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Jack Andraka: A promising test for pancreatic cancer

... from a teenager | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

pancreas

n. a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine

synonym: gland, organ, islet

(1) **pancreas** inflammation, (2) **pancreas** function

The endocrine function of the **pancreas** involves the secretion of hormones such as insulin.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

bloodstream

n. the blood flowing through the body

(1) **bloodstream** in an artery, (2) **bloodstream** to the brain

Cancer cells are often carried throughout the body by the **bloodstream**.

minuscule

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym: tiny, insignificant, microscopic

(1) **minuscule** amount, (2) **minuscule** letters

This ore emits **minuscule** quantities of radiation

optimism

n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

synonym: positiveness, sanguinity, bullishness

(1) sense of **optimism**, (2) political **optimism**

There is considerable **optimism** that the economy will recover soon.

Wikipedia

n. an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics

synonym: online encyclopedia, webpedia

(1) **Wikipedia** entry, (2) **Wikipedia** article

Not all teachers accept citing **Wikipedia** as a valid source for academic papers.

chug

v. to make a dull, steady, and repetitive sound, as if from an engine or machine; to drink, especially alcohol, quickly and in large quantities; (noun) the sound made by a vehicle, particularly a train or a boat, as it moves steadily and slowly

synonym: chuff, puff, toot

(1) **chug** on a cigarette, (2) **chug** beer

The old locomotive **chugged** slowly along the tracks, pulling a long line of freight cars.

gargantuan

adj. of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic

synonym: enormous, colossal, mammoth

(1) **gargantuan** size, (2) **gargantuan** appetite

The construction of the **gargantuan** skyscraper was an engineering marvel.

sanity

n. the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
synonym: mental health, rationality, soundness

(1) **sanity** check, (2) have a **sanity** hearing

Her job's long hours and high pressure started affecting her **sanity**.

mesothelium

n. a type of tissue that lines the internal organs and body cavities, playing a role in the protection and lubrication of organs

synonym: serous membrane, mesothelial tissue

(1) **mesothelium** lining, (2) pleural **mesothelium**

The pathology report showed evidence of **mesothelium-originated** malignancies.

ovary

n. either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower

(1) **ovary** atrophy, (2) salted **ovary** of walleye pollack

They found **ovary** cancer in an early stage.

stifle

v. to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation

synonym: smother, suppress, suffocate

(1) **stifle** a laugh, (2) **stifle** creativity

The oppressive regime tried to **stifle** free speech and dissent.

sneak

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

synonym: creep, tiptoe, smuggle

(1) **sneak** a cigarette, (2) **sneak** out of danger

The children tried to **sneak** out and eat the candy.

nanotube

n. a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science

(1) **nanotube** technology, (2) metallic **nanotube**

Carbon **nanotubes** are used in various fields of science and technology due to their unique properties.

superhero

n. a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

(1) **superhero** movies, (2) **superhero** comics

Superman is a classic **superhero** known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.

sneaky

adj. behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness

synonym: sly, crafty, deceitful

(1) **sneaky** tactics, (2) **sneaky** behavior

The **sneaky** thief slipped into the house through an unlocked window.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym: braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story

The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

flimsy

adj. very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used

synonym: delicate, insubstantial, fragile

(1) a **flimsy** structure, (2) make a **flimsy** excuse

His arguments are based on **flimsy** evidence.

blemish

n. a mark or imperfection that detracts from the appearance of something, typically a person's skin or

features; (verb) to spoil, mar, or damage the appearance or quality of something

synonym: defect, flaw, imperfection

(1) **blemish** my record, (2) skin **blemish**

I have a **blemish** on my face that I am trying to cover with makeup.

painstaking

adj. cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort

synonym: detailed, meticulous, conscientious

(1) **painstaking** research, (2) a **painstaking** student

The training of a hawk was a **painstaking** process.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

clown

n. a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences

synonym: jester, harlequin, comedian

(1) a **clown** act, (2) act as a **clown**

She dressed up as a Halloween **clown** with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.

cram

v. to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space

synonym: stuff, pack, jam

(1) **cram** more circuits into chips, (2) **cram** five people into a car

She had to **cram** for the final exam and stayed up all night studying.

interrogate

v. to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

synonym: question, examine, probe

(1) **interrogate** an enemy soldier, (2) **interrogated** by police

The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately

interrogate the witness.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned

synonym: later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem

afterward.

dismal

adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair

synonym: gloomy, depressing, dreary

(1) **dismal** failure, (2) **dismal** performance

The weather was so **dismal** that we decided to stay indoors all day.

Session 2: Spelling

1. st___e a laugh
v. to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation
2. di___l performance
adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
3. mi_____le letters
adj. extremely small; tiny
4. make a fl___y excuse
adj. very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used
5. c__g beer
v. to make a dull, steady, and repetitive sound, as if from an engine or machine; to drink, especially alcohol, quickly and in large quantities; (noun) the sound made by a vehicle, particularly a train or a boat, as it moves steadily and slowly
6. gar_____an size
adj. of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic
7. sn__k out of danger
v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
8. political op_____sm
n. a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

ANSWERS: 1. stifle, 2. dismal, 3. minuscule, 4. flimsy, 5. chug, 6. gargantuan, 7. sneak, 8. optimism

9. gar_____an appetite *adj.* of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic
10. su_____ro comics *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
11. co_____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
12. c__m five people into a car *v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
13. na_____be technology *n.* a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science
14. mi_____le amount *adj.* extremely small; tiny
15. sa___y check *n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
16. c__g on a cigarette *v.* to make a dull, steady, and repetitive sound, as if from an engine or machine; to drink, especially alcohol, quickly and in large quantities; (noun) the sound made by a vehicle, particularly a train or a boat, as it moves steadily and slowly
17. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 9. gargantuan, 10. superhero, 11. confuse, 12. cram, 13. nanotube, 14. minuscule, 15. sanity, 16. chug, 17. excite

18. pa____as function *n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine
19. a pai_____ng student *adj.* cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort
20. Wi_____ia article *n.* an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
21. pa____as inflammation *n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine
22. di____l failure *adj.* depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair
23. co_____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
24. blo_____am in an artery *n.* the blood flowing through the body
25. ex____e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
26. ov__y atrophy *n.* either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower

ANSWERS: 18. pancreas, 19. painstaking, 20. Wikipedia, 21. pancreas, 22. dismal, 23. confuse, 24. bloodstream, 25. excite, 26. ovary

27. sn___y tactics *adj.* behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness
28. we__e on a loom *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
29. salted ov__y of walleye pollack *n.* either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower
30. bl_____h my record *n.* a mark or imperfection that detracts from the appearance of something, typically a person's skin or features; (verb) to spoil, mar, or damage the appearance or quality of something
31. blo_____am to the brain *n.* the blood flowing through the body
32. sense of op_____sm *n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation
33. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
34. sn___y behavior *adj.* behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness
35. a fl___y structure *adj.* very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used

ANSWERS: 27. sneaky, 28. weave, 29. ovary, 30. blemish, 31. bloodstream, 32. optimism, 33. medicinal, 34. sneaky, 35. flimsy

36. skin bl____h *n.* a mark or imperfection that detracts from the appearance of something, typically a person's skin or features; (verb) to spoil, mar, or damage the appearance or quality of something
37. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
38. metallic na_____be *n.* a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science
39. act as a cl__n *n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
40. pai_____ng research *adj.* cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort
41. sn__k a cigarette *v.* to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily
42. su_____ro movies *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
43. mes_____um lining *n.* a type of tissue that lines the internal organs and body cavities, playing a role in the protection and lubrication of organs

ANSWERS: 36. blemish, 37. afterward, 38. nanotube, 39. clown, 40. painstaking, 41. sneak, 42. superhero, 43. mesothelium

44. a cl__n act *n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
45. have a sa___y hearing *n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
46. int_____te an enemy soldier *v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
47. c__m more circuits into chips *v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
48. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
49. st___e creativity *v.* to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation
50. pleural mes_____um *n.* a type of tissue that lines the internal organs and body cavities, playing a role in the protection and lubrication of organs
51. we__e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
52. Wi_____ia entry *n.* an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics

ANSWERS: 44. clown, 45. sanity, 46. interrogate, 47. cram, 48. medicinal, 49. stifle, 50. mesothelium, 51. weave, 52. Wikipedia

53. a few years af_____rd

adv. after the time mentioned

54. int_____ted by police

v. to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner

ANSWERS: 53. afterward, 54. interrogate

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She dressed up as a Halloween _____ with a rainbow wig and oversized red nose.
 - n.* a performer, typically in a circus, who wears distinctive makeup and costumes and plays practical jokes, and performs tricks or stunts to entertain audiences
2. She had to _____ for the final exam and stayed up all night studying.
 - v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
3. Her job's long hours and high pressure started affecting her _____.
 - n.* the state of being mentally sound, healthy, and rational
4. The _____ thief slipped into the house through an unlocked window.
 - adj.* behaving in a deceptive or underhanded way; characterized by stealth or secretiveness
5. Cancer cells are often carried throughout the body by the _____.
 - n.* the blood flowing through the body
6. The pathology report showed evidence of _____ malignancies.
 - n.* a type of tissue that lines the internal organs and body cavities, playing a role in the protection and lubrication of organs
7. There is considerable _____ that the economy will recover soon.
 - n.* a feeling or the belief that good things will happen, or the quality of being full of hope and emphasizing the positive aspects of a situation

ANSWERS: 1. clown, 2. cram, 3. sanity, 4. sneaky, 5. bloodstream, 6. mesothelium-originated, 7. optimism

8. The training of a hawk was a _____ process.

adj. cautious and correct, and requiring a significant amount of effort

9. They found _____ cancer in an early stage.

n. either of the pair of organs in the female reproductive system that produces eggs; (of a plant) the organ that bears the ovules of a flower

10. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

11. The weather was so _____ that we decided to stay indoors all day.

adj. depressing or dreary; causing or showing unhappiness or despair

12. The old locomotive _____ slowly along the tracks, pulling a long line of freight cars.

v. to make a dull, steady, and repetitive sound, as if from an engine or machine; to drink, especially alcohol, quickly and in large quantities; (noun) the sound made by a vehicle, particularly a train or a boat, as it moves steadily and slowly

13. The children tried to _____ out and eat the candy.

v. to go somewhere, or take someone or something somewhere secretly or stealthily; to steal or do something secretly or stealthily

14. His arguments are based on _____ evidence.

adj. very thin and easily broken or damaged; poorly made and not strong enough for the purpose for which it is used

15. Her remarks _____ the debate.

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

ANSWERS: 8. painstaking, 9. ovary, 10. weaves, 11. dismal, 12. chugged, 13. sneak, 14. flimsy, 15. confused

16. The oppressive regime tried to _____ free speech and dissent.

- v.* to suppress or restrain something, particularly a feeling, emotion, or action; to suffocate or prevent proper breathing or ventilation

17. The construction of the _____ skyscraper was an engineering marvel.

- adj.* of immense size, volume, or magnitude; gigantic

18. The news of her promotion _____ her.

- v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

19. This ore emits _____ quantities of radiation

- adj.* extremely small; tiny

20. I have a _____ on my face that I am trying to cover with makeup.

- n.* a mark or imperfection that detracts from the appearance of something, typically a person's skin or features; (verb) to spoil, mar, or damage the appearance or quality of something

21. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

- adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

22. The endocrine function of the _____ involves the secretion of hormones such as insulin.

- n.* a glandular organ in the digestive system that produces several important hormones, including insulin and glucagon, as well as digestive enzymes that help break down food in the small intestine

23. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.

- adv.* after the time mentioned

ANSWERS: 16. stifle, 17. gargantuan, 18. excited, 19. minuscule, 20. blemish, 21. medicinal, 22. pancreas, 23. afterward

24. Not all teachers accept citing _____ as a valid source for academic papers.
- n.* an online encyclopedia that allows users to contribute and edit articles collaboratively; a vast and frequently updated repository of information on a wide range of topics
25. The lawyer spent considerable time to adequately _____ the witness.
- v.* to examine someone with questions over a lengthy period, especially in an aggressive manner
26. Carbon _____ are used in various fields of science and technology due to their unique properties.
- n.* a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science
27. Superman is a classic _____ known for his superhuman strength and flying ability.
- n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public

ANSWERS: 24. Wikipedia, 25. interrogate, 26. nanotubes, 27. superhero