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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Chris Anderson: How many universes are there? |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

pinprick

n. a very small hole in something, especially made by a pin or needle; a minor annoyance

(1) a tiny **pinprick**, (2) feel a **pinprick** sensation

He felt a **pinprick** of disgust.

detectable

adj. capable of being discovered or identified

synonym: perceptible, noticeable, observable

(1) a barely **detectable** change, (2) **detectable** by the human ear

The object is **detectable** at ultraviolet wavelengths.

hawk

n. a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations

synonym: militarist, jingo, aggressor

(1) cast off a **hawk**, (2) congressional **hawk**

That team signed a center forward who was a ball- **hawk**.

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.

imaginable

adj. capable of being imagined

synonym: conceivable, plausible, possible

(1) easily **imaginable**, (2) worst **imaginable** case

This is the only **imaginable** strategy.

minuscule

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym: tiny, insignificant, microscopic

(1) **minuscule** amount, (2) **minuscule** letters

This ore emits **minuscule** quantities of radiation

proton

n. a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms

(1) **proton** decay, (2) **proton** conductivity

The solar wind is composed almost entirely of electrons and **protons**.

quark

n. a type of elementary particle and a fundamental constituent of matter that make up the heavier elementary particles, such as protons, neutrons, etc.; fresh unripened cheese of a smooth texture made from pasteurized milk, a starter, and rennet

(1) **quark** physics, (2) the antiparticle of a **quark**

The Big Bang theory states that **quark-gluon** plasma filled the entire universe before matter as we know it was created.

neutrino

n. a very small and electrically neutral particle with a very small mass that rarely reacts with other matter

(1) **neutrino** capture, (2) sterile **neutrinos**

This laboratory has a pool consisting of thousands of **neutrino** detectors.

nanosecond

n. one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second

(1) **nanosecond** response, (2) **nanosecond** laser pulse

The processor performs calculations on the **nanosecond** timescale.

multiverse

n. a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them

(1) the **multiverse** hypothesis, (2) the concept of the **multiverse**

The various universes within the **multiverse** are sometimes called parallel universes.

observable

adj. that can be noticed or seen

synonym: visible, perceptible, detectable

(1) **observable** change, (2) experimentally **observable**

Any theorem relies on both **observable** fact and assumption.

wrinkle

n. a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty

synonym: crinkle, fold, crumple

(1) a fine **wrinkle** on a fabric, (2) a facial **wrinkle**

This suit is made of **wrinkle-proof** material.

baffle

v. to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something

synonym: perplex, astound, hinder

(1) **baffle** his plan, (2) **baffle** outside noises

The paradox **baffled** most philosophers.

spawn

v. to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop

synonym: beget, breed, generate

(1) **spawn** in spring, (2) **spawn** a new concept

The salmon swims upstream to **spawn** in the place they were released.

hogwash

n. an idea, behavior, argument, etc., that you think is stupid and unacceptable

synonym: nonsense, bunk, ludicrousness

(1) complete **hogwash**, (2) **hogwash** of quiet diplomacy

This media has long been criticized for spreading paranoid

hogwash.

mystic

adj. having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension

synonym : secret, mystical, supernatural

(1) **mystic** teaching, (2) medieval **mystic**

He is interested in the **mystic** rites of that religion.

Session 2: Spelling

1. congressional h__k *n.* a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations
2. det_____le by the human ear *adj.* capable of being discovered or identified
3. obs_____le change *adj.* that can be noticed or seen
4. my___c teaching *adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension
5. sp__n in spring *v.* to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop
6. mi_____le letters *adj.* extremely small; tiny
7. pr___n decay *n.* a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms
8. a tiny pi_____ck *n.* a very small hole in something, especially made by a pin or needle; a minor annoyance
9. complete ho_____h *n.* an idea, behavior, argument, etc., that you think is stupid and unacceptable
10. medieval my___c *adj.* having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding; (noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension

ANSWERS: 1. hawk, 2. detectable, 3. observable, 4. mystic, 5. spawn, 6. minuscule, 7. proton, 8. pinprick, 9. hogwash, 10. mystic

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| 11. easily ima_____le | <i>adj.</i> capable of being imagined |
| 12. mi_____le amount | <i>adj.</i> extremely small; tiny |
| 13. ne_____no capture | <i>n.</i> a very small and electrically neutral particle with a very small mass that rarely reacts with other matter |
| 14. talented ph_____st | <i>n.</i> a scientist who specializes in the field of physics |
| 15. a barely det_____le change | <i>adj.</i> capable of being discovered or identified |
| 16. the concept of the mul_____se | <i>n.</i> a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them |
| 17. feel a pi_____ck sensation | <i>n.</i> a very small hole in something, especially made by a pin or needle; a minor annoyance |
| 18. ho_____h of quiet diplomacy | <i>n.</i> an idea, behavior, argument, etc., that you think is stupid and unacceptable |
| 19. nan_____nd laser pulse | <i>n.</i> one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second |
| 20. sp__n a new concept | <i>v.</i> to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop |
| 21. cast off a h__k | <i>n.</i> a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations |
| 22. the mul_____se hypothesis | <i>n.</i> a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them |

ANSWERS: 11. imaginable, 12. minuscule, 13. neutrino, 14. physicist, 15. detectable, 16. multiverse, 17. pinprick, 18. hogwash, 19. nanosecond, 20. spawn, 21. hawk, 22. multiverse

23. pr___n conductivity *n.* a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms
24. ba___e outside noises *v.* to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something
25. a fine wr_____e on a fabric *n.* a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty
26. a facial wr_____e *n.* a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty
27. ba___e his plan *v.* to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something
28. theoretical ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
29. nan_____nd response *n.* one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second
30. the antiparticle of a qu__k *n.* a type of elementary particle and a fundamental constituent of matter that make up the heavier elementary particles, such as protons, neutrons, etc.; fresh unripened cheese of a smooth texture made from pasteurized milk, a starter, and rennet
31. experimentally obs_____le *adj.* that can be noticed or seen
32. sterile ne_____nos *n.* a very small and electrically neutral particle with a very small mass that rarely reacts with other matter

ANSWERS: 23. proton, 24. baffle, 25. wrinkle, 26. wrinkle, 27. baffle, 28. physicist, 29. nanosecond, 30. quark, 31. observable, 32. neutrino

33. qu__k physics

n. a type of elementary particle and a fundamental constituent of matter that make up the heavier elementary particles, such as protons, neutrons, etc.; fresh unripened cheese of a smooth texture made from pasteurized milk, a starter, and rennet

34. worst ima_____le case

adj. capable of being imagined

ANSWERS: 33. quark, 34. imaginable

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. This ore emits _____ quantities of radiation
adj. extremely small; tiny

2. The paradox _____ most philosophers.
v. to bewilder or perplex someone completely and to be unable to understand or explain something

3. The salmon swims upstream to _____ in the place they were released.
v. to lay eggs or to produce offspring; to cause something to develop

4. This suit is made of _____ material.
n. a small line or fold in something, especially fabric or the skin of the face; a minor difficulty

5. He is interested in the _____ rites of that religion.
adj. having spiritual powers or qualities that are beyond ordinary understanding;
(noun) someone who believes in the existence of realities beyond human comprehension

6. That team signed a center forward who was a ball-_____.
n. a bird of prey typically having short rounded wings and a long tail; an advocate of an aggressive policy on foreign relations

7. This laboratory has a pool consisting of thousands of _____ detectors.
n. a very small and electrically neutral particle with a very small mass that rarely reacts with other matter

ANSWERS: 1. minuscule, 2. baffled, 3. spawn, 4. wrinkle-proof, 5. mystic, 6. hawk, 7. neutrino

8. He felt a _____ of disgust.

n. a very small hole in something, especially made by a pin or needle; a minor annoyance

9. The object is _____ at ultraviolet wavelengths.

adj. capable of being discovered or identified

10. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

11. The solar wind is composed almost entirely of electrons and _____.

n. a very small particle with a positive charge equal to the negative charge of an electron that forms part of the nucleus of all atoms

12. The processor performs calculations on the _____ timescale.

n. one thousand millionth or billionth (= 0.000,000,001) of a second

13. The Big Bang theory states that _____ plasma filled the entire universe before matter as we know it was created.

n. a type of elementary particle and a fundamental constituent of matter that make up the heavier elementary particles, such as protons, neutrons, etc.; fresh unripened cheese of a smooth texture made from pasteurized milk, a starter, and rennet

14. The various universes within the _____ are sometimes called parallel universes.

n. a hypothetical space or realm consisting of multiple universes, of which our universe is just one of them

15. Any theorem relies on both _____ fact and assumption.

adj. that can be noticed or seen

ANSWERS: 8. pinprick, 9. detectable, 10. physicist, 11. protons, 12. nanosecond, 13. quark-gluon, 14. multiverse, 15. observable

16. This is the only _____ strategy.

adj. capable of being imagined

17. This media has long been criticized for spreading paranoid _____.

n. an idea, behavior, argument, etc., that you think is stupid and unacceptable

ANSWERS: 16. imaginable, 17. hogwash