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Nicolas Perony: Puppies! Now that I've got your attention, complexity theory | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

emergent

adj. starting to exist or view, or to become known

synonym: coming, appearing, developing

(1) **emergent** repair of an aorta, (2) an **emergent** republic
Extensive areas of **emergent** plants are usually called marsh.

scot

n. a tax or payment, particularly a share or portion of something; a person from Scotland or a Scottish immigrant

synonym: tax, charge, toll

(1) pay annual **scot**, (2) traditional **Scot** attire
The **scot-free** suspect was later apprehended for a different crime.

disorganize

v. to disrupt or destroy the systematic order or function of something

synonym: disrupt, demobilize, derange

(1) **disorganized** the party, (2) **disorganize** the whole country

His betrayal **disorganized** the company completely.

perturbation

n. a state of anxiety, confusion, or disturbance; a deviation or disruption from the normal or expected state

synonym: disruption, disturbance, turmoil

(1) seismic **perturbation**, (2) emotional **perturbation**

The unexpected financial crisis caused a **perturbation** in the stock market, leading to widespread panic among investors.

pinwheel

n. a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire

(1) a toy **pinwheel**, (2) **pinwheel** windmill

He spun the **pinwheel**, and it stopped with the pointer on five.

physicist

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

confuse

v. to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

synonym: confound, obscure, disorient

(1) **confuse** the listener, (2) **confuse** fantasy with reality

Her remarks **confused** the debate.

roost

n. a place where birds rest or sleep, typically on a branch or in a birdhouse or coop

synonym: perch, nest, roosting place

(1) wild **roost**, (2) bird **roost**

The chickens return to their **roost** at sunset every night.

hibernation

n. a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter

synonym: dormancy, torpor, sleep

(1) **hibernation** period, (2) artificial **hibernation**

Many animals go into **hibernation** during the winter to conserve energy and survive the harsh conditions.

subgroup

n. a smaller group within a larger group

synonym : subset, division, segment

(1) **subgroup** of the population, (2) patient **subgroup**

The researchers divided the study participants into two **subgroups**.

erratic

adj. characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality

synonym : unpredictable, irregular, unstable

(1) **erratic** behavior, (2) **erratic** movements

The stock market has been behaving in an **erratic** manner, making it difficult for investors to predict future trends.

fission

n. the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces

synonym : splitting, division, separation

(1) heavy-ion **fission**, (2) atomic **fission**

Nuclear **fission** is the process of splitting an atom into two smaller ones.

nod

v. to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

synonym : respond, acknowledge, greet

(1) **nod** at each other, (2) **nod** courteously

She **noded** quietly in response to the question.

cryptic

adj. having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature

synonym : enigmatic, mysterious, obscure

(1) **cryptic** language, (2) **cryptic** crossword

The message was so **cryptic** that I had no idea what it meant.

hibernate

v. to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den

synonym : sleep, slumber, nap

(1) **hibernate** in the adult stage, (2) **hibernate** for months

Bears usually **hibernate** during the winter months to conserve energy and stay warm.

individualize

v. to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.

synonym : personalize, differentiate

(1) **individualize** each patient, (2) **individualize** dosages

Our schools offer **individualized** education by excellent teachers.

primate

n. any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans

synonym : ape, monkey, lemur

(1) **primate** species, (2) **primate** sanctuary

Many scientists study **primate** behavior and intelligence.

dolphin

n. a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid

synonym : porpoise, cetacean, marine mammal

(1) **dolphin** show, (2) **dolphin-watching** tour

The large group of **dolphins** swam gracefully in the ocean, jumping out of the water now and then.

nutshell

n. the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something

synonym : summary, essence, covering

(1) move into a **nutshell**, (2) **nutshell** version

Can you explain your argument in a **nutshell**?

cohesive

adj. causing cohesion; bringing people or things together
synonym: sticky, close-knit, well-integrated

(1) **cohesive** ability, (2) highly **cohesive** group

He skillfully combines these fragments into a **cohesive** whole.

resilient

adj. able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions

synonym: robust, sturdy, tough

(1) a hard and **resilient** steel, (2) **resilient** population

She is a **resilient** person and has always bounced back from setbacks.

meerkat

n. a small carnivorous mammal that lives in southern Africa, known for its distinctive upright stance and curious and social behavior, often living in underground burrows in groups

(1) **meerkat** colony, (2) watchful **meerkat**

The famous **meerkat** posture, where they hold their forelegs up and out to the sides, is called "sentinel" behavior and is used to watch for approaching predators.

subordinate

adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

synonym: inferior, secondary, subservient

(1) **subordinate** position, (2) **subordinate** role

The CEO's **subordinate** employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.

sentinel

n. a person or thing that stands guard or keeps watch; a soldier or guard who stands watch to provide security

synonym: guard, watchman, lookout

(1) **sentinel** duty, (2) **sentinel** lymph node

The security camera acted as a **sentinel**, monitoring the area for suspicious activity.

babysitter

n. a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians

synonym : childcare provider, nanny, nurse

(1) need a trustworthy **babysitter**, (2) experienced **babysitter**

Our regular **babysitter** was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.

pup

n. a young dog, seal, or other animals

synonym : puppy, whelp, cub

(1) **pup** company, (2) playful **pup**

The little **pup** was so cute, with big, floppy ears and a wagging tail.

simplistic

adj. oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms

synonym : basic, uncomplicated, elementary

(1) **simplistic** approach, (2) **simplistic** design

The politician's solution to the problem was too **simplistic** to solve the underlying issue.

statistician

n. a person who studies or is an expert in statistics

synonym : actuary

(1) professional **statisticians**, (2) environmental **statistician**

The firm employs several **statisticians** to develop a recommendation engine.

cohesion

n. the act or state of keeping or sticking together

synonym : coherence, coherency, cohesiveness

(1) social **cohesion**, (2) the **cohesion** of a team

We gain higher levels of social **cohesion** and stability.

tactic

n. a method or strategy used to achieve a particular goal or objective

synonym: strategy, approach, method

(1) an imprudent **tactic**, (2) alternative **tactic**

The coach implemented a new **tactic** to win the game.

encroachment

n. an act of moving or advancing into someone else's territory or area of control; an invasion or infringement upon someone else's rights or interests

synonym: invasion, intrusion, trespass

(1) **encroachment** of territory, (2) **encroachment** on personal rights

The **encroachment** of the new housing development on the wildlife habitat caused concern among environmentalists.

stereotype

n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense

(1) avoid **stereotype**, (2) negative **stereotypes**

Changing **stereotypes** about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.

counterexample

n. an example that contradicts or disproves a given hypothesis or generalization; evidence or an instance that renders an argument or statement invalid

synonym: refutation, counter-instance, disproof

(1) **counterexample** to the theory, (2) mathematical **counterexample**

The student provided a **counterexample** to the teacher's hypothesis, proving it untrue.

koala

n. a small, tree-dwelling marsupial native to Australia with thick, grayish fur, large furry ears, and no tail, which feeds almost exclusively on eucalyptus leaves

(1) **koala** sanctuary, (2) injured **koala**

The population of **koalas** has declined due to habitat loss, disease, and climate change.

Session 2: Spelling

1. cr____c language *adj.* having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature
2. dis_____zed the party *v.* to disrupt or destroy the systematic order or function of something
3. patient su____up *n.* a smaller group within a larger group
4. an em____nt republic *adj.* starting to exist or view, or to become known
5. co____ve ability *adj.* causing cohesion; bringing people or things together
6. su____up of the population *n.* a smaller group within a larger group
7. ko__a sanctuary *n.* a small, tree-dwelling marsupial native to Australia with thick, grayish fur, large furry ears, and no tail, which feeds almost exclusively on eucalyptus leaves
8. er____c movements *adj.* characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality
9. em____nt repair of an aorta *adj.* starting to exist or view, or to become known
10. pay annual s__t *n.* a tax or payment, particularly a share or portion of something; a person from Scotland or a Scottish immigrant
11. co____e the listener *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand

ANSWERS: 1. cryptic, 2. disorganize, 3. subgroup, 4. emergent, 5. cohesive, 6. subgroup, 7. koala, 8. erratic, 9. emergent, 10. scot, 11. confuse

12. se____el duty *n.* a person or thing that stands guard or keeps watch; a soldier or guard who stands watch to provide security
13. injured ko__a *n.* a small, tree-dwelling marsupial native to Australia with thick, grayish fur, large furry ears, and no tail, which feeds almost exclusively on eucalyptus leaves
14. co____e fantasy with reality *v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
15. pr____e sanctuary *n.* any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans
16. sub____te role *adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
17. pr____e species *n.* any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans
18. avoid ste____pe *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
19. me____t colony *n.* a small carnivorous mammal that lives in southern Africa, known for its distinctive upright stance and curious and social behavior, often living in underground burrows in groups

ANSWERS: 12. sentinel, 13. koala, 14. confuse, 15. primate, 16. subordinate, 17. primate, 18. stereotype, 19. meerkat

20. n_d at each other *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
21. a hard and re_____nt steel *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
22. artificial hib_____on *n.* a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter
23. cou_____ple to the theory *n.* an example that contradicts or disproves a given hypothesis or generalization; evidence or an instance that renders an argument or statement invalid
24. highly co_____ve group *adj.* causing cohesion; bringing people or things together
25. wild ro__t *n.* a place where birds rest or sleep, typically on a branch or in a birdhouse or coop
26. social co_____on *n.* the act or state of keeping or sticking together
27. an imprudent ta___c *n.* a method or strategy used to achieve a particular goal or objective
28. alternative ta___c *n.* a method or strategy used to achieve a particular goal or objective
29. ind_____ize each patient *v.* to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.
30. enc_____ent on personal rights *n.* an act of moving or advancing into someone else's territory or area of control; an invasion or infringement upon someone else's rights or interests

ANSWERS: 20. nod, 21. resilient, 22. hibernation, 23. counterexample, 24. cohesive, 25. roost, 26. cohesion, 27. tactic, 28. tactic, 29. individualize, 30. encroachment

31. er____c behavior *adj.* characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality
32. cr____c crossword *adj.* having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature
33. sim____ic approach *adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
34. p_p company *n.* a young dog, seal, or other animals
35. bird ro__t *n.* a place where birds rest or sleep, typically on a branch or in a birdhouse or coop
36. watchful me____t *n.* a small carnivorous mammal that lives in southern Africa, known for its distinctive upright stance and curious and social behavior, often living in underground burrows in groups
37. pi____el windmill *n.* a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire
38. a toy pi____el *n.* a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire

ANSWERS: 31. erratic, 32. cryptic, 33. simplistic, 34. pup, 35. roost, 36. meerkat, 37. pinwheel, 38. pinwheel

39. hib_____on period *n.* a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter
40. nu_____ll version *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
41. experienced bab_____er *n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians
42. se_____el lymph node *n.* a person or thing that stands guard or keeps watch; a soldier or guard who stands watch to provide security
43. seismic per_____ion *n.* a state of anxiety, confusion, or disturbance; a deviation or disruption from the normal or expected state
44. atomic fi_____n *n.* the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces
45. do_____n-watching tour *n.* a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid
46. re_____nt population *adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
47. traditional S__t attire *n.* a tax or payment, particularly a share or portion of something; a person from Scotland or a Scottish immigrant

ANSWERS: 39. hibernation, 40. nutshell, 41. babysitter, 42. sentinel, 43. perturbation, 44. fission, 45. dolphin, 46. resilient, 47. scot

48. mathematical cou_____ple *n.* an example that contradicts or disproves a given hypothesis or generalization; evidence or an instance that renders an argument or statement invalid
49. environmental sta_____ian *n.* a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
50. professional sta_____ians *n.* a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
51. negative ste_____pes *n.* a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
52. ind_____ize dosages *v.* to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.
53. do_____n show *n.* a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid
54. sim_____ic design *adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
55. playful p_p *n.* a young dog, seal, or other animals
56. the co_____on of a team *n.* the act or state of keeping or sticking together
57. move into a nu_____ll *n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something

ANSWERS: 48. counterexample, 49. statistician, 50. statistician, 51. stereotype, 52. individualize, 53. dolphin, 54. simplistic, 55. pup, 56. cohesion, 57. nutshell

58. theoretical ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
59. hi_____te for months *v.* to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den
60. n_d courteously *v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation
61. heavy-ion fi_____n *n.* the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces
62. hi_____te in the adult stage *v.* to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den
63. dis_____ze the whole country *v.* to disrupt or destroy the systematic order or function of something
64. emotional per_____ion *n.* a state of anxiety, confusion, or disturbance; a deviation or disruption from the normal or expected state
65. talented ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
66. enc_____ent of territory *n.* an act of moving or advancing into someone else's territory or area of control; an invasion or infringement upon someone else's rights or interests
67. need a trustworthy bab_____er *n.* a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians

ANSWERS: 58. physicist, 59. hibernate, 60. nod, 61. fission, 62. hibernate, 63. disorganize, 64. perturbation, 65. physicist, 66. encroachment, 67. babysitter

68. sub_____te position

adj. of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else

ANSWERS: 68. subordinate

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The firm employs several _____ to develop a recommendation engine.
n. a person who studies or is an expert in statistics
2. The _____ suspect was later apprehended for a different crime.
n. a tax or payment, particularly a share or portion of something; a person from Scotland or a Scottish immigrant
3. Many animals go into _____ during the winter to conserve energy and survive the harsh conditions.
n. a state of inactivity and metabolic depression in animals during the winter
4. Nuclear _____ is the process of splitting an atom into two smaller ones.
n. the splitting of an atomic nucleus into two or smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy; the process of breaking something into smaller parts or pieces
5. Changing _____ about LGBTQ requires considerable effort.
n. a fixed and unvarying idea or image that people have about what someone or something is like, but which is often not true in reality and may cause hurt and offense
6. He skillfully combines these fragments into a _____ whole.
adj. causing cohesion; bringing people or things together
7. The unexpected financial crisis caused a _____ in the stock market, leading to widespread panic among investors.
n. a state of anxiety, confusion, or disturbance; a deviation or disruption from the normal or expected state

ANSWERS: 1. statisticians, 2. scot-free, 3. hibernation, 4. fission, 5. stereotypes, 6. cohesive, 7. perturbation

8. The famous _____ posture, where they hold their forelegs up and out to the sides, is called "sentinel" behavior and is used to watch for approaching predators.
- n.* a small carnivorous mammal that lives in southern Africa, known for its distinctive upright stance and curious and social behavior, often living in underground burrows in groups
9. The chickens return to their _____ at sunset every night.
- n.* a place where birds rest or sleep, typically on a branch or in a birdhouse or coop
10. The CEO's _____ employees were expected to follow his instructions without question.
- adj.* of lower rank or importance, often used to describe a person in a position of inferiority or inferior status; serving as a secondary or supporting element to something else
11. His betrayal _____ the company completely.
- v.* to disrupt or destroy the systematic order or function of something
12. Can you explain your argument in a _____
- n.* the hard, outer covering or protective casing that encloses the kernel or fruit of certain types of nuts, such as walnuts or acorns; a concise and condensed summary or explanation of something
13. The little ____ was so cute, with big, floppy ears and a wagging tail.
- n.* a young dog, seal, or other animals
14. The researchers divided the study participants into two _____.
- n.* a smaller group within a larger group

ANSWERS: 8. meerkat, 9. roost, 10. subordinate, 11. disorganized, 12. nutshell?, 13. pup, 14. subgroups

15. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.
n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
16. The security camera acted as a _____ monitoring the area for suspicious activity.
n. a person or thing that stands guard or keeps watch; a soldier or guard who stands watch to provide security
17. The stock market has been behaving in an _____ manner, making it difficult for investors to predict future trends.
adj. characterized by lack of consistency, regularity, or predictable behavior; unpredictable or inconsistent in movement, behavior, or quality
18. He spun the _____ and it stopped with the pointer on five.
n. a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire
19. Bears usually _____ during the winter months to conserve energy and stay warm.
v. to spend the winter in a state of rest, often in a sheltered place such as a cave or den
20. Many scientists study _____ behavior and intelligence.
n. any mammal of the order Primates, which includes monkeys, apes, and humans
21. The large group of _____ swam gracefully in the ocean, jumping out of the water now and then.
n. a marine mammal that typically has a beaklike snout, a streamlined body, and flippers and that feeds on fish and squid

ANSWERS: 15. physicist, 16. sentinel, 17. erratic, 18. pinwheel, 19. hibernate, 20. primate, 21. dolphins

22. The student provided a _____ to the teacher's hypothesis, proving it untrue.
- n.* an example that contradicts or disproves a given hypothesis or generalization; evidence or an instance that renders an argument or statement invalid
23. She is a _____ person and has always bounced back from setbacks.
- adj.* able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions
24. The politician's solution to the problem was too _____ to solve the underlying issue.
- adj.* oversimplified or lacking in complexity or depth; characterized by an attempt to explain something complex or multifaceted with overly vague or simple terms
25. Her remarks _____ the debate.
- v.* to mistake one thing for another; to make somebody hard to understand
26. Our schools offer _____ education by excellent teachers.
- v.* to make something personal or more personal to suit the needs of a particular person, place, etc.
27. The _____ of the new housing development on the wildlife habitat caused concern among environmentalists.
- n.* an act of moving or advancing into someone else's territory or area of control; an invasion or infringement upon someone else's rights or interests
28. We gain higher levels of social _____ and stability.
- n.* the act or state of keeping or sticking together
29. She _____ quietly in response to the question.
- v.* to lower and raise one's head, sometimes several times, as to show approval, agreement, greeting, or confirmation

ANSWERS: 22. counterexample, 23. resilient, 24. simplistic, 25. confused, 26. individualized, 27. encroachment, 28. cohesion, 29. nodded

30. The coach implemented a new _____ to win the game.

n. a method or strategy used to achieve a particular goal or objective

31. The message was so _____ that I had no idea what it meant.

adj. having a hidden or obscure meaning or message; mysterious or puzzling in nature

32. Our regular _____ was sick, so we had to find a replacement at the last minute.

n. a person hired to look after a child or children while the parents are away or occupied; someone who provides temporary care and supervision for children in the absence of their parents or guardians

33. The population of _____ has declined due to habitat loss, disease, and climate change.

n. a small, tree-dwelling marsupial native to Australia with thick, grayish fur, large furry ears, and no tail, which feeds almost exclusively on eucalyptus leaves

34. Extensive areas of _____ plants are usually called marsh.

adj. starting to exist or view, or to become known

ANSWERS: 30. tactic, 31. cryptic, 32. babysitter, 33. koalas, 34. emergent