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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kees Moeliker: How a dead duck changed my life |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

curator

n. a person whose job is to manage the objects or artworks in a museum, art gallery, etc.

synonym: conservator, custodian, administrator

(1) **curator** of a library, (2) interim **curator**

The museum **curator** conserved the ancient manuscripts.

ornithologist

n. a person who studies, observes or is an expert in the scientific field of ornithology, which is the study of birds

synonym: birdwatcher, avian expert

(1) amateur **ornithologist**, (2) **ornithologist** group

The documentary featured interviews with several renowned **ornithologists** discussing the bird population decline.

necrophilia

n. a psychological disorder characterized by an abnormal attraction to, fixation on, or sexual interest in corpses or the dead

synonym: necromania

(1) **necrophilia** pathology, (2) criminal **necrophilia**

He was committed to a mental institution due to his **necrophilia** tendencies.

aft

adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

mallard

n. a common species of duck found in various parts of the world

synonym: drake, wild duck

(1) female **mallard**, (2) **mallard** breeding season

We spotted a beautiful **mallard** swimming in the pond at the park.

laureate

n. a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work

(1) Oscar **laureate**, (2) poet **laureate**

The Nobel **laureate** delivered an inspiring speech to the graduating class.

courtship

n. the period of time when two individuals go through the process of getting to know each other, often with the intent of forming a romantic or intimate relationship

synonym: romance, wooing, lovemaking

(1) traditional **courtship**, (2) romantic **courtship**

The movie depicts an old-fashioned **courtship** between the two main characters.

ostrich

n. a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill

synonym: bird, flightless bird

(1) **ostrich** eggs, (2) **ostrich** feathers

The farmers raise **ostriches** for their meat, eggs, and feathers.

applause

n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together

synonym : clapping, cheering, acclaim

(1) round of **applause**, (2) earn **applause**

The **applause** burst from the audience.

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.

avian

adj. relating to or characteristic of birds

synonym : bird-like, feathered, winged

(1) **avian** influenza, (2) **avian** habitat

The expert on **avian** species studied the behavior of different types of birds.

misbehave

v. to behave badly

synonym : act up, fool around, trespass

(1) **misbehave** with language, (2) the student who had **misbehaved**

It was unbelievable that they should **misbehave**.

moose

n. a large deer native to the northern forests of North America and Eurasia

synonym : elk, deer, antelope

(1) **moose** hunting, (2) **moose** population

The antlers of a bull **moose** can grow up to 6 feet in width and weigh over 60 pounds.

bison

n. a large wild animal of the cow family that has shaggy manes, large heads, and short horns, and there are American bison, also called buffalo, and European bison

synonym : buffalo

(1) endangered **bison**, (2) American **bison's** meat

Large herds of **bison** used to live on the plains of this area.

goldfish

n. a small, freshwater fish with bright scales and a round body, often kept as a pet or used as a decorative element in ponds or aquariums

(1) **goldfish** pond, (2) breeding **goldfish**

I enjoy watching the **goldfish** swim around in their tank.

toad

n. a small, tailless amphibian with dry, warty skin and short legs; a person who is disliked or contemptible

synonym: frog, amphibian, batrachian

(1) **toad** in the garden, (2) **toad** caught in the trap

The kids went on a scavenger hunt in the park and found a **toad** under a big leaf.

pigeon

n. a stout-bodied bird with a small head, short legs, and a short, cooing call, typically found in cities and domesticated for food

(1) a racing **pigeon**, (2) **pigeon** on the roof

The **pigeon** perched on the windowsill, pecking at the bread crumbs left for it.

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.

blackbird

n. a medium-sized, mostly black bird that is native to Europe and North America, which is a popular subject in literature, poetry, and folklore

synonym: thrush, songbird, merl

(1) flock of **blackbirds**, (2) shy **blackbird**

The **blackbird's** sweet song filled the air and brought peace to the garden.

clunky

adj. heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement

synonym: clumsy, bulky, burdensome

(1) **clunky** phrasing, (2) **clunky** robot

Refined character portrayal makes up for **clunky** gameplay.

intruder

n. someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something

synonym: trespasser, intruder, interloper

(1) illegal **intruder**, (2) infrared **intruder** system

The homeowner called the police when they spotted an **intruder** in their backyard.

collide

v. to hit something violently when moving

synonym: clash, slam, contradict

(1) **collide** head-on, (2) **collide** in midair

The interests of the two countries **collide**.

Session 2: Spelling

1. os____h eggs *n.* a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill
2. infrared in____er system *n.* someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something
3. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
4. endangered bi__n *n.* a large wild animal of the cow family that has shaggy manes, large heads, and short horns, and there are American bison, also called buffalo, and European bison
5. co____e in midair *v.* to hit something violently when moving
6. ma____d breeding season *n.* a common species of duck found in various parts of the world
7. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
8. interim cu____r *n.* a person whose job is to manage the objects or artworks in a museum, art gallery, etc.
9. traditional me____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
10. breeding go____sh *n.* a small, freshwater fish with bright scales and a round body, often kept as a pet or used as a decorative element in ponds or aquariums

ANSWERS: 1. ostrich, 2. intruder, 3. aft, 4. bison, 5. collide, 6. mallard, 7. institutionalize, 8. curator, 9. medicinal, 10. goldfish

19. American bi__n's meat *n.* a large wild animal of the cow family that has shaggy manes, large heads, and short horns, and there are American bison, also called buffalo, and European bison
20. criminal nec______ia *n.* a psychological disorder characterized by an abnormal attraction to, fixation on, or sexual interest in corpses or the dead
21. mo__e hunting *n.* a large deer native to the northern forests of North America and Eurasia
22. go____sh pond *n.* a small, freshwater fish with bright scales and a round body, often kept as a pet or used as a decorative element in ponds or aquariums
23. round of ap____se *n.* a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
24. co____e head-on *v.* to hit something violently when moving
25. av__n influenza *adj.* relating to or characteristic of birds
26. os____h feathers *n.* a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill
27. orn______ist group *n.* a person who studies, observes or is an expert in the scientific field of ornithology, which is the study of birds
28. me____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
29. female ma____d *n.* a common species of duck found in various parts of the world
30. t__d in the garden *n.* a small, tailless amphibian with dry, warty skin and short legs; a person who is disliked or contemptible

ANSWERS: 19. bison, 20. necrophilia, 21. moose, 22. goldfish, 23. applause, 24. collide, 25. avian, 26. ostrich, 27. ornithologist, 28. medicinal, 29. mallard, 30. toad

40. illegal in____er *n.* someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something
41. av__n habitat *adj.* relating to or characteristic of birds
42. pi___n on the roof *n.* a stout-bodied bird with a small head, short legs, and a short, cooing call, typically found in cities and domesticated for food
43. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
44. nec_____ia pathology *n.* a psychological disorder characterized by an abnormal attraction to, fixation on, or sexual interest in corpses or the dead

ANSWERS: 40. intruder, 41. avian, 42. pigeon, 43. institutionalize, 44. necrophilia

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Large herds of _____ used to live on the plains of this area.
n. a large wild animal of the cow family that has shaggy manes, large heads, and short horns, and there are American bison, also called buffalo, and European bison
2. The _____ burst from the audience.
n. a demonstration of approval or praise by clapping the hands together
3. Refined character portrayal makes up for _____ gameplay.
adj. heavy, awkward, and old-fashioned; not graceful and clumsy in style, form, or movement
4. The interests of the two countries _____.
v. to hit something violently when moving
5. The museum _____ conserved the ancient manuscripts.
n. a person whose job is to manage the objects or artworks in a museum, art gallery, etc.
6. The homeowner called the police when they spotted an _____ in their backyard.
n. someone who enters a place or situation without permission or invitation; someone who interrupts or interferes in something
7. We spotted a beautiful _____ swimming in the pond at the park.
n. a common species of duck found in various parts of the world

ANSWERS: 1. bison, 2. applause, 3. clunky, 4. collide, 5. curator, 6. intruder, 7. mallard

8. The ____ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

9. The expert on _____ species studied the behavior of different types of birds.

adj. relating to or characteristic of birds

10. 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.)

11. The kids went on a scavenger hunt in the park and found a ____ under a big leaf.

n. a small, tailless amphibian with dry, warty skin and short legs; a person who is disliked or contemptible

12. He was committed to a mental institution due to his _____ tendencies.

n. a psychological disorder characterized by an abnormal attraction to, fixation on, or sexual interest in corpses or the dead

13. The farmers raise _____ for their meat, eggs, and feathers.

n. a large flightless bird native to Africa with a long neck, legs, and bill

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

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

15. I enjoy watching the _____ swim around in their tank.

n. a small, freshwater fish with bright scales and a round body, often kept as a pet or used as a decorative element in ponds or aquariums

ANSWERS: 8. aft, 9. avian, 10. institutionalize, 11. toad, 12. necrophilia, 13. ostriches, 14. medicinal, 15. goldfish

16. The Nobel _____ delivered an inspiring speech to the graduating class.
- n.* a person who has been awarded an honor or a prize for achievement in a particular field, especially in literature or academia; a poet who is honored for achieving the highest level of excellence in a competition or for producing a lifetime body of work
17. The documentary featured interviews with several renowned _____ discussing the bird population decline.
- n.* a person who studies, observes or is an expert in the scientific field of ornithology, which is the study of birds
18. The movie depicts an old-fashioned _____ between the two main characters.
- n.* the period of time when two individuals go through the process of getting to know each other, often with the intent of forming a romantic or intimate relationship
19. The _____ perched on the windowsill, pecking at the bread crumbs left for it.
- n.* a stout-bodied bird with a small head, short legs, and a short, cooing call, typically found in cities and domesticated for food
20. The antlers of a bull _____ can grow up to 6 feet in width and weigh over 60 pounds.
- n.* a large deer native to the northern forests of North America and Eurasia
21. It was unbelievable that they should _____.
- v.* to behave badly
22. The _____ sweet song filled the air and brought peace to the garden.
- n.* a medium-sized, mostly black bird that is native to Europe and North America, which is a popular subject in literature, poetry, and folklore

ANSWERS: 16. laureate, 17. ornithologists, 18. courtship, 19. pigeon, 20. moose, 21. misbehave, 22. blackbird's

ANSWERS: