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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Trita Parsi: Iran and Israel: Peace is possible | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

solvable

adj. capable of being solved or resolved; able to be fixed or resolved with effort, skill, or knowledge

synonym : attainable, resolvable, achievable

(1) **solvable** problem, (2) mathematically **solvable** equation

The engineers found the technical glitch in the system was quite **solvable** with a software update.

Jewish

adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism

synonym : Judaic

(1) **Jewish** history, (2) **Jewish** culture

My friend is a **Jewish** woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.

captivity

n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from

synonym : confinement, detention, imprisonment

(1) escape from **captivity**, (2) animals in **captivity** in the zoo

Pandas rarely breed in **captivity**.

incidentally

adv. by the way; as an aside or in passing

synonym : by chance, by accident, inadvertently

(1) **incidentally** discovered, (2) **incidentally** mentioned
Incidentally, I know the answer to that question.

periphery

n. the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people

synonym : edge, border, margin

(1) around the **periphery**, (2) **periphery** countries

The factory was located on the city's **periphery**, away from residential areas.

wig

n. a head covering made of synthetic or real hair worn for a variety of reasons, including as a fashion accessory, to conceal hair loss or baldness, or as part of a costume

synonym : hairpiece, toupee, hair system

(1) curly **wig**, (2) blonde **wig**

She decided to wear a pink **wig** to the costume party.

tarmac

n. (also "blacktop") a hard surface made of asphalt, concrete, or other materials, typically used as a runway or surface for vehicles to move on, such as a road, parking lot, or airport runway; (verb) to surface or pave a road or runway with tarmac

synonym : runway, airstrip, path

(1) **tarmac** repair, (2) **tarmac** a driveway

The plane pulled onto the **tarmac** and stopped at the gate.

geopolitical

adj. of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area

(1) the **geopolitical** situations, (2) reduce **geopolitical** risk

The country holds dominant **geopolitical** power over its neighbors.

invade

v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

synonym : intrude, raid, overrun

(1) **invade** other tissues, (2) **invade** his privacy

I have no intention to **invade** your privacy.

weaponry

n. a collection of weapons (e.g., guns, knives, bombs, missiles, etc.) used or owned by a particular individual, group, military, or country

synonym : arms, munition, artillery

(1) **weaponry** development, (2) advanced **weaponry**

The army used various **weaponry** to defend the country from attack.

embargo

n. a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment

synonym : ban, prohibition, restriction

(1) oil **embargo**, (2) economic **embargo**

The **embargo** on trade with the neighboring countries severely impacted the local economy.

climax

n. the most intense or exciting moment of an event or experience; the point of highest dramatic tension or emotional intensity in a story, plot, or performance

synonym : finale, pinnacle, apex

(1) emotional **climax**, (2) reach a **climax**

The **climax** of the movie had everyone on the edge of their seats.

evaporate

v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually

synonym : vaporize, disappear, vanish

(1) **evaporate** the water, (2) **evaporate** almost overnight

The sun will **evaporate** the mist.

unchecked

adj. not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference

synonym : uncontrolled, unrestrained, unbridled

(1) **unchecked** ambition, (2) **unchecked** growth

The **unchecked** spread of the virus led to a nationwide outbreak.

reconfigure

v. to change the configuration or arrangement of something, often to improve its performance or functionality

synonym: reshape, restructure, realign

(1) **reconfigure** the network, (2) **reconfigure** the operating system

We need to **reconfigure** the office layout to use the space better.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**

He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

rapprochement

n. the reestablishment or improvement of friendly and cooperative relations between two parties, especially after a period of hostility or disagreement

synonym: reconciliation, diplomacy

(1) **rapprochement** process, (2) political **rapprochement**

The diplomatic meeting resulted in a **rapprochement** between the two countries.

peacemaker

n. a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace

synonym: mediator, arbitrator, conciliator

(1) act as **peacemaker**, (2) **peacemaker** effort

The dedicated **peacemaker** worked tirelessly to resolve the conflict between the two sides.

postwar

adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies

synonym : subsequent, aftermath

(1) **postwar** years, (2) **postwar** society

The **postwar** period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.

intensify

v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength

synonym : amplify, boost, strengthen

(1) **intensify** diplomatic efforts, (2) **intensify** a good relationship

Rebels have pledged to **intensify** the armed struggle against the dictatorship.

compel

v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

synonym : force, oblige, coerce

(1) **compel** a person to submission, (2) **compel** attention

The strict deadlines will **compel** the team to work efficiently.

shun

v. to avoid deliberately or keep away from someone or something

synonym : avoid, evade, steer clear of

(1) **shun** a person, (2) **shun** office politics

He **shunned** going to the party and decided to stay home instead.

paradoxical

adj. seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true

synonym : contradictory, conflicting, perplexing

(1) a **paradoxical** anecdote, (2) apparently **paradoxical** it is **paradoxical** that the French, who prefer animal foods, live longer than people in other countries.

entanglement

n. involvement in a complicated or difficult situation; a tangled mass

synonym : snarl, tangle, knot

(1) **entanglement** in conflict, (2) romantic **entanglement**
The **entanglement** of the fishing net was making it difficult for the whales to swim.

resurrect

v. to bring back to life or bring into existence again
synonym: revive, bring back, bring to life

(1) **resurrect** the dead, (2) **resurrect** an argument
They tried to **resurrect** the ancient tradition.

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**.

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

ebb

n. the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede

synonym: regression, decline, (verb) decrease

(1) **ebb** and flow, (2) at a low **ebb**

The tide was at its **ebb**, revealing the sandy beach.

hostility

n. aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior

synonym: antagonism, antipathy, estrangement

(1) an act of **hostility**, (2) bitter **hostility**

Her unconcealed **hostility** made us unpleasant.

zeal

n. great enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor; eagerness or intensity for a cause or purpose

synonym : passion, enthusiasm, fervor

(1) **zeal** for fitness, (2) religious **zeal**

The athlete brought great **zeal** to every competition, striving to be the best.

dictate

v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

synonym : read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

collide

v. to hit something violently when moving

synonym : clash, slam, contradict

(1) **collide** head-on, (2) **collide** in midair

The interests of the two countries **collide**.

enmity

n. the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something

synonym : hostility, antipathy, animosity

(1) incur his **enmity**, (2) mutual **enmity**

There is a long-standing **enmity** between the two countries.

forego

v. to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation

synonym : antecede, precede, relinquish

(1) **forego** dessert, (2) **forego** the privilege

The company decided to **forego** the expensive advertising campaign and instead rely on word of mouth.

diplomacy

n. the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

synonym : tact, negotiation, delicacy

(1) the language of **diplomacy**, (2) the art of **diplomacy**

Effective **diplomacy** is necessary to resolve conflicts and

maintain relationships between countries.

truce

n. a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement

synonym: ceasefire, armistice, peace

(1) temporary **truce**, (2) break a **truce**

The two sides agreed to a **truce** and set down their weapons.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. economic em_____o | <i>n.</i> a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment |
| 2. ev_____te almost overnight | <i>v.</i> to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually |
| 3. inc_____lly discovered | <i>adv.</i> by the way; as an aside or in passing |
| 4. break a tr___e | <i>n.</i> a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement |
| 5. s___n office politics | <i>v.</i> to avoid deliberately or keep away from someone or something |
| 6. mathematically so_____le equation | <i>adj.</i> capable of being solved or resolved; able to be fixed or resolved with effort, skill, or knowledge |
| 7. Je___h culture | <i>adj.</i> of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism |
| 8. po_____r society | <i>adj.</i> relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies |
| 9. reach a cl___x | <i>n.</i> the most intense or exciting moment of an event or experience; the point of highest dramatic tension or emotional intensity in a story, plot, or performance |

ANSWERS: 1. embargo, 2. evaporate, 3. incidentally, 4. truce, 5. shun, 6. solvable, 7. Jewish, 8. postwar, 9. climax

10. co___l a person to submission *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
11. temporary tr___e *n.* a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement
12. in___e other tissues *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
13. re_____ct an argument *v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
14. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
15. emotional cl___x *n.* the most intense or exciting moment of an event or experience; the point of highest dramatic tension or emotional intensity in a story, plot, or performance
16. oil em_____o *n.* a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment
17. romantic ent_____ent *n.* involvement in a complicated or difficult situation; a tangled mass
18. we_____ry development *n.* a collection of weapons (e.g., guns, knives, bombs, missiles, etc.) used or owned by a particular individual, group, military, or country

ANSWERS: 10. compel, 11. truce, 12. invade, 13. resurrect, 14. improvisation, 15. climax, 16. embargo, 17. entanglement, 18. weaponry

19. rec_____re the network *v.* to change the configuration or arrangement of something, often to improve its performance or functionality
20. inc_____lly mentioned *adv.* by the way; as an aside or in passing
21. an act of ho_____ty *n.* aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior
22. so_____le problem *adj.* capable of being solved or resolved; able to be fixed or resolved with effort, skill, or knowledge
23. ent_____ent in conflict *n.* involvement in a complicated or difficult situation; a tangled mass
24. co_____e head-on *v.* to hit something violently when moving
25. pea_____er effort *n.* a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace
26. rec_____re the operating system *v.* to change the configuration or arrangement of something, often to improve its performance or functionality
27. animals in ca_____ty in the zoo *n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
28. a par_____al anecdote *adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
29. 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

ANSWERS: 19. reconfigure, 20. incidentally, 21. hostility, 22. solvable, 23. entanglement, 24. collide, 25. peacemaker, 26. reconfigure, 27. captivity, 28. paradoxical, 29. rev

30. the geo_____cal situations *adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
31. un_____ed ambition *adj.* not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference
32. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
33. bitter ho_____ty *n.* aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior
34. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
35. pe_____ry countries *n.* the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people
36. re_____ct the dead *v.* to bring back to life or bring into existence again
37. e_b and flow *n.* the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede
38. around the pe_____ry *n.* the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people
39. s__n a person *v.* to avoid deliberately or keep away from someone or something
40. political rap_____ent *n.* the reestablishment or improvement of friendly and cooperative relations between two parties, especially after a period of hostility or disagreement

ANSWERS: 30. geopolitical, 31. unchecked, 32. opportune, 33. hostility, 34. opportune, 35. periphery, 36. resurrect, 37. ebb, 38. periphery, 39. shun, 40. rapprochement

49. Je___h history *adj.* of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
50. advanced we_____ry *n.* a collection of weapons (e.g., guns, knives, bombs, missiles, etc.) used or owned by a particular individual, group, military, or country
51. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
52. in___e his privacy *v.* to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation
53. in_____fy diplomatic efforts *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
54. co___l attention *v.* to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way
55. ta___c repair *n.* (also "blacktop") a hard surface made of asphalt, concrete, or other materials, typically used as a runway or surface for vehicles to move on, such as a road, parking lot, or airport runway; (verb) to surface or pave a road or runway with tarmac
56. reduce geo_____cal risk *adj.* of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area
57. 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

ANSWERS: 49. Jewish, 50. weaponry, 51. improvisation, 52. invade, 53. intensify, 54. compel, 55. tarmac, 56. geopolitical, 57. rev

58. escape from ca_____ty *n.* the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
59. po_____r years *adj.* relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
60. z__l for fitness *n.* great enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor; eagerness or intensity for a cause or purpose
61. un_____ed growth *adj.* not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference
62. in_____fy a good relationship *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
63. mutual en___y *n.* the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something
64. religious z__l *n.* great enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor; eagerness or intensity for a cause or purpose
65. incur his en___y *n.* the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something
66. act as pea_____er *n.* a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace
67. the language of di_____cy *n.* the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way

ANSWERS: 58. captivity, 59. postwar, 60. zeal, 61. unchecked, 62. intensify, 63. enmity, 64. zeal, 65. enmity, 66. peacemaker, 67. diplomacy

68. apparently par_____al *adj.* seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true
69. blonde w_g *n.* a head covering made of synthetic or real hair worn for a variety of reasons, including as a fashion accessory, to conceal hair loss or baldness, or as part of a costume
70. fo___o the privilege *v.* to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation
71. at a low e_b *n.* the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede
72. curly w_g *n.* a head covering made of synthetic or real hair worn for a variety of reasons, including as a fashion accessory, to conceal hair loss or baldness, or as part of a costume

ANSWERS: 68. paradoxical, 69. wig, 70. forego, 71. ebb, 72. wig

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The company decided to _____ the expensive advertising campaign and instead rely on word of mouth.
v. to precede or go before something in time or order; to give up, relinquish or do without something, usually by choice or obligation
2. _____ I know the answer to that question.
adv. by the way; as an aside or in passing
3. They tried to _____ the ancient tradition.
v. to bring back to life or bring into existence again
4. The interests of the two countries _____.
v. to hit something violently when moving
5. The allies _____ the terms of surrender to the country.
v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
6. Pandas rarely breed in _____.
n. the situation in which a person or animal is kept in prison or a space that they cannot escape from
7. The _____ period was marked by economic growth and rebuilding efforts.
adj. relating to the period following a war, particularly World War II; characterized by the rebuilding and recovery of countries and societies
8. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

ANSWERS: 1. forego, 2. Incidentally, 3. resurrect, 4. collide, 5. dictated, 6. captivity, 7. postwar, 8. opportune

9. Her unconcealed _____ made us unpleasant.
n. aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behavior
10. We need to _____ the office layout to use the space better.
v. to change the configuration or arrangement of something, often to improve its performance or functionality
11. The athlete brought great _____ to every competition, striving to be the best.
n. great enthusiasm or passion for something; fervor; eagerness or intensity for a cause or purpose
12. The diplomatic meeting resulted in a _____ between the two countries.
n. the reestablishment or improvement of friendly and cooperative relations between two parties, especially after a period of hostility or disagreement
13. The sun will _____ the mist.
v. to turn a liquid into a gas; to become less intense and disappear gradually
14. The plane pulled onto the _____ and stopped at the gate.
n. (also "blacktop") a hard surface made of asphalt, concrete, or other materials, typically used as a runway or surface for vehicles to move on, such as a road, parking lot, or airport runway; (verb) to surface or pave a road or runway with tarmac
15. The dedicated _____ worked tirelessly to resolve the conflict between the two sides.
n. a person who helps to reconcile conflicting parties and bring peace
16. it is _____ that the French, who prefer animal foods, live longer than people in other countries.
adj. seemingly contradictory or absurd because of having two opposite features or facts, though it is probably true

ANSWERS: 9. hostility, 10. reconfigure, 11. zeal, 12. rapprochement, 13. evaporate, 14. tarmac, 15. peacemaker, 16. paradoxical

17. She decided to wear a pink ____ to the costume party.

- n.* a head covering made of synthetic or real hair worn for a variety of reasons, including as a fashion accessory, to conceal hair loss or baldness, or as part of a costume

18. The two sides agreed to a _____ and set down their weapons.

- n.* a cessation or suspension of hostilities between warring parties, usually for a specified period, as a treaty, armistice, or other agreement

19. The _____ on trade with the neighboring countries severely impacted the local economy.

- n.* a ban or restriction on trade, commerce, or travel imposed by one country or group of countries against another as a means of political or economic pressure or punishment

20. The engineers found the technical glitch in the system was quite _____ with a software update.

- adj.* capable of being solved or resolved; able to be fixed or resolved with effort, skill, or knowledge

21. The _____ of the movie had everyone on the edge of their seats.

- n.* the most intense or exciting moment of an event or experience; the point of highest dramatic tension or emotional intensity in a story, plot, or performance

22. There is a long-standing _____ between the two countries.

- n.* the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something

23. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.

- n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation

ANSWERS: 17. wig, 18. truce, 19. embargo, 20. solvable, 21. climax, 22. enmity, 23. improvisation

24. The _____ spread of the virus led to a nationwide outbreak.
adj. not restrained or controlled; not examined or scrutinized; allowed to proceed without restraint or interference
25. Effective _____ is necessary to resolve conflicts and maintain relationships between countries.
n. the art and practice of conducting negotiations between nations, organizations, or people; the fine art of dealing with people in a sensitive and effective way
26. 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
27. He _____ going to the party and decided to stay home instead.
v. to avoid deliberately or keep away from someone or something
28. The _____ of the fishing net was making it difficult for the whales to swim.
n. involvement in a complicated or difficult situation; a tangled mass
29. My friend is a _____ woman who celebrates Hanukkah every year.
adj. of or relating to people whose traditional religion is Judaism
30. The factory was located on the city's _____ away from residential areas.
n. the outer edge or margin of something, especially a geographical area or a group of people
31. The country holds dominant _____ power over its neighbors.
adj. of or relating to political activity or relations between countries and groups of countries, as influenced by the physical features of a country or area

ANSWERS: 24. unchecked, 25. diplomacy, 26. rev, 27. shunned, 28. entanglement, 29. Jewish, 30. periphery, 31. geopolitical

32. I have no intention to _____ your privacy.

- v. to enter aggressively into another's territory by military force for conquest and occupation

33. The tide was at its _____ revealing the sandy beach.

- n. the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede

34. The strict deadlines will _____ the team to work efficiently.

- v. to force or require someone to do something; to exert a strong, irresistible force or pressure that makes someone act in a certain way

35. Rebels have pledged to _____ the armed struggle against the dictatorship.

- v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength

36. The army used various _____ to defend the country from attack.

- n. a collection of weapons (e.g., guns, knives, bombs, missiles, etc.) used or owned by a particular individual, group, military, or country

ANSWERS: 32. invade, 33. ebb, 34. compel, 35. intensify, 36. weaponry