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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ben Goldacre: What doctors don't know about the drugs they prescribe | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

chap

n. a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind

synonym : fellow, guy, crack

(1) **chap** stick, (2) nice **chap**

He suffered a painful **chap** on his hand after working with chemicals.

cognition

n. the psychological process of perception and learning and reasoning; the mental action or process by which knowledge and understanding are developed in the mind

synonym : awareness, understanding, comprehension

(1) social **cognition**, (2) **cognition** disorder

The professor focused on the research of infant **cognition**.

fluke

n. a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence

synonym : chance, accident, stroke of luck

(1) lucky **fluke**, (2) **fluke** accident

Winning the lottery was just a **fluke**; I didn't expect it to

happen.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym : curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

preclinical

adj. of or relating to the early phases of a disease when an accurate diagnosis is not possible because symptoms of the disease have not yet appeared; of or relating to the first stage of a medical education

(1) **preclinical** diagnosis, (2) **preclinical** safety evaluation

The doctor suspected that the patient was in the **preclinical** stage of Alzheimer's disease.

arrhythmia

n. a medical condition in which the heartbeat is irregular, too slow, or too fast, which can cause the heart to pump blood less effectively and lead to a variety of symptoms such as palpitations, fatigue, shortness of breath, chest pain, or even fainting

synonym : irregular heartbeat, dysrhythmia, arrhythmic disorder

(1) **arrhythmia** treatment, (2) heart **arrhythmia**

The patient was diagnosed with an **arrhythmia**, causing irregular heartbeats.

culpa

n. guilt or blame, usually referring to legal or moral responsibility for a wrongdoing

synonym : blame, fault, guilt

(1) assign him full **culpa**, (2) **culpa** in mishandling the situation

The CEO resigned, accepting **culpa** for the company's financial troubles.

unflattering

adj. not showing or representing someone or something in a favorable or attractive way

synonym : unfavorable, unkind, derogatory

(1) **unflattering** comments, (2) **unflattering** portrayal
The lighting in the room made everyone's skin look **unflattering**.

antidepressant

n. any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry

(1) an **antidepressant** drug, (2) **antidepressant** effect
She has been taking **antidepressants** since her baby died.

nerd

n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

synonym : geek, techie, wonk

(1) a computer **nerd**, (2) **nerd** neck
He was, by nature, a cyber **nerd**.

mislead

v. to cause someone to believe something that is not true
synonym : misinform, delude, belie

(1) **mislead** him into trusting her, (2) **mislead** the enemy
Our troops pulled back to **mislead** the enemy.

accuse

v. to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing

synonym : charge, blame, criticize

(1) **accuse** his rudeness, (2) **accuse** each other
The witness **accused** the defendant of committing the robbery.

flick

v. to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement

synonym : snap, tap, flip

(1) **flicker** candle, (2) **flick** through pages
He **flicked** the light switch, and the room was illuminated.

withhold

v. to not give or grant something due, expected, or requested

synonym : retain, hold back, keep back

(1) **withhold** my laughter, (2) **withhold** payment

The government decided to **withhold** the release of sensitive information.

chant

n. a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation

synonym: hymn, mantra, (verb) recite

(1) **chant** melodies, (2) **chant** in the chapel

The soccer game crowd broke into a **chant** of "Go, team, go!"

diffuse

adj. spread out widely; not concentrated in one place

synonym: spread, scatter

(1) **diffuse** bleeding, (2) **diffuse** cloud

Direct lighting is preferable to **diffuse** lighting when reading.

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.

stockpile

n. a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve

synonym: reserve, hoard, cache

(1) **stockpile** weapons, (2) nuclear **stockpile**

The farmer had a huge **stockpile** of hay for the winter.

complication

n. something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused

synonym: confusion, complexity, difficulty

(1) **complication** of structure, (2) resolve without **complication**

He also continued to struggle with serious long-term **complications**.

euphemism

n. a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing

synonym: mild expression, implication, circumlocution

(1) genteel **euphemism**, (2) a **euphemism** for death

The company used the **euphemism** "downsizing" to describe the layoffs of hundreds of employees.

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**.

write-up

n. a written report, summary, or evaluation; an article or piece of writing that provides information or analysis about a particular subject or event; a formal or official document or record

synonym: article, report, review

(1) **write-up** of the event, (2) negative **write-up**

I must submit a **write-up** of my research findings to my supervisor by the end of the week.

harass

v. to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention

synonym: pester, annoy, bother

(1) **harass** the enemy, (2) **harass** with constant criticism

She was constantly **harassed** by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.

rendition

n. a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering

someone to another country for interrogation or punishment

synonym : interpretation, performance, presentation

(1) **rendition** of judgment, (2) film **rendition**

The singer gave a beautiful **rendition** of the classic song during the concert.

pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

synonym : presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

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**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. unf_____ing portrayal *adj.* not showing or representing someone or something in a favorable or attractive way
2. ha___s with constant criticism *v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention
3. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
4. viral pn_____ia *n.* an infection or inflammation of the lungs, typically caused by bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms
5. wi_____ld my laughter *v.* to not give or grant something due, expected, or requested
6. mi_____d him into trusting her *v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true
7. co_____on disorder *n.* the psychological process of perception and learning and reasoning; the mental action or process by which knowledge and understanding are developed in the mind
8. social co_____on *n.* the psychological process of perception and learning and reasoning; the mental action or process by which knowledge and understanding are developed in the mind
9. re_____on of judgment *n.* a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering someone to another country for interrogation or punishment

ANSWERS: 1. unflattering, 2. harass, 3. industrious, 4. pneumonia, 5. withhold, 6. mislead, 7. cognition, 8. cognition, 9. rendition

10. assign him full cu__a *n.* guilt or blame, usually referring to legal or moral responsibility for a wrongdoing
11. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
12. fl__k through pages *v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement
13. pre_____al diagnosis *adj.* of or relating to the early phases of a disease when an accurate diagnosis is not possible because symptoms of the disease have not yet appeared; of or relating to the first stage of a medical education
14. mi_____d the enemy *v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true
15. ch__t melodies *n.* a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation
16. di_____e cloud *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
17. a eu_____sm for death *n.* a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing
18. com_____ion of structure *n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused
19. di_____e bleeding *adj.* spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
20. fl__e accident *n.* a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence

ANSWERS: 10. culpa, 11. afterward, 12. flick, 13. preclinical, 14. mislead, 15. chant, 16. diffuse, 17. euphemism, 18. complication, 19. diffuse, 20. fluke

21. ha___s the enemy *v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention
22. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
23. ch__t in the chapel *n.* a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation
24. genteel eu_____sm *n.* a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing
25. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
26. cu__a in mishandling the situation *n.* guilt or blame, usually referring to legal or moral responsibility for a wrongdoing
27. wi_____ld payment *v.* to not give or grant something due, expected, or requested
28. st_____le weapons *n.* a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve
29. ac___e his rudeness *v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing

ANSWERS: 21. harass, 22. industrious, 23. chant, 24. euphemism, 25. medicinal, 26. culpa, 27. withhold, 28. stockpile, 29. accuse

30. n__d neck *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
31. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
32. nuclear st_____le *n.* a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve
33. pre_____on to authority *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
34. arr_____ia treatment *n.* a medical condition in which the heartbeat is irregular, too slow, or too fast, which can cause the heart to pump blood less effectively and lead to a variety of symptoms such as palpitations, fatigue, shortness of breath, chest pain, or even fainting
35. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
36. pre_____al safety evaluation *adj.* of or relating to the early phases of a disease when an accurate diagnosis is not possible because symptoms of the disease have not yet appeared; of or relating to the first stage of a medical education

ANSWERS: 30. nerd, 31. medicinal, 32. stockpile, 33. pretension, 34. arrhythmia, 35. afterward, 36. preclinical

37. unf_____ing comments *adj.* not showing or representing someone or something in a favorable or attractive way
38. resolve without com_____ion *n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused
39. ant_____ant effect *n.* any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry
40. ac___e each other *v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing
41. negative wr____up *n.* a written report, summary, or evaluation; an article or piece of writing that provides information or analysis about a particular subject or event; a formal or official document or record
42. fl__ker candle *v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement
43. baseless pre_____on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
44. an ant_____ant drug *n.* any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry
45. c__p stick *n.* a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind

ANSWERS: 37. unflattering, 38. complication, 39. antidepressant, 40. accuse, 41. write-up, 42. flick, 43. pretension, 44. antidepressant, 45. chap

46. film re_____on *n.* a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering someone to another country for interrogation or punishment
47. nice c__p *n.* a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind
48. bacterial pn_____ia *n.* an infection or inflammation of the lungs, typically caused by bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms
49. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
50. lucky fl__e *n.* a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence
51. wr_____up of the event *n.* a written report, summary, or evaluation; an article or piece of writing that provides information or analysis about a particular subject or event; a formal or official document or record
52. heart arr_____ia *n.* a medical condition in which the heartbeat is irregular, too slow, or too fast, which can cause the heart to pump blood less effectively and lead to a variety of symptoms such as palpitations, fatigue, shortness of breath, chest pain, or even fainting

ANSWERS: 46. rendition, 47. chap, 48. pneumonia, 49. nerd, 50. fluke, 51. write-up, 52. arrhythmia

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His _____ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
 - n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

2. He _____ the light switch, and the room was illuminated.
 - v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement

3. The witness _____ the defendant of committing the robbery.
 - v.* to charge or criticize someone with a crime or wrongdoing

4. She has been taking _____ since her baby died.
 - n.* any of a class of drugs used to reduce feelings of sadness and worry

5. Our troops pulled back to _____ the enemy.
 - v.* to cause someone to believe something that is not true

6. The patient was diagnosed with an _____ causing irregular heartbeats.
 - n.* a medical condition in which the heartbeat is irregular, too slow, or too fast, which can cause the heart to pump blood less effectively and lead to a variety of symptoms such as palpitations, fatigue, shortness of breath, chest pain, or even fainting

7. The company used the _____ "downsizing" to describe the layoffs of hundreds of employees.
 - n.* a mild or indirect word or expression used in place of one considered to be too harsh or blunt when referring to something unpleasant or embarrassing

ANSWERS: 1. pretensions, 2. flicked, 3. accused, 4. antidepressants, 5. mislead, 6. arrhythmia, 7. euphemism

8. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.
adv. after the time mentioned
9. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.
adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
10. Direct lighting is preferable to _____ lighting when reading.
adj. spread out widely; not concentrated in one place
11. I must submit a _____ of my research findings to my supervisor by the end of the week.
n. a written report, summary, or evaluation; an article or piece of writing that provides information or analysis about a particular subject or event; a formal or official document or record
12. The CEO resigned, accepting _____ for the company's financial troubles.
n. guilt or blame, usually referring to legal or moral responsibility for a wrongdoing
13. She was hospitalized with a severe case of _____.
n. an infection or inflammation of the lungs, typically caused by bacteria, viruses, or other microorganisms
14. He was, by nature, a cyber _____.
n. a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.
15. The soccer game crowd broke into a _____ of "Go, team, go!"
n. a simple melody or tune, typically one that is repeated or sung in a monotonous way; (verb) recite with musical intonation

ANSWERS: 8. afterward, 9. industrious, 10. diffuse, 11. write-up, 12. culpa, 13. pneumonia, 14. nerd, 15. chant

16. Winning the lottery was just a _____ I didn't expect it to happen.
- n.* a stroke of luck or chance, often resulting in a positive outcome or unexpected success; an accidental or unplanned occurrence
17. He also continued to struggle with serious long-term _____.
- n.* something that makes a situation or condition that is complex or confused
18. She was constantly _____ by her ex-boyfriend and had to get a restraining order.
- v.* to annoy, torment, or pester persistently; to subject someone to repeated or chronic attacks or unwelcome attention
19. The farmer had a huge _____ of hay for the winter.
- n.* a large quantity or reserve of goods or materials that are accumulated and stored for future use, often used for emergency or contingency purposes; (verb) to accumulate or gather a large quantity of something, usually for future use or as a reserve
20. He suffered a painful _____ on his hand after working with chemicals.
- n.* a crack in the skin, especially on the lips or hands, caused by dryness or cold weather; a man or boy; (verb) to crack, split, or roughen the skin, especially as a result of exposure to cold weather or wind
21. The lighting in the room made everyone's skin look _____.
- adj.* not showing or representing someone or something in a favorable or attractive way
22. The doctor suspected that the patient was in the _____ stage of Alzheimer's disease.
- adj.* of or relating to the early phases of a disease when an accurate diagnosis is not possible because symptoms of the disease have not yet appeared; of or relating to the first stage of a medical education

ANSWERS: 16. fluke;, 17. complications, 18. harassed, 19. stockpile, 20. chap, 21. unflattering, 22. preclinical

23. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

24. The singer gave a beautiful _____ of the classic song during the concert.

n. a performance or interpretation, often of a piece of music or artwork; a version or translation of something into another language or style; the act of surrendering someone to another country for interrogation or punishment

25. The professor focused on the research of infant _____.

n. the psychological process of perception and learning and reasoning; the mental action or process by which knowledge and understanding are developed in the mind

26. The government decided to _____ the release of sensitive information.

v. to not give or grant something due, expected, or requested

ANSWERS: 23. medicinal, 24. rendition, 25. cognition, 26. withhold