to America during the Great Famine.
- v.* to leave one's country or region to settle in another

ANSWERS: 9. rev, 10. needless, 11. fluent, 12. teapot, 13. shave, 14. baggy, 15. imitated, 16. emigrated

17. My little sister loves to have _____ parties with her friends on the weekends.
n. a pair of loose pants with a matching top, worn for sleeping or lounging
18. Many individuals believe that children learn languages through _____.
n. a duplicate of anything, particularly something valuable; the act of replicating someone or something

ANSWERS: 17. pajama, 18. imitation