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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Charles Hazlewood + British Paraorchestra: The debut of the British Paraorchestra | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/charles_hazlewood_british_paraorchestra_the_debut_of_the_british_paraorches
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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

dialect

n. a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics

synonym : accent, language, vernacular

(1) a local **dialect**, (2) minority **dialect**

The **dialect** spoken in the region differed from other parts of the country.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

prodigious

adj. remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent

synonym : extraordinary, remarkable, exceptional

(1) a **prodigious** storm, (2) **prodigious** talent

The **prodigious** artist's work was featured in a major

museum exhibition.

palsy

n. a condition characterized by the loss or impairment of movement or sensation due to damage or disease affecting the nervous system; paralysis or weakness

synonym : paralysis, tremor, twitch

(1) muscle **palsy**, (2) cerebral **palsy**

Some people with Parkinson's disease may experience tremors and **palsy** in their limbs.

dizzy

adj. having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance

synonym : addled, confounded, unsteady

(1) feel **dizzy**, (2) had a **dizzy** spell

Professional skaters can spin fast on the ice without getting **dizzy**.

gauntlet

n. a type of protective glove covering the wrist and part of the arm, often made of leather or metal; a challenge or trial that must be endured or overcome, often a difficult or dangerous one

synonym : challenge, provocation, obstacle

(1) accept the **gauntlet**, (2) throw down the **gauntlet**

He ran the **gauntlet** of critics' reviews after the release of his latest movie.

multiplicity

n. a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold

synonym : abundance, variety, diversity

(1) functional **multiplicity**, (2) **multiplicity** of languages

The **multiplicity** of colors in the sunset was truly breathtaking.

embryonic

adj. of or relating to an embryo (= an animal organism in the early stages of growth); in an early stage of development

synonym : embryonal

(1) **embryonic** stem cells, (2) **embryonic** development
The project is still in its **embryonic** stage.

improvisation

n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
synonym: spontaneity, ad-lib, extemporization

(1) **improvisation** on stage, (2) jazz **improvisation**
He created a beautiful piece of music using only **improvisation**.

whimsical

adj. unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
synonym: capricious, impulsive, flighty

(1) **whimsical** reasons, (2) a **whimsical** person
Much of his painting has a **whimsical** quality.

melancholy

n. a feeling of sadness, disappointment, or boredom, often accompanied by a lack of energy or motivation
synonym: sadness, sorrow, gloom

(1) feel **melancholy**, (2) nostalgic **melancholy**
His **melancholy** mood was apparent to everyone who knew him.

brilliantly

adv. in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
synonym: brightly, radiantly, excellently

(1) **brilliantly** executed, (2) **brilliantly** lit
He played the piano **brilliantly** at the concert.

singe

v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
synonym: sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric
I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

melodic

adj. having a pleasant or harmonious sound, especially in relation to music

synonym: harmonious, pleasing, musical

(1) **melodic** scale, (2) transcribe **melodic** patterns

She played a **melodic** piece on the piano.

Session 2: Spelling

1. jazz imp_____ion *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
2. feel mel_____ly *n.* a feeling of sadness, disappointment, or boredom, often accompanied by a lack of energy or motivation
3. nostalgic mel_____ly *n.* a feeling of sadness, disappointment, or boredom, often accompanied by a lack of energy or motivation
4. me_____c scale *adj.* having a pleasant or harmonious sound, especially in relation to music
5. em_____ic development *adj.* of or relating to an embryo (= an animal organism in the early stages of growth); in an early stage of development
6. pro_____us talent *adj.* remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent
7. transcribe me_____c patterns *adj.* having a pleasant or harmonious sound, especially in relation to music
8. a pro_____us storm *adj.* remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent
9. si__e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
10. throw down the ga_____et *n.* a type of protective glove covering the wrist and part of the arm, often made of leather or metal; a challenge or trial that must be endured or overcome, often a difficult or dangerous one

ANSWERS: 1. improvisation, 2. melancholy, 3. melancholy, 4. melodic, 5. embryonic, 6. prodigious, 7. melodic, 8. prodigious, 9. singe, 10. gauntlet

11. si__e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
12. feel di__y *adj.* having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance
13. bri____ly lit *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
14. bri____ly executed *adv.* in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
15. a wh_____al person *adj.* unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
16. wh_____al reasons *adj.* unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
17. em_____ic stem cells *adj.* of or relating to an embryo (= an animal organism in the early stages of growth); in an early stage of development
18. accept the ga_____et *n.* a type of protective glove covering the wrist and part of the arm, often made of leather or metal; a challenge or trial that must be endured or overcome, often a difficult or dangerous one
19. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 11. singe, 12. dizzy, 13. brilliantly, 14. brilliantly, 15. whimsical, 16. whimsical, 17. embryonic, 18. gauntlet, 19. rev

20. minority di_____t *n.* a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics
21. mul_____ity of languages *n.* a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold
22. had a di__y spell *adj.* having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance
23. imp_____ion on stage *n.* the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
24. cerebral pa__y *n.* a condition characterized by the loss or impairment of movement or sensation due to damage or disease affecting the nervous system; paralysis or weakness
25. a local di_____t *n.* a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics
26. functional mul_____ity *n.* a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold
27. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
28. muscle pa__y *n.* a condition characterized by the loss or impairment of movement or sensation due to damage or disease affecting the nervous system; paralysis or weakness

ANSWERS: 20. dialect, 21. multiplicity, 22. dizzy, 23. improvisation, 24. palsy, 25. dialect, 26. multiplicity, 27. rev, 28. palsy

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. He created a beautiful piece of music using only _____.
n. the act of making something up on the spot or creating or performing something without preparation
2. The project is still in its _____ stage.
adj. of or relating to an embryo (= an animal organism in the early stages of growth); in an early stage of development
3. Much of his painting has a _____ quality.
adj. unusual and not severe in a way that might be funny or annoying; determined by chance or impulse or whim rather than by necessity or reason
4. He ran the _____ of critics' reviews after the release of his latest movie.
n. a type of protective glove covering the wrist and part of the arm, often made of leather or metal; a challenge or trial that must be endured or overcome, often a difficult or dangerous one
5. He played the piano _____ at the concert.
adv. in an intelligent, graceful, or skillful manner; very brightly or effectively
6. Some people with Parkinson's disease may experience tremors and _____ in their limbs.
n. a condition characterized by the loss or impairment of movement or sensation due to damage or disease affecting the nervous system; paralysis or weakness
7. The _____ artist's work was featured in a major museum exhibition.
adj. remarkable or extraordinary in size, amount, or degree; extraordinary in ability or talent

ANSWERS: 1. improvisation, 2. embryonic, 3. whimsical, 4. gauntlet, 5. brilliantly, 6. palsy, 7. prodigious

8. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and _____ my dress.
v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
9. The _____ of colors in the sunset was truly breathtaking.
n. a large number or variety of something; the quality or state of being multiple or manifold
10. She played a _____ piece on the piano.
adj. having a pleasant or harmonious sound, especially in relation to music
11. The _____ spoken in the region differed from other parts of the country.
n. a form of a language that is spoken in a particular geographical area or by a particular group of people and has distinguishing characteristics
12. Professional skaters can spin fast on the ice without getting _____.
adj. having or causing a whirling sensation and not able to keep balance
13. His _____ mood was apparent to everyone who knew him.
n. a feeling of sadness, disappointment, or boredom, often accompanied by a lack of energy or motivation
14. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 8. singed, 9. multiplicity, 10. melodic, 11. dialect, 12. dizzy, 13. melancholy, 14. rev