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Tyler DeWitt: Hey science teachers -- make it fun | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

horrify

v. to shock or disgust greatly

synonym: shock, dismay, terrify

(1) **horrify** audience, (2) **horrify** victims

The series of terrorist attacks **horrify** the entire nation.

memorize

v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly

synonym: learn, remember, remind

(1) **memorize** musical scores, (2) try hard to **memorize** the lines

Lawyers need to **memorize** even the most minor provisions of the law.

clueless

adj. lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

synonym: uninformed, unaware, ignorant

(1) **clueless** in many ways, (2) **clueless** about the situation

She was completely **clueless** as to how to solve the problem.

spoil

v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

synonym: rot, decay, deteriorate

(1) **spoil** a person's sport, (2) **spoil** the surprise

If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will **spoil**.

crafty

adj. skilled in deception or trickery; sly or cunning in the ways of achieving a goal

synonym: sly, cunning, wily

(1) **crafty** plan, (2) **crafty** manipulation

The **crafty** fox could outsmart the birds and catch them for his dinner.

infect

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

synonym: pollute, contaminate, affect

(1) **infect** other animal species, (2) **infect** a computer with a virus

Children often **infect** parents with this head cold.

chop

v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife

synonym: cut, hack, slice

(1) **chop** wood, (2) **chop** a meet with a knife

The cook **chopped** the vegetables for the soup.

blueprint

n. a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine

synonym: draft, prototype, sketch

(1) **blueprint** for economic reform, (2) architect's **blueprint**

A business plan is a **blueprint** for your success.

espionage

n. the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political

or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents

synonym : spying, intelligence gathering

(1) **espionage** tactics, (2) industrial **espionage**

The cyber **espionage** operation was the work of a foreign government's army of hackers.

cloak

n. a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise

synonym : cape, mantle, shroud

(1) **cloak** room, (2) hooded **cloak**

The magician seemed to disappear when he threw his **cloak** over himself.

gutsy

adj. displaying courage, determination, or boldness; characterized by a willingness to take risks or face challenges

synonym : courageous, brave, daring

(1) **gutsy** move, (2) **gutsy** performance

It was **gutsy** to quit her job and start her own business.

lysis

n. the disintegration or rupture of a cell, typically caused by the action of an enzyme or other chemical agent; the breaking down of a chemical compound into smaller units

synonym : dissolution, decomposition, breakdown

(1) **lysis** of adhesions, (2) enzyme-mediated **lysis**

The neurologist explained that the brain could undergo cytotoxicity and cell **lysis** if not supplied with enough oxygen.

lysogen

n. a bacterium or virus that has incorporated its genetic material into the genome of its host cell, remaining dormant until triggered by certain factors to enter into a lytic cycle

synonym :

virus, bacteriophage, provirus

(1) **lysogen** life cycle, (2) **lysogen** induction

The bacteriophage enters a **lysogen** phase, integrating its genetic material into the host cell's genome.

obsession

n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person

synonym: compulsion, fixation, enthusiasm

(1) **obsession** with character, (2) national **obsession**

Gambling became an **obsession** for him, and he eventually lost everything.

forbid

v. to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising

synonym: prohibit, ban, outlaw

(1) **forbid** smoking in public areas, (2) **forbid** the use of chemical weapons

God **forbid** you should regret your marriage.

slime

n. a thick, slippery substance that is usually soft and wet

synonym: muck, ooze, gunk

(1) **slime** bacteria, (2) **slime** mold

The kids loved playing with the green **slime**, but it was a nightmare to clean up.

incomprehensible

adj. impossible to understand or explain; not able to be grasped or comprehended

synonym: unintelligible, unfathomable, inexplicable

(1) **incomprehensible** jargon, (2) **incomprehensible** math problem

The mathematical formula was **incomprehensible** to most of the students.

bacteriophage

n. (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria

synonym: phage, bacterial virus, bacteriovore

(1) DNA-containing **bacteriophage**, (2) **bacteriophage**

infection

Scientists are studying the use of **bacteriophages** to combat bacterial infections.

tyranny

n. a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

synonym: despotism, oppression, dictatorship

(1) brutal **tyranny**, (2) **tyranny** of the majority

The country was ruled by a **tyranny** that oppressed its citizens.

storytelling

n. the act or art of narrating or writing stories

synonym: narrating, relating, recounting

(1) **storytelling** performance, (2) courtroom **storytelling**

She was skilled in **storytelling** techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.

jean

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

synonym: denim, cotton, pants

(1) a **jean** skirt, (2) **jean** denim

She wore her favorite pair of **jeans** to the party.

legging

n. a tight-fitting garment worn on the legs, usually made of a stretchy material like spandex or nylon, often worn as a fashion item or for exercise; protective coverings for the legs

synonym: legging, tights, stockings

(1) leather **legging**, (2) high-waisted **leggings**

She wore her favorite **leggings** and a long tunic for a comfortable and stylish outfit.

paraphrase

v. to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

synonym: rephrase, reword, reinterpret

(1) **paraphrase** a poem into prose, (2) **paraphrase** the meaning

He **paraphrased** the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.

sentimental

adj. connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism

synonym : bathetic, drippy, maudlin

(1) in a **sentimental** mood, (2) **sentimental** damage

Stop being **sentimental** and always speak the truth.

disappoint

v. to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

synonym : sadden, dismay, frustrate

(1) **disappoint** the audience, (2) don't **disappoint** me

She worked very hard not to **disappoint** her boss's expectations.

institutionalize

v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)

synonym : formalize, establish, regularize

(1) **institutionalize** a system, (2) **institutionalize** customary laws

The new policy aims to **institutionalize** the use of renewable energy sources.

perpetuate

v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time

synonym : eternalize, preserve, maintain

(1) **perpetuate** a myth, (2) **perpetuate** chronic pain

That work **perpetuates** his fame.

beseech

v. to ask or beg someone earnestly or urgently; to implore or plead for something with great sincerity or humility; to request or entreat someone with a strong sense of urgency or need

synonym : plead, implore, beg

(1) **beseech** for help, (2) **beseech** forgiveness
I **beseech** you to reconsider your decision and give me another chance.

circumvent

v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

synonym: evade, bypass, outsmart

(1) **circumvent** rules, (2) **circumvent** authority

I took a back road to work on time to **circumvent** the traffic jam.

dedicate

v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

synonym: consecrate, devote, commit

(1) **dedicate** a few hours, (2) **dedicate** a chapter to the subject

He **dedicated** his life to helping others.

schooler

n. a student who attends a school

synonym: student, pupil, learner

(1) a primary **schooler**, (2) **schooler** uniform

He often traveled abroad alone when he was in high **schooler**.

misspell

v. to spell incorrectly or wrongly; to use an incorrect spelling for a word

synonym: miscopy, mismark

(1) **misspell** words, (2) **misspell** his name

Please be careful not to **misspell** any of the words in your essay.

appreciative

adj. expressing or feeling gratitude or admiration; showing recognition or understanding of the value or significance of something; receptive or responsive to something with pleasure or enjoyment

synonym : grateful, thankful, pleased

(1) **appreciative** audience, (2) **appreciative** nod

The teacher was **appreciative** of the student's dedication and hard work.

jargon

n. specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify

synonym : lingo, vernacular, slang

(1) business **jargon**, (2) scientific **jargon**

The financial industry is notorious for using complicated **jargon** that confuses consumers.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. leather le____g | <i>n.</i> a tight-fitting garment worn on the legs, usually made of a stretchy material like spandex or nylon, often worn as a fashion item or for exercise; protective coverings for the legs |
| 2. j__n denim | <i>n.</i> a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing |
| 3. a primary sc____er | <i>n.</i> a student who attends a school |
| 4. ins_____ize a system | <i>v.</i> to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.) |
| 5. de____te a few hours | <i>v.</i> to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use |
| 6. don't dis_____nt me | <i>v.</i> to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad |
| 7. national ob____on | <i>n.</i> the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person |
| 8. cl____ss about the situation | <i>adj.</i> lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation |
| 9. ex____e the crowd | <i>v.</i> to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |

ANSWERS: 1. legging, 2. jean, 3. schooler, 4. institutionalize, 5. dedicate, 6. disappoint, 7. obsession, 8. clueless, 9. excite

10. cr___y manipulation *adj.* skilled in deception or trickery; sly or cunning in the ways of achieving a goal
11. c__p wood *v.* to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
12. bl_____nt for economic reform *n.* a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine
13. fo___d the use of chemical weapons *v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
14. be_____h for help *v.* to ask or beg someone earnestly or urgently; to implore or plead for something with great sincerity or humility; to request or entreat someone with a strong sense of urgency or need
15. par_____se the meaning *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
16. cir_____nt rules *v.* to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle
17. ho_____y victims *v.* to shock or disgust greatly
18. ly_____n life cycle *n.* a bacterium or virus that has incorporated its genetic material into the genome of its host cell, remaining dormant until triggered by certain factors to enter into a lytic cycle
19. architect's bl_____nt *n.* a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine

ANSWERS: 10. crafty, 11. chop, 12. blueprint, 13. forbid, 14. beseech, 15. paraphrase, 16. circumvent, 17. horrify, 18. lysogen, 19. blueprint

20. in___t a computer with a virus *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
21. gu__y performance *adj.* displaying courage, determination, or boldness; characterized by a willingness to take risks or face challenges
22. sen_____al damage *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
23. courtroom sto_____ing *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
24. ty_____y of the majority *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
25. app_____ive audience *adj.* expressing or feeling gratitude or admiration; showing recognition or understanding of the value or significance of something; receptive or responsive to something with pleasure or enjoyment
26. per_____te chronic pain *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
27. sp__l the surprise *v.* to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
28. ly__s of adhesions *n.* the disintegration or rupture of a cell, typically caused by the action of an enzyme or other chemical agent; the breaking down of a chemical compound into smaller units

ANSWERS: 20. infect, 21. gutsy, 22. sentimental, 23. storytelling, 24. tyranny, 25. appreciative, 26. perpetuate, 27. spoil, 28. lysis

29. bac_____age infection *n.* (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria
30. cl_____ss in many ways *adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation
31. business ja____n *n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify
32. mi_____ll words *v.* to spell incorrectly or wrongly; to use an incorrect spelling for a word
33. in____t other animal species *v.* to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism
34. scientific ja____n *n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify
35. hooded cl__k *n.* a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise
36. inc_____ble math problem *adj.* impossible to understand or explain; not able to be grasped or comprehended

ANSWERS: 29. bacteriophage, 30. clueless, 31. jargon, 32. misspell, 33. infect, 34. jargon, 35. cloak, 36. incomprehensible

37. cr___y plan *adj.* skilled in deception or trickery; sly or cunning in the ways of achieving a goal
38. per_____te a myth *v.* to make something continue or prevail for a long time
39. inc_____ble jargon *adj.* impossible to understand or explain; not able to be grasped or comprehended
40. high-waisted le_____gs *n.* a tight-fitting garment worn on the legs, usually made of a stretchy material like spandex or nylon, often worn as a fashion item or for exercise; protective coverings for the legs
41. me_____ze musical scores *v.* to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
42. enzyme-mediated ly__s *n.* the disintegration or rupture of a cell, typically caused by the action of an enzyme or other chemical agent; the breaking down of a chemical compound into smaller units
43. cl__k room *n.* a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise
44. ly_____n induction *n.* a bacterium or virus that has incorporated its genetic material into the genome of its host cell, remaining dormant until triggered by certain factors to enter into a lytic cycle
45. DNA-containing bac_____age *n.* (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria

ANSWERS: 37. crafty, 38. perpetuate, 39. incomprehensible, 40. legging, 41. memorize, 42. lysis, 43. cloak, 44. lysogen, 45. bacteriophage

46. ex___e rebellion v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
47. cir_____nt authority v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle
48. es_____ge tactics n. the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents
49. sp__l a person's sport v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
50. in a sen_____al mood *adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
51. be_____h forgiveness v. to ask or beg someone earnestly or urgently; to implore or plead for something with great sincerity or humility; to request or entreat someone with a strong sense of urgency or need
52. ho_____y audience v. to shock or disgust greatly
53. c__p a meet with a knife v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife
54. try hard to me_____ze the lines v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
55. mi_____ll his name v. to spell incorrectly or wrongly; to use an incorrect spelling for a word

ANSWERS: 46. excite, 47. circumvent, 48. espionage, 49. spoil, 50. sentimental, 51. beseech, 52. horrify, 53. chop, 54. memorize, 55. misspell

56. sl__e mold *n.* a thick, slippery substance that is usually soft and wet
57. industrial es_____ge *n.* the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents
58. gu__y move *adj.* displaying courage, determination, or boldness; characterized by a willingness to take risks or face challenges
59. dis_____nt the audience *v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad
60. sto_____ing performance *n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories
61. fo___d smoking in public areas *v.* to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
62. sc_____er uniform *n.* a student who attends a school
63. a j__n skirt *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
64. ob_____on with character *n.* the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
65. par_____se a poem into prose *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

ANSWERS: 56. slime, 57. espionage, 58. gutsy, 59. disappoint, 60. storytelling, 61. forbid, 62. schooler, 63. jean, 64. obsession, 65. paraphrase

66. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
67. sl__e bacteria *n.* a thick, slippery substance that is usually soft and wet
68. brutal ty____y *n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others
69. de_____te a chapter to the subject *v.* to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use
70. app_____ive nod *adj.* expressing or feeling gratitude or admiration; showing recognition or understanding of the value or significance of something; receptive or responsive to something with pleasure or enjoyment

ANSWERS: 66. institutionalize, 67. slime, 68. tyranny, 69. dedicate, 70. appreciative

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The financial industry is notorious for using complicated _____ that confuses consumers.
 - n.* specialized language or vocabulary used by a particular group or profession that is often difficult for outsiders to understand; language that is full of technical slang or obscure terms and is often used to obscure or confuse rather than clarify

2. The kids loved playing with the green _____ but it was a nightmare to clean up.
 - n.* a thick, slippery substance that is usually soft and wet

3. She was completely _____ as to how to solve the problem.
 - adj.* lacking knowledge, understanding, or awareness about a particular subject or situation

4. The country was ruled by a _____ that oppressed its citizens.
 - n.* a form of government in which a single ruler has absolute power, often exercised cruelly and oppressively; the arbitrary or oppressive exercise of power or control over others

5. She worked very hard not to _____ her boss's expectations.
 - v.* to fail to meet someone or their hopes or expectations; to make someone feel sad

6. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.
 - n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

7. She was skilled in _____ techniques, such as using different voices for other characters.
 - n.* the act or art of narrating or writing stories

ANSWERS: 1. jargon, 2. slime, 3. clueless, 4. tyranny, 5. disappoint, 6. jeans, 7. storytelling

8. The series of terrorist attacks _____ the entire nation.
v. to shock or disgust greatly
9. The cyber _____ operation was the work of a foreign government's army of hackers.
n. the practice of spying or gathering confidential information about a country or organization for political or military purposes; the act of obtaining secret or confidential information by means of spies or secret agents
10. It was _____ to quit her job and start her own business.
adj. displaying courage, determination, or boldness; characterized by a willingness to take risks or face challenges
11. The teacher was _____ of the student's dedication and hard work.
adj. expressing or feeling gratitude or admiration; showing recognition or understanding of the value or significance of something; receptive or responsive to something with pleasure or enjoyment
12. Gambling became an _____ for him, and he eventually lost everything.
n. the state in which a person's mind is filled with thoughts of one single object or particular person
13. God _____ you should regret your marriage.
v. to order somebody not to do something, especially officially; to keep something from happening or arising
14. He _____ the article in his own words to avoid being accused of plagiarism.
v. to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning

ANSWERS: 8. horrify, 9. espionage, 10. gutsy, 11. appreciative, 12. obsession, 13. forbid, 14. paraphrased

15. Children often _____ parents with this head cold.

v. to affect a person, an animal, or a plant with a disease-causing organism

16. The bacteriophage enters a _____ phase, integrating its genetic material into the host cell's genome.

n. a bacterium or virus that has incorporated its genetic material into the genome of its host cell, remaining dormant until triggered by certain factors to enter into a lytic cycle

17. The cook _____ the vegetables for the soup.

v. to cut something into pieces with a sharp tool, such as a knife

18. A business plan is a _____ for your success.

n. a photographic print of an early plan for a building or machine

19. That work _____ his fame.

v. to make something continue or prevail for a long time

20. I _____ you to reconsider your decision and give me another chance.

v. to ask or beg someone earnestly or urgently; to implore or plead for something with great sincerity or humility; to request or entreat someone with a strong sense of urgency or need

21. He often traveled abroad alone when he was in high _____.

n. a student who attends a school

22. I took a back road to work on time to _____ the traffic jam.

v. to go around, avoid, or bypass something, often to achieve an intended goal or objective; to outmaneuver or outsmart a person or obstacle

ANSWERS: 15. infect, 16. lysogen, 17. chopped, 18. blueprint, 19. perpetuates, 20. beseech, 21. schooler, 22. circumvent

23. She wore her favorite _____ and a long tunic for a comfortable and stylish outfit.
- n.* a tight-fitting garment worn on the legs, usually made of a stretchy material like spandex or nylon, often worn as a fashion item or for exercise; protective coverings for the legs
24. The neurologist explained that the brain could undergo cytotoxicity and cell _____ if not supplied with enough oxygen.
- n.* the disintegration or rupture of a cell, typically caused by the action of an enzyme or other chemical agent; the breaking down of a chemical compound into smaller units
25. The mathematical formula was _____ to most of the students.
- adj.* impossible to understand or explain; not able to be grasped or comprehended
26. If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will _____.
- v.* to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad
27. Stop being _____ and always speak the truth.
- adj.* connected with or resulting from someone's emotions, rather than reason or realism
28. The news of her promotion _____ her.
- v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
29. Scientists are studying the use of _____ to combat bacterial infections.
- n.* (also "phage") a virus that infects and destroys bacteria

ANSWERS: 23. leggings, 24. lysis, 25. incomprehensible, 26. spoil, 27. sentimental, 28. excited, 29. bacteriophages

30. The _____ fox could outsmart the birds and catch them for his dinner.
adj. skilled in deception or trickery; sly or cunning in the ways of achieving a goal
31. Please be careful not to _____ any of the words in your essay.
v. to spell incorrectly or wrongly; to use an incorrect spelling for a word
32. Lawyers need to _____ even the most minor provisions of the law.
v. to learn something carefully so that you will remember it exactly
33. The new policy aims to _____ the use of renewable energy sources.
v. to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
34. The magician seemed to disappear when he threw his _____ over himself.
n. a type of loose, outer garment worn over the shoulders and fastened at the neck, often with a hood; something that covers or conceals something else; a mask or disguise
35. He _____ his life to helping others.
v. to give all of your energy, time, etc., entirely to a specific person, activity, or cause; to set apart for a particular purpose or use

ANSWERS: 30. crafty, 31. misspell, 32. memorize, 33. institutionalize, 34. cloak, 35. dedicated