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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Daniel H. Cohen: For argument's sake | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- utilitarianism** *n.* the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
(1) individualistic **utilitarianism**, (2) institutional **utilitarianism**
Utilitarianism focuses on results and consequences rather than rules.
- dialectic** *n.* a method of inquiry and discussion that involves examining and resolving opposing or conflicting ideas or arguments; a discourse or dialogue that seeks to find the truth through logical reasoning and inquiry
synonym: debate, argument, discussion
(1) **dialectic** mathematics, (2) Hegelian **dialectic**
The transcendental **dialectic** in Kant's philosophy seeks to uncover the illusory knowledge pure reason claims to attain.
- entrenched** *adj.* established firmly and securely
synonym: deep-rooted, confirmed, ingrained
(1) **entrenched** ideas, (2) **entrenched** positions
The monarch exploited the peasants using its **entrenched** power.
- doe** *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

synonym : rabbit, bunny, hare

(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**

Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.

adversary

n. a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent

synonym : opponent, enemy, foe

(1) **adversary** team, (2) political **adversary**

The boxer's toughest **adversary** was his fear of losing.

francophone

adj. relating to or characterized by the use of the French language, either as a native speaker or for communication purposes; pertaining to French-speaking people or countries

synonym : french-speaking

(1) **francophone** literature, (2) **francophone** community

He attended a **francophone** school where all the classes were taught in French.

militarism

n. a political belief of a people or a government that a country should maintain a strong military force and be prepared to use it aggressively to defend or promote national interests

synonym : militancy, aggression

(1) abolish **militarism**, (2) anti- **militarism** movement

The leaders of that country strived to revive **militarism** despite past defeats.

deform

v. to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted

synonym : distort, contort, mangle

(1) **deform** the shape, (2) **deform** his way of life

The heat from the fire **deformed** the plastic parts of the appliance.

elevate

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

synonym: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

subterfuge

n. a deceptive stratagem, tactic, or plan used to hide one's true intentions or to deceive someone; a trick or ruse designed to mislead or disguise the truth

synonym: deception, deceit, trickery

(1) **subterfuge** of trickery, (2) **subterfuge** methods

Civil rights activists criticized the government's use of **subterfuge** to withhold information from the public.

magnify

v. to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder

synonym: enlarge, elaborate, intensify

(1) **magnify** the danger, (2) **magnify** the image for display

Terrorists often attempt to **magnify** the economic impact of their acts of destruction.

foresee

v. to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future

synonym: predict, anticipate, forecast

(1) **foresee** the consequences, (2) **foresee** challenges

I **foresee** a problem arising if we don't address this issue now.

abject

adj. extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless

synonym: wretched, miserable, pitiful

(1) **abject** failure, (2) **abject** despair

The **abject** poverty in the slums is a concern for the government.

ignominious

adj. causing or deserving public disgrace or humiliation; characterized by shame or disgrace; dishonorable or humiliating in nature

synonym : shameful, disgraceful, dishonorable

(1) **ignominious** defeat, (2) an **ignominious** exit

After the scandal, the politician's reputation was left in **ignominious** ruins.

roundabout

n. a circuitous or indirect route or path; a traffic circle or rotary used to regulate the flow of traffic

synonym : detour, circuitous route, indirect path

(1) **roundabout** junction, (2) traffic **roundabout**

Because of the road closure, we had to take a **roundabout** route to reach the destination.

gridlock

n. a situation in which traffic or progress is obstructed due to congestion, blockage, or a lack of movement; a deadlock or impasse in negotiations or decision-making

synonym : traffic jam, standstill, impasse

(1) **gridlock** situation, (2) political **gridlock**

The rush hour traffic in the city often leads to **gridlock** on the highways.

wand

n. a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority

synonym : rod, stick, staff

(1) magic **wand**, (2) security **wand**

The magician waved his **wand**, and a rabbit appeared from the hat.

proponent

n. a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause

synonym : advocate, devotee, follower

(1) enthusiastic **proponent**, (2) **proponent** of world peace

Einstein was a **proponent** of the theory of relativity.

Session 2: Spelling

1. an ign_____us exit *adj.* causing or deserving public disgrace or humiliation; characterized by shame or disgrace; dishonorable or humiliating in nature
2. sub_____ge methods *n.* a deceptive stratagem, tactic, or plan used to hide one's true intentions or to deceive someone; a trick or ruse designed to mislead or disguise the truth
3. enthusiastic pr_____nt *n.* a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause
4. ad_____ry team *n.* a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent
5. fo_____e challenges *v.* to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future
6. pr_____nt of world peace *n.* a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause
7. institutional uti_____ism *n.* the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
8. anti-mil_____sm movement *n.* a political belief of a people or a government that a country should maintain a strong military force and be prepared to use it aggressively to defend or promote national interests

ANSWERS: 1. ignominious, 2. subterfuge, 3. proponent, 4. adversary, 5. foresee, 6. proponent, 7. utilitarianism, 8. militarism

9. magic w__d *n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
10. Hegelian di_____ic *n.* a method of inquiry and discussion that involves examining and resolving opposing or conflicting ideas or arguments; a discourse or dialogue that seeks to find the truth through logical reasoning and inquiry
11. di_____ic mathematics *n.* a method of inquiry and discussion that involves examining and resolving opposing or conflicting ideas or arguments; a discourse or dialogue that seeks to find the truth through logical reasoning and inquiry
12. el_____e educational standards *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
13. fra_____ne literature *adj.* relating to or characterized by the use of the French language, either as a native speaker or for communication purposes; pertaining to French-speaking people or countries
14. ma_____y the danger *v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
15. ign_____us defeat *adj.* causing or deserving public disgrace or humiliation; characterized by shame or disgrace; dishonorable or humiliating in nature

ANSWERS: 9. wand, 10. dialectic, 11. dialectic, 12. elevate, 13. francophone, 14. magnify, 15. ignominious

16. individualistic uti_____ism *n.* the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
17. rou_____ut junction *n.* a circuitous or indirect route or path; a traffic circle or rotary used to regulate the flow of traffic
18. de___m his way of life *v.* to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted
19. el_____e a close relationship *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
20. ab___t despair *adj.* extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless
21. traffic rou_____ut *n.* a circuitous or indirect route or path; a traffic circle or rotary used to regulate the flow of traffic
22. ab___t failure *adj.* extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless
23. security w___d *n.* a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
24. fra_____ne community *adj.* relating to or characterized by the use of the French language, either as a native speaker or for communication purposes; pertaining to French-speaking people or countries

ANSWERS: 16. utilitarianism, 17. roundabout, 18. deform, 19. elevate, 20. abject, 21. roundabout, 22. abject, 23. wand, 24. francophone

25. ma____y the image for display *v.* to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
26. ent_____ed ideas *adj.* established firmly and securely
27. political ad_____ry *n.* a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent
28. de___m the shape *v.* to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted
29. gr_____ck situation *n.* a situation in which traffic or progress is obstructed due to congestion, blockage, or a lack of movement; a deadlock or impasse in negotiations or decision-making
30. ent_____ed positions *adj.* established firmly and securely
31. political gr_____ck *n.* a situation in which traffic or progress is obstructed due to congestion, blockage, or a lack of movement; a deadlock or impasse in negotiations or decision-making
32. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
33. sub_____ge of trickery *n.* a deceptive stratagem, tactic, or plan used to hide one's true intentions or to deceive someone; a trick or ruse designed to mislead or disguise the truth

ANSWERS: 25. magnify, 26. entrenched, 27. adversary, 28. deform, 29. gridlock, 30. entrenched, 31. gridlock, 32. doe, 33. subterfuge

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The magician waved his _____ and a rabbit appeared from the hat.
n. a slender rod or stick, especially one used for magic or divination; a rod or staff carried by certain officials as a symbol of authority
2. _____ focuses on results and consequences rather than rules.
n. the belief that the actions are the right if they are useful or for the benefit of a majority
3. Hunters use a whistle that makes the ____ sound to lure stags.
n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
4. The monarch exploited the peasants using its _____ power.
adj. established firmly and securely
5. I _____ a problem arising if we don't address this issue now.
v. to perceive or predict; to anticipate or expect something to happen in the future
6. Terrorists often attempt to _____ the economic impact of their acts of destruction.
v. to make something look bigger than it really is, especially by looking at it through a lens; to make something bigger, stronger, or louder
7. Civil rights activists criticized the government's use of _____ to withhold information from the public.
n. a deceptive stratagem, tactic, or plan used to hide one's true intentions or to deceive someone; a trick or ruse designed to mislead or disguise the truth

ANSWERS: 1. wand, 2. Utilitarianism, 3. doe, 4. entrenched, 5. foresee, 6. magnify, 7. subterfuge

8. After the scandal, the politician's reputation was left in _____ ruins.
adj. causing or deserving public disgrace or humiliation; characterized by shame or disgrace; dishonorable or humiliating in nature
9. The leaders of that country strived to revive _____ despite past defeats.
n. a political belief of a people or a government that a country should maintain a strong military force and be prepared to use it aggressively to defend or promote national interests
10. The transcendental _____ in Kant's philosophy seeks to uncover the illusory knowledge pure reason claims to attain.
n. a method of inquiry and discussion that involves examining and resolving opposing or conflicting ideas or arguments; a discourse or dialogue that seeks to find the truth through logical reasoning and inquiry
11. Einstein was a _____ of the theory of relativity.
n. a person who supports an idea or pleads for a cause
12. The boxer's toughest _____ was his fear of losing.
n. a person, group, or force that opposes or fights against another; an enemy or opponent
13. The rush hour traffic in the city often leads to _____ on the highways.
n. a situation in which traffic or progress is obstructed due to congestion, blockage, or a lack of movement; a deadlock or impasse in negotiations or decision-making
14. The heat from the fire _____ the plastic parts of the appliance.
v. to change or distort the shape or appearance of something; to become misshapen or distorted

ANSWERS: 8. ignominious, 9. militarism, 10. dialectic, 11. proponent, 12. adversary, 13. gridlock, 14. deformed

15. Eating food in a hurry _____ blood glucose levels.

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

16. The _____ poverty in the slums is a concern for the government.

adj. extremely unpleasant and degrading; physically or emotionally impoverished; miserable, wretched, and hopeless

17. He attended a _____ school where all the classes were taught in French.

adj. relating to or characterized by the use of the French language, either as a native speaker or for communication purposes; pertaining to French-speaking people or countries

18. Because of the road closure, we had to take a _____ route to reach the destination.

n. a circuitous or indirect route or path; a traffic circle or rotary used to regulate the flow of traffic

ANSWERS: 15. elevates, 16. abject, 17. francophone, 18. roundabout