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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jessica Oreck and Rachael Teel: Mysteries of vernacular: Sarcophagus | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

vernacular

n. a language or dialect spoken by the ordinary people in a particular country or region

synonym : dialect, idiom, lingo

(1) **vernacular** language, (2) native **vernacular**

The poet wrote in the **vernacular** of ordinary people.

sarcophagus

n. a stone coffin, often adorned with sculpture or inscriptions, usually used to hold the remains of a deceased person or people

synonym : coffin, tomb, casket

(1) **sarcophagus** lid, (2) ancient **sarcophagus**

The pharaoh was buried in an ornate **sarcophagus** complete with intricate hieroglyphics.

coffin

n. a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin

synonym : casket, box, chest

(1) **coffin** lid, (2) wooden **coffin**

The priest prayed over the **coffin** before it was lowered into the ground.

adorn

v. to make something or somebody more attractive or beautiful

synonym : decorate, beautify, embellish

(1) **adorn** a bride, (2) **adorn** the table with flowers

The architect **adorned** the interior with great artworks and frescoes.

carving

n. the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design

synonym : sculpture, engraving, sculpture

(1) a wood **carving**, (2) **carving** instrument

The intricate **carving** on the wooden box was the work of a master craftsman.

inscription

n. a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal

synonym : engraving, writing, script

(1) **inscription** on a plaque, (2) funerary **inscriptions**

The ancient coin had an **inscription** in Latin and a picture of the emperor on the other side.

grotesque

adj. bizarre or fantastic in shape, appearance, or character; fantastic; bizarre

synonym : bizarre, deformed, monstrous

(1) have **grotesque** design, (2) **grotesque** appearance

The **grotesque** sculpture made me feel uneasy.

limestone

n. a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite

synonym : calcareous rock, chalk

(1) sheer **limestone** cliffs, (2) **limestone** pavement

The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of **limestone**.

quarry

n. a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting

synonym : stone pit, prey, target

(1) **quarry** operation, (2) **quarry** site

The hunter tracked down his **quarry** in the woods.

dissolve

v. to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss

synonym: disband, disappear, liquefy

(1) **dissolve** the sugar, (2) officially **dissolved** the marriage

The political party **dissolved** after much internal fighting.

bacteriophage

n. (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria

synonym: phage, bacterial virus, bacteriovore

(1) DNA-containing **bacteriophage**, (2) **bacteriophage** infection

Scientists are studying the use of **bacteriophages** to combat bacterial infections.

etymology

n. the study of the origin and history of words, including changes in meaning and form over time; the history of a particular word or phrase

(1) **etymology** dictionary, (2) the **etymology** of a word

The study of **etymology** helps us to understand the origins of words.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. wooden co___n | <i>n.</i> a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin |
| 2. sar_____us lid | <i>n.</i> a stone coffin, often adorned with sculpture or inscriptions, usually used to hold the remains of a deceased person or people |
| 3. ca_____g instrument | <i>n.</i> the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design |
| 4. have gr_____ue design | <i>adj.</i> bizarre or fantastic in shape, appearance, or character; fantastic; bizarre |
| 5. li_____ne pavement | <i>n.</i> a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite |
| 6. officially di_____ved the marriage | <i>v.</i> to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss |
| 7. gr_____ue appearance | <i>adj.</i> bizarre or fantastic in shape, appearance, or character; fantastic; bizarre |
| 8. funerary ins_____ons | <i>n.</i> a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal |
| 9. qu___y operation | <i>n.</i> a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting |

ANSWERS: 1. coffin, 2. sarcophagus, 3. carving, 4. grotesque, 5. limestone, 6. dissolve, 7. grotesque, 8. inscription, 9. quarry

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 10. the et_____gy of a word | <i>n.</i> the study of the origin and history of words, including changes in meaning and form over time; the history of a particular word or phrase |
| 11. co___n lid | <i>n.</i> a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin |
| 12. ins_____on on a plaque | <i>n.</i> a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal |
| 13. qu___y site | <i>n.</i> a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting |
| 14. a wood ca_____g | <i>n.</i> the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design |
| 15. ad__n the table with flowers | <i>v.</i> to make something or somebody more attractive or beautiful |
| 16. DNA-containing bac _____age | <i>n.</i> (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria |
| 17. ver_____ar language | <i>n.</i> a language or dialect spoken by the ordinary people in a particular country or region |
| 18. bac _____age infection | <i>n.</i> (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria |
| 19. ancient sar _____us | <i>n.</i> a stone coffin, often adorned with sculpture or inscriptions, usually used to hold the remains of a deceased person or people |

ANSWERS: 10. etymology, 11. coffin, 12. inscription, 13. quarry, 14. carving, 15. adorn, 16. bacteriophage, 17. vernacular, 18. bacteriophage, 19. sarcophagus

20. native ver_____ar *n.* a language or dialect spoken by the ordinary people in a particular country or region
21. ad__n a bride *v.* to make something or somebody more attractive or beautiful
22. sheer li_____ne cliffs *n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
23. et_____gy dictionary *n.* the study of the origin and history of words, including changes in meaning and form over time; the history of a particular word or phrase
24. di_____ve the sugar *v.* to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss

ANSWERS: 20. vernacular, 21. adorn, 22. limestone, 23. etymology, 24. dissolve

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The poet wrote in the _____ of ordinary people.
n. a language or dialect spoken by the ordinary people in a particular country or region

2. The hunter tracked down his _____ in the woods.
n. a place where a stone or other materials are extracted from the ground; an animal or a person that is the target of hunting

3. The _____ sculpture made me feel uneasy.
adj. bizarre or fantastic in shape, appearance, or character; fantastic; bizarre

4. The architect _____ the interior with great artworks and frescoes.
v. to make something or somebody more attractive or beautiful

5. The political party _____ after much internal fighting.
v. to be or cause to be absorbed by a liquid to form a part of the solution; to close down or dismiss

6. The ancient coin had an _____ in Latin and a picture of the emperor on the other side.
n. a message or design that is written or engraved on a surface of something, such as stone or metal

7. The study of _____ helps us to understand the origins of words.
n. the study of the origin and history of words, including changes in meaning and form over time; the history of a particular word or phrase

ANSWERS: 1. vernacular, 2. quarry, 3. grotesque, 4. adorned, 5. dissolved, 6. inscription, 7. etymology

8. The intricate _____ on the wooden box was the work of a master craftsman.
- n.* the act or process of cutting or shaping a hard material, such as wood or stone, into a specific form or design
9. The Great Pyramid of Giza was built using blocks of _____.
- n.* a sedimentary rock that is composed mainly of calcium carbonate, which is the mineral calcite
10. The pharaoh was buried in an ornate _____ complete with intricate hieroglyphics.
- n.* a stone coffin, often adorned with sculpture or inscriptions, usually used to hold the remains of a deceased person or people
11. The priest prayed over the _____ before it was lowered into the ground.
- n.* a box or container used to bury a dead body; a case or structure resembling a coffin
12. Scientists are studying the use of _____ to combat bacterial infections.
- n.* (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria

ANSWERS: 8. carving, 9. limestone, 10. sarcophagus, 11. coffin, 12. bacteriophages