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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Peter Saul: Let's talk about dying | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

immortal

adj. having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance

synonym: eternal, everlasting, undying

(1) **immortal** soul, (2) **immortal** love

Legends often describe mythical creatures as **immortal** beings.

wreck

n. a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident

synonym: collapse, destruction, devastation

(1) the house was a **wreck**, (2) a worthless **wreck**

The divers accidentally discovered a **wreck** on the ocean floor.

reclaim

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

synonym: recoup, regain, retake

(1) **reclaim** a competitive position, (2) **reclaim** land from the sea

You may be entitled to **reclaim** some tax.

inexorable

adj. describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or

unstoppable in force or effect

synonym : relentless, implacable, unyielding

(1) **inexorable** decline, (2) **inexorable** force

His **inexorable** determination to succeed made him a force to be reckoned with.

trajectory

n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space

synonym : course, curve, orbit

(1) career **trajectory**, (2) a **trajectory** missile

The company has shown an excellent growth **trajectory** over the years.

heyday

n. a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something

synonym : prime, zenith, peak

(1) the **heyday** of rock music, (2) high-tech **heyday**

The restaurant was famous in its **heyday** for its delicious food and famous patrons

halve

v. to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size

synonym : reduce by half, cut in half, split

(1) **halve** the price, (2) **halve** the workload

I need to **halve** the recipe to make just enough for two people.

lifesaving

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

(1) **lifesaving** efforts, (2) **lifesaving** device

The patient needs a **lifesaving** transplant operation.

prolong

v. to extend the duration or length of something, particularly a period of time or an event

synonym : extend, lengthen, stretch

(1) **prolong** the agony, (2) measures to **prolong** the

lifespan

We need to **prolong** the meeting for another hour to discuss all the issues.

blacksmith

n. a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil

(1) **blacksmith** welding, (2) **blacksmith** shop

The **blacksmith** shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.

pneumonia

n. an infection or inflammation of the lungs, typically caused by bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms

synonym: lung infection, bronchitis

(1) bacterial **pneumonia**, (2) viral **pneumonia**

She was hospitalized with a severe case of **pneumonia**.

translucent

adj. allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent

synonym: semi-transparent, see-through

(1) **translucent** glass, (2) **translucent** skin

The sunlight shone through the **translucent** curtains, casting a warm glow in the room.

afterward

adv. after the time mentioned

synonym: later, thereafter, following

(1) a few years **afterward**, (2) go there **afterward**

We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem **afterward**.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

dwindle

v. to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller

synonym: shrink, decrease, fade

(1) **dwindle** in importance, (2) **dwindle** to almost nothing

The crowds at the festival **dwindled** as the night went on.

frailty

n. the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality

synonym: weakness, fragility, delicacy

(1) cognitive **frailty**, (2) **frailty** syndrome

The doctor warned us about the human body's **frailty** and the dangers of neglecting our health.

longevity

n. the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service

synonym: seniority, endurance

(1) **longevity** crisis, (2) **longevity** genes

He is proud of the **longevity** of the business.

terrify

v. to frighten someone very much

synonym: unnerve, scare, horrify

(1) **terrify** people, (2) the threats **terrify** him

It would be best not to **terrify** your associates into doing complex tasks.

heartbreak

n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

synonym: grief, sorrow, bitterness

(1) ease her **heartbreak**, (2) go through **heartbreak**

They had experienced the **heartbreak** of losing two children due to premature births.

freeway

n. a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways

synonym: highway, expressway, motorway

(1) **freeway** exit, (2) expanded **freeway**

We got stuck in a traffic jam on the **freeway** for over an hour.

frail *adj.* weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength
synonym: weak, delicate, fragile
(1) **frail** body, (2) **frail** condition
My grandfather's health has declined, and he is now quite **frail**.

mortuary *n.* a place where dead bodies are kept, prepared, and stored before burial or cremation; a funeral home or a building or facility for handling deceased individuals
synonym: funeral home, morgue
(1) **mortuary** services, (2) small-town **mortuary**
I received the sad news that my uncle passed away, and his body was taken to the local **mortuary**.

hippie *n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
synonym: bohemian, beatnik, free spirit
(1) **hippie** lifestyle, (2) **hippie** music
The fashion of the **hippie** movement included unconventional clothing such as tie-dye shirts and bell-bottom jeans.

medic *n.* a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency
synonym: paramedic, medical professional
(1) **medic** unit, (2) military **medic**
The army **medic** arrived on the scene to provide medical assistance.

euthanasia *n.* the act of intentionally ending the life of a person or animal to relieve suffering or pain
synonym: mercy killing, assisted suicide, painless death

(1) passive **euthanasia**, (2) legal **euthanasia**

The decision to carry out **euthanasia** on a terminally ill patient is controversial and emotional.

sideshow

n. a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment

synonym: side attraction

(1) **sideshow** performer, (2) carnival **sideshow**

The circus **sideshow** featured a bearded lady and a human cannonball.

poisonous

adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

synonym: toxic, venomous, deadly

(1) **poisonous** plants, (2) **poisonous** chemicals

Some species of **poisonous snakes** can be deadly to humans if bitten.

deprive

v. to take away something from someone

synonym: deny, take away, divest

(1) **deprive** others of profit, (2) **deprive** him of his status

He was **deprived** of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.

hospice

n. a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support

synonym: palliative care, nursing home, care center

(1) **hospice** care, (2) home **hospice**

The **hospice** team includes nurses, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers who work together to provide comprehensive care.

Session 2: Spelling

1. fr____y exit
n. a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways
2. ind____us worker
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
3. ha__e the workload
v. to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size
4. career tra____ry
n. the curved path followed by an object moving through space
5. ine____le decline
adj. describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or unstoppable in force or effect
6. carnival si____ow
n. a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
7. pr____g the agony
v. to extend the duration or length of something, particularly a period of time or an event
8. lif____ng efforts
n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
9. tra____nt skin
adj. allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent

ANSWERS: 1. freeway, 2. industrious, 3. halve, 4. trajectory, 5. inexorable, 6. sideshow, 7. prolong, 8. lifesaving, 9. translucent

10. home ho_____e *n.* a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support
11. the threats te_____y him *v.* to frighten someone very much
12. the he____y of rock music *n.* a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something
13. hi____e music *n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
14. im_____al soul *adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
15. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
16. fr__l body *adj.* weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength
17. dw_____e to almost nothing *v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller
18. a tra_____ry missile *n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space
19. ho_____e care *n.* a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support

ANSWERS: 10. hospice, 11. terrify, 12. heyday, 13. hippie, 14. immortal, 15. afterward, 16. frail, 17. dwindle, 18. trajectory, 19. hospice

20. bla_____th welding *n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
21. tra_____nt glass *adj.* allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent
22. ine_____le force *adj.* describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or unstoppable in force or effect
23. the house was a wr__k *n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
24. de_____e him of his status *v.* to take away something from someone
25. cognitive fr_____y *n.* the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality
26. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
27. fr__l condition *adj.* weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength
28. high-tech he____y *n.* a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something
29. im_____al love *adj.* having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance
30. po_____us chemicals *adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

ANSWERS: 20. blacksmith, 21. translucent, 22. inexorable, 23. wreck, 24. deprive, 25. frailty, 26. afterward, 27. frail, 28. heyday, 29. immortal, 30. poisonous

31. hi___e lifestyle *n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
32. de_____e others of profit *v.* to take away something from someone
33. po_____us plants *adj.* containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction
34. te_____y people *v.* to frighten someone very much
35. si_____ow performer *n.* a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment
36. bacterial pn_____ia *n.* an infection or inflammation of the lungs, typically caused by bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms
37. mo_____ry services *n.* a place where dead bodies are kept, prepared, and stored before burial or cremation; a funeral home or a building or facility for handling deceased individuals
38. ha__e the price *v.* to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size
39. dw_____e in importance *v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller

ANSWERS: 31. hippie, 32. deprive, 33. poisonous, 34. terrify, 35. sideshow, 36. pneumonia, 37. mortuary, 38. halve, 39. dwindle

40. a worthless wr__k *n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
41. small-town mo____ry *n.* a place where dead bodies are kept, prepared, and stored before burial or cremation; a funeral home or a building or facility for handling deceased individuals
42. military me__c *n.* a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency
43. bla____th shop *n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
44. measures to pr____g the lifespan *v.* to extend the duration or length of something, particularly a period of time or an event
45. legal eut____ia *n.* the act of intentionally ending the life of a person or animal to relieve suffering or pain
46. passive eut____ia *n.* the act of intentionally ending the life of a person or animal to relieve suffering or pain
47. lo____ty crisis *n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
48. lo____ty genes *n.* the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
49. ind____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
50. re____m a competitive position *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

ANSWERS: 40. wreck, 41. mortuary, 42. medic, 43. blacksmith, 44. prolong, 45. euthanasia, 46. euthanasia, 47. longevity, 48. longevity, 49. industrious, 50. reclaim

51. re____m land from the sea *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
52. expanded fr____y *n.* a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways
53. ease her hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
54. lif_____ng device *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
55. me__c unit *n.* a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency
56. fr____y syndrome *n.* the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality
57. viral pn_____ia *n.* an infection or inflammation of the lungs, typically caused by bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms
58. go through hea_____ak *n.* a feeling of great sadness or disappointment

ANSWERS: 51. reclaim, 52. freeway, 53. heartbreak, 54. lifesaving, 55. medic, 56. frailty, 57. pneumonia, 58. heartbreak

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. She was hospitalized with a severe case of _____.
n. an infection or inflammation of the lungs, typically caused by bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms
2. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
3. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.
adv. after the time mentioned
4. The sunlight shone through the _____ curtains, casting a warm glow in the room.
adj. allowing light to pass through but scattering it so that objects behind cannot be seen clearly; partially transparent
5. He is proud of the _____ of the business.
n. the property of being long-lived; significant duration of service
6. The restaurant was famous in its _____ for its delicious food and famous patrons
n. a period of success or popularity; the peak or prime of something
7. They had experienced the _____ of losing two children due to premature births.
n. a feeling of great sadness or disappointment
8. The patient needs a _____ transplant operation.
n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

ANSWERS: 1. pneumonia, 2. industrious, 3. afterward, 4. translucent, 5. longevity, 6. heyday, 7. heartbreak, 8. lifesaving

9. The doctor warned us about the human body's _____ and the dangers of neglecting our health.
- n.* the condition of being weak or delicate, often due to age or illness; a weakness or flaw in character or morality
10. The divers accidentally discovered a _____ on the ocean floor.
- n.* a ship that has sunk or has been destroyed; a vehicle that has been badly damaged in an accident
11. The decision to carry out _____ on a terminally ill patient is controversial and emotional.
- n.* the act of intentionally ending the life of a person or animal to relieve suffering or pain
12. The fashion of the _____ movement included unconventional clothing such as tie-dye shirts and bell-bottom jeans.
- n.* a person who follows a counterculture movement that originated in the United States during the 1960s, characterized by the advocacy of nonviolence, communal living, and a rejection of traditional American values
13. My grandfather's health has declined, and he is now quite _____.
- adj.* weak, delicate, and easily broken or worn out; lacking physical, mental, or emotional strength
14. I need to _____ the recipe to make just enough for two people.
- v.* to divide something into two equal parts; to reduce something by half its original amount or size
15. He was _____ of his freedom when sentenced to life in prison.
- v.* to take away something from someone

ANSWERS: 9. frailty, 10. wreck, 11. euthanasia, 12. hippie, 13. frail, 14. halve, 15. deprived

16. I received the sad news that my uncle passed away, and his body was taken to the local _____.

- n.* a place where dead bodies are kept, prepared, and stored before burial or cremation; a funeral home or a building or facility for handling deceased individuals

17. It would be best not to _____ your associates into doing complex tasks.

- v.* to frighten someone very much

18. The _____ shaped a horseshoe on his anvil.

- n.* a smith who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil

19. You may be entitled to _____ some tax.

- v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

20. The company has shown an excellent growth _____ over the years.

- n.* the curved path followed by an object moving through space

21. The army _____ arrived on the scene to provide medical assistance.

- n.* a person trained to provide medical care, especially in an emergency

22. The _____ team includes nurses, social workers, chaplains, and volunteers who work together to provide comprehensive care.

- n.* a specialized care facility or service for terminally ill patients intended to provide comfort and support in the final stages of life; any program, organization, or approach focused on end-of-life care and support

23. The crowds at the festival _____ as the night went on.

- v.* to gradually decrease in size, amount, or strength; to become smaller

ANSWERS: 16. mortuary, 17. terrify, 18. blacksmith, 19. reclaim, 20. trajectory, 21. medic, 22. hospice, 23. dwindled

24. The circus _____ featured a bearded lady and a human cannonball.

n. a minor attraction or exhibit in a circus, fair, or amusement park that supplements the main entertainment

25. Legends often describe mythical creatures as _____ beings.

adj. having eternal or never-ending life; living forever; incapable of dying; having enduring fame or lasting significance

26. His _____ determination to succeed made him a force to be reckoned with.

adj. describing a process or situation that is impossible to stop, prevent, or change; relentless, unyielding, or unstoppable in force or effect

27. We got stuck in a traffic jam on the _____ for over an hour.

n. a major highway designed for high-speed traffic, with no stoplights or grade crossings and having interchanges or access roads to other highways

28. Some species of _____ can be deadly to humans if bitten.

adj. containing or producing toxic substances; harmful or dangerous to living beings, often causing illness, injury, or death; capable of causing serious harm or destruction

29. We need to _____ the meeting for another hour to discuss all the issues.

v. to extend the duration or length of something, particularly a period of time or an event

ANSWERS: 24. sideshow, 25. immortal, 26. inexorable, 27. freeway, 28. poisonous snakes, 29. prolong