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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Joy Lin: If superpowers were real: Super strength |
TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

broccoli

n. a green vegetable with a bunch of small, tight florets on a thick stem that belongs to the cabbage family

(1) frozen **broccoli**, (2) **broccoli** sprout

He didn't like **broccoli** floret and avoided eating it.

lifeless

adj. without life; dead

synonym: inanimate, inert, motionless

(1) fall **lifeless**, (2) a **lifeless** corpse

The plant had a **lifeless** appearance, indicating that it was not getting enough water.

poke

v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

synonym: prod, jab, push

(1) **poke** around the desk, (2) **poke** a fire

They **poked** fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.

exert

v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play

synonym: exert, apply, use

(1) **exert** control, (2) **exert** influence

He **exerted** himself to lift the heavyweight.

tiptoe

n. a way of walking quietly and cautiously, with the weight balanced mainly on the balls of the feet and the heels

lifted off the ground; a type of shoe or slipper that has a thin sole and is designed for quiet walking; (verb) to walk quietly and carefully, balancing on the tips of one's toes or the balls of one's feet

synonym : stealth, sneak

(1) **tiptoe** approach, (2) **tiptoe** around the issue

I walked on **tiptoe** to avoid waking up my sleeping baby.

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.

pave

v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

synonym : surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

marshmallow

n. a spongy confection made from sugar, corn syrup, and gelatin, often flavored with vanilla and molded into shapes or used as a topping or decoration for desserts

(1) **marshmallow** fluff, (2) **marshmallow** treat

She roasted **marshmallows** over the campfire.

graham

n. a type of flour made from whole wheat that has had the bran and germ removed and is often used to make crackers or cookies; a cracker made with this type of flour

synonym : cracker, biscuit, wafer

(1) **graham** bread, (2) **graham** flour

I enjoyed my camping trip with friends, toasting marshmallows over a glowing **graham** cracker.

cracker

- n.* a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited

synonym : biscuit, hacker, banger

(1) cannon **cracker**, (2) computer **cracker**

I love having a cheese and **cracker** platter while watching a movie.

superpower

- n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

synonym : great power, empire, hegemony

(1) **superpower** country, (2) **superpower** leader

The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a **superpower** in comic books and movies.

immortality

- n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever

synonym : endless life, timelessness, agelessness

(1) the **immortality** of the soul, (2) achieve **immortality**

Many people believe in the concept of **immortality** and an afterlife.

Session 2: Spelling

1. br____li sprout *n.* a green vegetable with a bunch of small, tight florets on a thick stem that belongs to the cabbage family
2. gr____m flour *n.* a type of flour made from whole wheat that has had the bran and germ removed and is often used to make crackers or cookies; a cracker made with this type of flour
3. ex__t control *v.* to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play
4. the imm____ty of the soul *n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
5. p__e a fire *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
6. su____ro comics *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
7. p__e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
8. cannon cr____r *n.* a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited

ANSWERS: 1. broccoli, 2. graham, 3. exert, 4. immortality, 5. poke, 6. superhero, 7. pave, 8. cracker

9. p__e around the desk *v.* to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger
10. sup_____er leader *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
11. ti___e around the issue *n.* a way of walking quietly and cautiously, with the weight balanced mainly on the balls of the feet and the heels lifted off the ground; a type of shoe or slipper that has a thin sole and is designed for quiet walking; (verb) to walk quietly and carefully, balancing on the tips of one's toes or the balls of one's feet
12. ti___e approach *n.* a way of walking quietly and cautiously, with the weight balanced mainly on the balls of the feet and the heels lifted off the ground; a type of shoe or slipper that has a thin sole and is designed for quiet walking; (verb) to walk quietly and carefully, balancing on the tips of one's toes or the balls of one's feet
13. su_____ro movies *n.* a fictional hero who possesses extraordinary powers and abilities and is dedicated to protecting the public
14. mar_____ow treat *n.* a spongy confection made from sugar, corn syrup, and gelatin, often flavored with vanilla and molded into shapes or used as a topping or decoration for desserts

ANSWERS: 9. poke, 10. superpower, 11. tiptoe, 12. tiptoe, 13. superhero, 14. marshmallow

15. achieve imm_____ty *n.* the state or quality of being able to live or last forever
16. frozen br_____li *n.* a green vegetable with a bunch of small, tight florets on a thick stem that belongs to the cabbage family
17. computer cr_____r *n.* a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited
18. fall li_____ss *adj.* without life; dead
19. p__e a smoother road *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
20. a li_____ss corpse *adj.* without life; dead
21. sup_____er country *n.* a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities
22. gr___m bread *n.* a type of flour made from whole wheat that has had the bran and germ removed and is often used to make crackers or cookies; a cracker made with this type of flour

ANSWERS: 15. immortality, 16. broccoli, 17. cracker, 18. lifeless, 19. pave, 20. lifeless, 21. superpower, 22. graham

23. mar_____ow fluff

n. a spongy confection made from sugar, corn syrup, and gelatin, often flavored with vanilla and molded into shapes or used as a topping or decoration for desserts

24. ex__t influence

v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play

ANSWERS: 23. marshmallow, 24. exert

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. They _____ fun at each other's jokes, laughing and teasing.
 - v. to push or prod with a sharp object or the finger

2. I love having a cheese and _____ platter while watching a movie.
 - n. a crisp, dry baked food usually made from flour and served as a snack or with soup or cheese; a person who breaks into computer systems or networks without authorization, commonly known as a hacker; a small firework that is designed to make a loud noise when ignited

3. The ability to fly like a bird is often considered a _____ in comic books and movies.
 - n. a country or nation that has significant global influence or formidable military, economic, or technological strength; a supernatural ability or force capable of extraordinary feats or feats beyond normal human capabilities

4. He didn't like _____ floret and avoided eating it.
 - n. a green vegetable with a bunch of small, tight florets on a thick stem that belongs to the cabbage family

5. Many people believe in the concept of _____ and an afterlife.
 - n. the state or quality of being able to live or last forever

6. He _____ himself to lift the heavyweight.
 - v. to put forth effort; to put into action; to bring into play

7. She roasted _____ over the campfire.
 - n. a spongy confection made from sugar, corn syrup, and gelatin, often flavored with vanilla and molded into shapes or used as a topping or decoration for desserts

ANSWERS: 1. poked, 2. cracker, 3. superpower, 4. broccoli, 5. immortality, 6. exerted, 7. marshmallows

8. I walked on _____ to avoid waking up my sleeping baby.
- n.* a way of walking quietly and cautiously, with the weight balanced mainly on the balls of the feet and the heels lifted off the ground; a type of shoe or slipper that has a thin sole and is designed for quiet walking; (verb) to walk quietly and carefully, balancing on the tips of one's toes or the balls of one's feet
9. 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
10. The plant had a _____ appearance, indicating that it was not getting enough water.
- adj.* without life; dead
11. I enjoyed my camping trip with friends, toasting marshmallows over a glowing _____ cracker.
- n.* a type of flour made from whole wheat that has had the bran and germ removed and is often used to make crackers or cookies; a cracker made with this type of flour
12. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
- v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

ANSWERS: 8. tiptoe, 9. superhero, 10. lifeless, 11. graham, 12. paved