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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Aaron O'Connell: Making sense of a visible quantum object | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

aptitude

n. a natural ability or talent for something; suitability or fitness for a particular task or kind of work

synonym: ability, talent, skill

(1) **aptitude** test, (2) natural **aptitude**

Her **aptitude** for mathematics helped her excel in her engineering courses at college.

hemisphere

n. half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

(1) northern **hemisphere**, (2) cerebral **hemisphere**

This weather pattern is unique to the southern **hemisphere**.

physicist

n. a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

(1) talented **physicist**, (2) theoretical **physicist**

Einstein was an outstanding and famous **physicist** of the 20th century.

intuition

n. the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

synonym: instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research

Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be

influenced by their experiences and biases.

superposition

n. a principle in physics that describes the combination or overlaying of two or more waves or states of matter; (of geology) the process by which layers of rock or sediment are deposited on top of one another over time

synonym: overlay, overlap

(1) quantum **superposition**, (2) **superposition** theorem

The **superposition** of waves can result in either constructive or destructive interference.

ledge

n. a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface

synonym: shelf, edge, brink

(1) **ledge** overlooking the ocean, (2) wooden **ledge**

He stood on the narrow **ledge**, looking down at the busy street below.

wafer

n. a thin, flat, crisp biscuit or cake, often used as a communion element in religious services; a thin slice or piece of semiconductor material used in the production of computer chips and other electronic devices

synonym: thin cake, biscuit, disk

(1) strawberry **wafer**, (2) **wafer** cleaning system

The solar panel uses high-quality silicon **wafers** to convert sunlight into electricity efficiently.

crank

n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person

synonym: eccentric, oddball, kook

(1) **crank** handle, (2) **crank** caller

The fishing reel had a **crank** that made it easy to reel in the catch.

inanimate

adj. not having life or spirit; not animate

synonym: lifeless, inert, passive

(1) **inanimate** nature, (2) **inanimate** matter

The **inanimate** object was not capable of movement or feeling.

vibrate

v. to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side

synonym: oscillate, convulse, jerk

(1) **vibrate** at a regular frequency, (2) **vibrate** with anger

During the flight, the wings of the plane **vibrate**.

bellows

n. a device consisting of a bag or chamber with flexible sides that is expanded and contracted to draw in air through a valve and then force it out through a tube; a device used to blow air into a fire to make it burn more intensely

synonym: blower, puffer, blaster

(1) **bellows** pump, (2) blow a **bellows**

The blacksmith's apprentice operated the **bellows** to maintain the forge's heat.

nudge

v. to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior

synonym: bump, elbow, (noun) prod

(1) **nudge** price levels up, (2) give a person a **nudge**

The teacher **nudged** the student to get his attention and asked him a question.

localize

v. to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market

synonym: place, pinpoint, identify

(1) **localize** an infection, (2) **localize** the problem

It is crucial to quickly **localize** the source of the contamination

to prevent further spread of the virus.

cram

v. to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space

synonym: stuff, pack, jam

(1) **cram** more circuits into chips, (2) **cram** five people into a car

She had to **cram** for the final exam and stayed up all night studying.

interconnect

v. to connect similar things

synonym: interlink, connect, annex

(1) directly **interconnect** with those systems, (2) human activities **interconnect** with the environment

Our system can now **interconnect** with other databases.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|--|-----------|---|
| 1. theoretical ph_____st | <i>n.</i> | a scientist who specializes in the field of physics |
| 2. be_____s pump | <i>n.</i> | a device consisting of a bag or chamber with flexible sides that is expanded and contracted to draw in air through a valve and then force it out through a tube; a device used to blow air into a fire to make it burn more intensely |
| 3. cr__k handle | <i>n.</i> | a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person |
| 4. vi_____e with anger | <i>v.</i> | to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side |
| 5. cerebral hem_____re | <i>n.</i> | half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere |
| 6. human activities int_____ect with the environment | <i>v.</i> | to connect similar things |
| 7. sup_____ion theorem | <i>n.</i> | a principle in physics that describes the combination or overlaying of two or more waves or states of matter; (of geology) the process by which layers of rock or sediment are deposited on top of one another over time |
| 8. directly int_____ect with those systems | <i>v.</i> | to connect similar things |

ANSWERS: 1. physicist, 2. bellows, 3. crank, 4. vibrate, 5. hemisphere, 6. interconnect, 7. superposition, 8. interconnect

9. in_____te nature *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
10. c__m five people into a car *v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
11. in_____te matter *adj.* not having life or spirit; not animate
12. blow a be_____s *n.* a device consisting of a bag or chamber with flexible sides that is expanded and contracted to draw in air through a valve and then force it out through a tube; a device used to blow air into a fire to make it burn more intensely
13. nu__e price levels up *v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior
14. lo_____ze the problem *v.* to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market
15. c__m more circuits into chips *v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space
16. le__e overlooking the ocean *n.* a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface

ANSWERS: 9. inanimate, 10. cram, 11. inanimate, 12. bellows, 13. nudge, 14. localize, 15. cram, 16. ledge

17. in_____on research *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
18. natural ap_____de *n.* a natural ability or talent for something; suitability or fitness for a particular task or kind of work
19. lo_____ze an infection *v.* to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market
20. quantum sup_____ion *n.* a principle in physics that describes the combination or overlaying of two or more waves or states of matter; (of geology) the process by which layers of rock or sediment are deposited on top of one another over time
21. ap_____de test *n.* a natural ability or talent for something; suitability or fitness for a particular task or kind of work
22. vi_____e at a regular frequency *v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
23. talented ph_____st *n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics
24. wooden le__e *n.* a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface
25. give a person a nu__e *v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior

ANSWERS: 17. intuition, 18. aptitude, 19. localize, 20. superposition, 21. aptitude, 22. vibrate, 23. physicist, 24. ledge, 25. nudge

26. cr__k caller *n.* a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person
27. strawberry wa__r *n.* a thin, flat, crisp biscuit or cake, often used as a communion element in religious services; a thin slice or piece of semiconductor material used in the production of computer chips and other electronic devices
28. northern hem_____re *n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere
29. creative in_____on *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
30. wa__r cleaning system *n.* a thin, flat, crisp biscuit or cake, often used as a communion element in religious services; a thin slice or piece of semiconductor material used in the production of computer chips and other electronic devices

ANSWERS: 26. crank, 27. wafer, 28. hemisphere, 29. intuition, 30. wafer

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The solar panel uses high-quality silicon _____ to convert sunlight into electricity efficiently.
 - n.* a thin, flat, crisp biscuit or cake, often used as a communion element in religious services; a thin slice or piece of semiconductor material used in the production of computer chips and other electronic devices

2. She had to _____ for the final exam and stayed up all night studying.
 - v.* to force or try to fit a large amount of information into a short time, especially in preparation for an examination; to force or try to fit a large amount of something into a small space

3. The teacher _____ the student to get his attention and asked him a question.
 - v.* to push someone or something gently, especially with your elbow, to attract the person's attention; (noun) a small push or prod to encourage a desired action or behavior

4. He stood on the narrow _____ looking down at the busy street below.
 - n.* a narrow, flat surface or shelf that juts out from a wall or cliff; a projecting rib or molding along the edge of a surface

5. Her _____ for mathematics helped her excel in her engineering courses at college.
 - n.* a natural ability or talent for something; suitability or fitness for a particular task or kind of work

6. This weather pattern is unique to the southern _____.
 - n.* half of the terrestrial globe; half of a sphere

ANSWERS: 1. wafers, 2. cram, 3. nudged, 4. ledge, 5. aptitude, 6. hemisphere

7. Some studies suggest that people's _____ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.
- n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
8. Our system can now _____ with other databases.
- v.* to connect similar things
9. It is crucial to quickly _____ the source of the contamination to prevent further spread of the virus.
- v.* to restrict or confine something to a specific area or location; to adapt or translate something for a particular region or market
10. During the flight, the wings of the plane _____.
- v.* to move or cause anything to move fast and in small increments from side to side
11. The blacksmith's apprentice operated the _____ to maintain the forge's heat.
- n.* a device consisting of a bag or chamber with flexible sides that is expanded and contracted to draw in air through a valve and then force it out through a tube; a device used to blow air into a fire to make it burn more intensely
12. The _____ of waves can result in either constructive or destructive interference.
- n.* a principle in physics that describes the combination or overlaying of two or more waves or states of matter; (of geology) the process by which layers of rock or sediment are deposited on top of one another over time
13. Einstein was an outstanding and famous _____ of the 20th century.
- n.* a scientist who specializes in the field of physics

ANSWERS: 7. intuitions, 8. interconnect, 9. localize, 10. vibrate, 11. bellows, 12. superposition, 13. physicist

14. The fishing reel had a _____ that made it easy to reel in the catch.

n. a mechanical device that converts rotary motion into linear motion or vice versa; an eccentric or unpredictable person

15. The _____ object was not capable of movement or feeling.

adj. not having life or spirit; not animate

ANSWERS: 14. crank, 15. inanimate