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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Jennifer Pahlka: Coding a better government | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

- app**
- n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
- synonym* : application, software
- (1) killer **app**, (2) cannot log in to the **app**
- The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the **app's** release.
- hydrant**
- n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
- synonym* : fireplug, tap, spigot
- (1) **hydrant** valve, (2) fire **hydrant**
- The residents reported a leaky **hydrant** in their community, prompting the city to dispatch a maintenance crew
- shovel**
- n.* a tool with a handle and broad scoop or blade used for digging or moving Earth, coal, snow, or other granular materials
- synonym* : excavator, scoop, trowel
- (1) snow **shovel**, (2) **shovel** blade
- The construction workers used a power **shovel** to dig the foundation for the building.

clog

v. to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something

synonym: block, jam, obstruct

(1) **clog** a filter, (2) **clog** artery

The drain was **clogged** with hair and needed to be cleaned out.

procure

v. to obtain, acquire, or secure something, often by effort or skill

synonym: obtain, acquire, secure

(1) **procure** a rare antique, (2) **procure** services

I need to **procure** some supplies for the upcoming project.

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**.

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.

ossify

v. to become hardened like bone; to become rigid, inflexible, or resistant to change

synonym: harden, petrify, solidify

(1) **ossify** tissue, (2) **ossify** into a rigid structure

After a certain age, our bones begin to **ossify** and become more brittle.

reconsider

v. to think about a decision or opinion again to

synonym: rethink, review, revisit

(1) **reconsider** the determination, (2) **reconsider** my transfer

He humbly **reconsidered** his conduct.

opossum

n. a nocturnal marsupial with grayish-white fur, a long naked pink tail, and a head with a pointed snout and sharp teeth; also called "possum" in some regions

synonym: coon, marsupial

(1) **opossum** habitat, (2) Virginia **opossum**

An **opossum's** tail is prehensile, which helps it climb and maintain balance.

crowdsourcing

n. the practice of obtaining needed services, ideas, or content by enlisting the services of a large number of people, either paid or unpaid, typically via the internet

(1) **crowdsourcing** apps, (2) **crowdsourcing** in climate policy

The company used this **crowdsourcing** platform to gather ideas for its next product.

bureaucracy

n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives

synonym: administration, government, system

(1) government **bureaucracy**, (2) arbitrary **bureaucracy**

The bumbling **bureaucracy** made it difficult to get the permits we needed.

disempower

v. to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective

synonym: disenfranchise, weaken, undermine

(1) **disempower** the employees, (2) **disempower** the opposition

The politician's efforts to **disempower** marginalized communities were met with widespread criticism.

reframe

v. to reinterpret, rephrase, or redefine an issue, situation, or question in a different way

synonym: redefine, restructure, reposition

(1) **reframe** resource allocation, (2) **reframe** problem

The therapist tried to **reframe** his negative thoughts.

begrudge

v. to feel resentment or ill-will towards someone because of their success, possessions, or achievements; to envy or covet something that belongs to someone else; to hesitate or be reluctant to give or allow something to someone

synonym: resent, envy

(1) **begrudge** him the opportunity to study abroad,

(2) **begrudge** spending money

I don't **begrudge** you for your success.

Session 2: Spelling

1. cro_____ing in climate policy *n.* the practice of obtaining needed services, ideas, or content by enlisting the services of a large number of people, either paid or unpaid, typically via the internet
2. os___y into a rigid structure *v.* to become hardened like bone; to become rigid, inflexible, or resistant to change
3. pr_____e services *v.* to obtain, acquire, or secure something, often by effort or skill
4. fire hy_____t *n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
5. c__g a filter *v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something
6. dis_____er the opposition *v.* to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective
7. snow sh___l *n.* a tool with a handle and broad scoop or blade used for digging or moving Earth, coal, snow, or other granular materials
8. cannot log in to the a_p *n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

ANSWERS: 1. crowdsourcing, 2. ossify, 3. procure, 4. hydrant, 5. clog, 6. disempower, 7. shovel, 8. app

9. hy____t valve *n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
10. dis_____er the employees *v.* to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective
11. pr_____e a rare antique *v.* to obtain, acquire, or secure something, often by effort or skill
12. re_____e resource allocation *v.* to reinterpret, rephrase, or redefine an issue, situation, or question in a different way
13. arbitrary bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
14. ins_____ize customary laws *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
15. c__g artery *v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something
16. op_____m habitat *n.* a nocturnal marsupial with grayish-white fur, a long naked pink tail, and a head with a pointed snout and sharp teeth; also called "possum" in some regions
17. be_____ge spending money *v.* to feel resentment or ill-will towards someone because of their success, possessions, or achievements; to envy or covet something that belongs to someone else; to hesitate or be reluctant to give or allow something to someone

ANSWERS: 9. hydrant, 10. disempower, 11. procure, 12. reframe, 13. bureaucracy, 14. institutionalize, 15. clog, 16. opossum, 17. begrudge

18. re_____e problem *v.* to reinterpret, rephrase, or redefine an issue, situation, or question in a different way
19. be_____ge him the opportunity to study abroad *v.* to feel resentment or ill-will towards someone because of their success, possessions, or achievements; to envy or covet something that belongs to someone else; to hesitate or be reluctant to give or allow something to someone
20. sh_____l blade *n.* a tool with a handle and broad scoop or blade used for digging or moving Earth, coal, snow, or other granular materials
21. a few years af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
22. government bur_____cy *n.* a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives
23. Virginia op_____m *n.* a nocturnal marsupial with grayish-white fur, a long naked pink tail, and a head with a pointed snout and sharp teeth; also called "possum" in some regions
24. rec_____er my transfer *v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
25. ins_____ize a system *v.* to establish or make something a part of an institution (= a place such as a university, hospital, etc.)
26. go there af_____rd *adv.* after the time mentioned
27. os_____y tissue *v.* to become hardened like bone; to become rigid, inflexible, or resistant to change

ANSWERS: 18. reframe, 19. begrudge, 20. shovel, 21. afterward, 22. bureaucracy, 23. opossum, 24. reconsider, 25. institutionalize, 26. afterward, 27. ossify

28. rec_____er the determination

v. to think about a decision or opinion again to

29. killer a_p

n. (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC

30. cro_____ing apps

n. the practice of obtaining needed services, ideas, or content by enlisting the services of a large number of people, either paid or unpaid, typically via the internet

ANSWERS: 28. reconsider, 29. app, 30. crowdsourcing

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The construction workers used a power _____ to dig the foundation for the building.
 - n.* a tool with a handle and broad scoop or blade used for digging or moving Earth, coal, snow, or other granular materials
2. He humbly _____ his conduct.
 - v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to
3. The politician's efforts to _____ marginalized communities were met with widespread criticism.
 - v.* to deprive of power, authority, or influence, to make someone or something less powerful or effective
4. I don't _____ you for your success.
 - v.* to feel resentment or ill-will towards someone because of their success, possessions, or achievements; to envy or covet something that belongs to someone else; to hesitate or be reluctant to give or allow something to someone
5. 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.)
6. An _____ tail is prehensile, which helps it climb and maintain balance.
 - n.* a nocturnal marsupial with grayish-white fur, a long naked pink tail, and a head with a pointed snout and sharp teeth; also called "possum" in some regions

ANSWERS: 1. shovel, 2. reconsidered, 3. disempower, 4. begrudge, 5. institutionalize, 6. opossum's

7. The residents reported a leaky _____ in their community, prompting the city to dispatch a maintenance crew
- n.* a pipe with a valve and spout, usually located on streets and used for drawing water, especially for firefighting purposes
8. The drain was _____ with hair and needed to be cleaned out.
- v.* to obstruct or block up (a passage, pipe, or system) with an accumulation of thick or sticky matter; to impede or hinder the progress or movement of something
9. I need to _____ some supplies for the upcoming project.
- v.* to obtain, acquire, or secure something, often by effort or skill
10. The discovery of a critical bug caused the company to delay the _____ release.
- n.* (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC
11. The company used this _____ platform to gather ideas for its next product.
- n.* the practice of obtaining needed services, ideas, or content by enlisting the services of a large number of people, either paid or unpaid, typically via the internet
12. We will explain the countermeasure concerning this problem _____.
- adv.* after the time mentioned
13. The therapist tried to _____ his negative thoughts.
- v.* to reinterpret, rephrase, or redefine an issue, situation, or question in a different way

ANSWERS: 7. hydrant, 8. clogged, 9. procure, 10. app's, 11. crowdsourcing, 12. afterward, 13. reframe

14. After a certain age, our bones begin to _____ and become more brittle.

v. to become hardened like bone; to become rigid, inflexible, or resistant to change

15. The bumbling _____ made it difficult to get the permits we needed.

n. a system of government in which most of the important decisions are made by state officials rather than by elected representatives

ANSWERS: 14. ossify, 15. bureaucracy