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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Elizabeth Gilbert: Success, failure and the drive to keep creating | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

smack

v. to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke

synonym: hit, slap, strike

(1) **smack** on the lips, (2) **smack** his knee

The baseball player **smacked** the ball out of the park, securing a home run.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym: sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

quitter

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

synonym: coward, deserter, surrender

(1) easy **quitter**, (2) serial **quitter**

He was labeled as a **quitter** after he abandoned the project halfway.

vocation

n. a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation,

seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life

synonym: occupation, profession, career

(1) **vocation** training, (2) artistic **vocation**

Her **vocation** as a nurse gave her great satisfaction and purpose in life.

waitress

n. a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe

synonym: server, attendant, waitperson

(1) **waitress** at a restaurant, (2) tip the **waitress**

The friendly **waitress** brought the food to the table and asked if they needed anything else.

comprehend

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

synonym: understand, grasp, apprehend

(1) **comprehend** English, (2) **comprehend** instructions

She struggled to **comprehend** complex math problems.

reassure

v. to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence

synonym: comfort, soothe, bolster

(1) **reassure** anxious patients, (2) **reassure** market

The pilot tried to **reassure** the customers that the planes were safe.

catapult

n. a device used to hurl an object a long distance

synonym: launcher, trebuchet, slingshot

(1) powerful **catapult**, (2) **catapult** mechanism

The army used a **catapult** to launch large rocks over the castle walls.

abrupt

adj. sudden and unexpected

synonym: sudden, unexpected, quick

(1) **abrupt** departure, (2) speak in an **abrupt** manner

The sudden, **abrupt** change in weather caught everyone by

surprise.

glare

v. to shine with a bright, harsh, or dazzling light; to stare fiercely or angrily, often with a piercing or threatening gaze; (noun) a strong, bright, and often harsh or uncomfortable light that can be blinding or difficult to look at directly

synonym : glower, stare, scowl

(1) the **glare** of the sun, (2) **glare** at my opponent

The sun **glared** down on us, making it difficult to see without squinting our eyes.

subconscious

adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

synonym : unconscious, latent, hidden

(1) **subconscious** influence, (2) **subconscious** behavior

The **subconscious** mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.

incapable

adj. unable to do, control, or achieve something

synonym : unable, incompetent, unskilled

(1) drunk and **incapable**, (2) **incapable** of being resisted

He seems **incapable** of understanding what she says.

discerning

adj. able to make good judgments about what is true or right

synonym : discriminating, perceptive, insightful

(1) **discerning** reader, (2) have a **discerning** palate

She has a **discerning** eye for art and can spot a fake a mile away.

fling

v. to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry

synonym : throw, dump, hurl

(1) **fling** a stream of abuse, (2) **fling** a door open forcefully

He was provoked to **fling** the draft on the floor.

hinterland

n. the remote or less developed areas beyond the main urban areas or centers of activity; a region lying inland from a port or coastal settlement

synonym: backcountry, wilderness, remote area

(1) **hinterland** tourism, (2) remote **hinterland**

The vast **hinterland** region was filled with untamed wilderness and natural wonders.

psyche

n. the human soul, mind, or spirit

synonym: mind, soul, spirit

(1) deep **psyche**, (2) **psyche** healing

The therapist helped her understand the workings of her **psyche** and how to cope with her anxiety.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

inconsequential

adj. of little or no importance or significance; trivial or negligible

synonym: insignificant, trivial, minor

(1) **inconsequential** details, (2) **inconsequential** effect

The mistake was **inconsequential** and did not significantly impact the outcome.

disorient

v. to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go

synonym: confuse, flummox, perplex

(1) **disorient** his audience, (2) **disorient** and wrong-foot viewers

Several studies have indicated that human activity at sea might **disorient** dolphins and whales.

dread

v. to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen

synonym: fear, cringe, apprehend

(1) **dread** failure, (2) **dread** getting old

We all **dread** to think about what will happen if the company goes bankrupt.

bulletproof

adj. intended to resist bullet penetration

synonym: unassailable, impregnable

(1) **bulletproof** armor, (2) **bulletproof** vehicle

Because of the **bulletproof** vest he was wearing, the officer could escape injury.

infatuate

v. to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something

synonym: beguile, captivate, charm

(1) **infatuate** the audience, (2) make me **infatuated**

He has been **infatuated** with her since he met her.

budge

v. to move or shift slightly, particularly with effort or resistance; to make or cause a slight change in something

synonym: move, shift, nudge

(1) **budge** an inch, (2) **budge** the shelf

No matter how hard I tried, I couldn't **budge** the heavy couch from its place in the room.

vaulted

adj. having an arched or curved ceiling or roof; constructed or designed in the shape of a vault; characterized by an impressive or grandiose style

synonym: arched, domed, curved

(1) **vaulted** galleries, (2) **vaulted** arch

The church's architecture featured beautifully **vaulted** ceilings.

reverence

n. a deep respect for someone or something

synonym: respect, honor, awe

(1) **reverence** for tradition, (2) pay **reverence** to him
The people of the village showed great **reverence** for the elderly.

Session 2: Spelling

1. the gl__e of the sun
v. to shine with a bright, harsh, or dazzling light; to stare fiercely or angrily, often with a piercing or threatening gaze;
(noun) a strong, bright, and often harsh or uncomfortable light that can be blinding or difficult to look at directly
2. sub_____ous behavior
adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
3. speak in an ab___t manner
adj. sudden and unexpected
4. make me in_____ted
v. to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something
5. deep ps___e
n. the human soul, mind, or spirit
6. sm__k his knee
v. to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke
7. ca_____lt mechanism
n. a device used to hurl an object a long distance
8. de_____te a few hours
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
9. inc_____ial details
adj. of little or no importance or significance; trivial or negligible

ANSWERS: 1. glare, 2. subconscious, 3. abrupt, 4. infatuate, 5. psyche, 6. smack, 7. catapult, 8. dedicate, 9. inconsequential

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|--|------|---|
| 10. dr__d getting old | v. | to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen |
| 11. ps___e healing | n. | the human soul, mind, or spirit |
| 12. com_____nd instructions | v. | to understand the nature or meaning of something fully |
| 13. re_____re anxious patients | v. | to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence |
| 14. fl__g a door open forcefully | v. | to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry |
| 15. wa_____ss at a restaurant | n. | a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe |
| 16. pay re_____ce to him | n. | a deep respect for someone or something |
| 17. in_____te the audience | v. | to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something |
| 18. powerful ca_____lt | n. | a device used to hurl an object a long distance |
| 19. sm__k on the lips | v. | to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke |
| 20. have a dis_____ng palate | adj. | able to make good judgments about what is true or right |
| 21. de_____te a chapter to the subject | v. | to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use |

ANSWERS: 10. dread, 11. psyche, 12. comprehend, 13. reassure, 14. fling, 15. waitress, 16. reverence, 17. infatuate, 18. catapult, 19. smack, 20. discerning, 21. dedicate

22. bul_____ of vehicle *adj.* intended to resist bullet penetration
23. inc_____ial effect *adj.* of little or no importance or significance; trivial or negligible
24. remote hin_____nd *n.* the remote or less developed areas beyond the main urban areas or centers of activity; a region lying inland from a port or coastal settlement
25. re_____ce for tradition *n.* a deep respect for someone or something
26. re_____re market *v.* to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence
27. di_____nt his audience *v.* to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
28. artistic vo_____on *n.* a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation, seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life
29. serial qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
30. easy qu_____r *n.* a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started
31. com_____nd English *v.* to understand the nature or meaning of something fully
32. dr__d failure *v.* to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen

ANSWERS: 22. bulletproof, 23. inconsequential, 24. hinterland, 25. reverence, 26. reassure, 27. disorient, 28. vocation, 29. quitter, 30. quitter, 31. comprehend, 32. dread

33. bu__e the shelf *v.* to move or shift slightly, particularly with effort or resistance; to make or cause a slight change in something
34. fl__g a stream of abuse *v.* to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry
35. sub_____ous influence *adj.* relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior
36. va_____d galleries *adj.* having an arched or curved ceiling or roof; constructed or designed in the shape of a vault; characterized by an impressive or grandiose style
37. drunk and in_____le *adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something
38. bu__e an inch *v.* to move or shift slightly, particularly with effort or resistance; to make or cause a slight change in something
39. ab____t departure *adj.* sudden and unexpected
40. dis_____ng reader *adj.* able to make good judgments about what is true or right
41. gl__e at my opponent *v.* to shine with a bright, harsh, or dazzling light; to stare fiercely or angrily, often with a piercing or threatening gaze; (noun) a strong, bright, and often harsh or uncomfortable light that can be blinding or difficult to look at directly
42. bul_____of armor *adj.* intended to resist bullet penetration

ANSWERS: 33. budge, 34. fling, 35. subconscious, 36. vaulted, 37. incapable, 38. budge, 39. abrupt, 40. discerning, 41. glare, 42. bulletproof

43. di_____nt and wrong-foot viewers *v.* to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go
44. tip the wa_____ss *n.* a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe
45. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
46. in_____le of being resisted *adj.* unable to do, control, or achieve something
47. va_____d arch *adj.* having an arched or curved ceiling or roof; constructed or designed in the shape of a vault; characterized by an impressive or grandiose style
48. hin_____nd tourism *n.* the remote or less developed areas beyond the main urban areas or centers of activity; a region lying inland from a port or coastal settlement
49. vo_____on training *n.* a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation, seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life
50. don't dis_____nt me *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

ANSWERS: 43. disorient, 44. waitress, 45. disappoint, 46. incapable, 47. vaulted, 48. hinterland, 49. vocation, 50. disappoint

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Because of the _____ vest he was wearing, the officer could escape injury.
adj. intended to resist bullet penetration

2. The _____ mind is said to hold our deepest desires and fears.
adj. relating to or concerning the part of the mind that is not fully conscious but still influences thoughts, feelings, and behavior

3. He has been _____ with her since he met her.
v. to be inspired with a very strong but usually short-lived passion, love, or admiration for someone or something

4. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

5. No matter how hard I tried, I couldn't _____ the heavy couch from its place in the room.
v. to move or shift slightly, particularly with effort or resistance; to make or cause a slight change in something

6. She has a _____ eye for art and can spot a fake a mile away.
adj. able to make good judgments about what is true or right

7. We all _____ to think about what will happen if the company goes bankrupt.
v. to be very afraid of or worried about something that is going to happen or that might happen

ANSWERS: 1. bulletproof, 2. subconscious, 3. infatuated, 4. disappoint, 5. budge, 6. discerning, 7. dread

8. The mistake was _____ and did not significantly impact the outcome.

adj. of little or no importance or significance; trivial or negligible

9. The vast _____ region was filled with untamed wilderness and natural wonders.

n. the remote or less developed areas beyond the main urban areas or centers of activity; a region lying inland from a port or coastal settlement

10. He was provoked to _____ the draft on the floor.

v. to throw or push something or someone with force or recklessness, especially because you are angry

11. Her _____ as a nurse gave her great satisfaction and purpose in life.

n. a strong feeling of suitability for a particular career or occupation; a person's employment or main occupation, seen as worthy of dedication and commitment; a calling or strong inclination toward a particular way of life

12. The army used a _____ to launch large rocks over the castle walls.

n. a device used to hurl an object a long distance

13. He _____ his life to helping others.

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

14. The church's architecture featured beautifully _____ ceilings.

adj. having an arched or curved ceiling or roof; constructed or designed in the shape of a vault; characterized by an impressive or grandiose style

15. The sun _____ down on us, making it difficult to see without squinting our eyes.

v. to shine with a bright, harsh, or dazzling light; to stare fiercely or angrily, often with a piercing or threatening gaze; (noun) a strong, bright, and often harsh or uncomfortable light that can be blinding or difficult to look at directly

ANSWERS: 8. inconsequential, 9. hinterland, 10. fling, 11. vocation, 12. catapult, 13. dedicated, 14. vaulted, 15. glared

16. The sudden, _____ change in weather caught everyone by surprise.

adj. sudden and unexpected

17. He was labeled as a _____ after he abandoned the project halfway.

n. a person who gives up easily or does not have the determination to finish what they have started

18. The people of the village showed great _____ for the elderly.

n. a deep respect for someone or something

19. He seems _____ of understanding what she says.

adj. unable to do, control, or achieve something

20. Several studies have indicated that human activity at sea might _____ dolphins and whales.

v. to make someone confused about where they are or where they should go

21. The therapist helped her understand the workings of her _____ and how to cope with her anxiety.

n. the human soul, mind, or spirit

22. The baseball player _____ the ball out of the park, securing a home run.

v. to hit something or someone with force, often making a loud noise; to deliver a sharp criticism or rebuke

23. She struggled to _____ complex math problems.

v. to understand the nature or meaning of something fully

24. The friendly _____ brought the food to the table and asked if they needed anything else.

n. a woman who serves food and drinks in a restaurant or cafe

ANSWERS: 16. abrupt, 17. quitter, 18. reverence, 19. incapable, 20. disorient, 21. psyche, 22. smacked, 23. comprehend, 24. waitress

25. The pilot tried to _____ the customers that the planes were safe.

v. to cause someone to feel sure; to give or restore confidence

ANSWERS: 25. reassure