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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Lou Serico: The genius of Mendeleev's periodic table
| TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

recognizable

adj. easy to become aware of or identify

synonym : noticeable, perceptible, definite

(1) to a **recognizable** degree, (2) **recognizable** landmark

His car was easily **recognizable** in the parking lot.

slab

n. a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure

synonym : slate, tile, paving stone

(1) a **slab** of chocolate, (2) marble **slab**

The construction workers poured a large **slab** of concrete for the foundation of the building.

bonafide

adj. genuine or real; describing something or someone that is genuinely what they claim to be and can be trusted or accepted as true or authentic

synonym : genuine, authentic, legitimate

(1) **bonafide** employee, (2) **bonafide** agreement

She had a **bonafide** talent for singing, evident by her numerous awards and performances.

unassuming

adj. not arrogant, bold, or forward

synonym : diffident, humble, modest

(1) **unassuming** appearance, (2) an **unassuming** fashion
His **unassuming** manner concealed his ambition.

placeholder

n. a temporary or substitute element or object used to mark a position, space, or value, typically to be replaced or filled in with the correct or finalized content at a later time; a temporary member of a team or a temporary solution

synonym: temporary, substitute, fill-in

(1) data **placeholder**, (2) **placeholder** image

The **placeholders** in the presentation allowed for easy customization of the information.

brilliance

n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining

synonym: splendor, glory, luster

(1) **brilliance** of diamond, (2) economic **brilliance**

The scientist's **brilliance** led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.

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.

Sanskrit

n. an ancient language of India and an important sacred language in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism; used as a scholarly and literary language in South Asia for thousands of years

(1) **Sanskrit** language, (2) **Sanskrit** literature

Some Indian classical dances and music are based on **Sanskrit** scriptures and texts.

centimeter

n. a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter

(1) **centimeter** measurement, (2) thirty **centimeters** tall

The room was only one **centimeter** wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.

gall

n. rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will

synonym: bitterness, boldness, vexation

(1) **gall** and wormwood, (2) have the **gall**

He sometimes recalls **gall** past mistakes.

paltry

adj. lacking in importance, value, or quality; insignificant; meager or inadequate

synonym: insignificant, worthless, meager

(1) **paltry** sum, (2) **paltry** excuse

After working long hours for a **paltry** paycheck, the employee began to search for a new job.

scandium

n. a silver-white metallic element with the atomic number 21 and the symbol Sc that has a high melting point and is used in the production of high-intensity light bulbs and the aerospace industry

synonym: Sc

(1) **scandium** chloride, (2) **scandium** oxide

The use of **scandium** alloys enhances the performance of sports equipment.

germanium

n. a chemical element with the symbol Ge and atomic number 32, which is a hard and grayish-white metalloid used in a variety of electronic applications, alloys, and as a semiconductor in transistors and other devices

synonym: Ge

(1) **germanium** crystal, (2) **germanium** diode

Germanium-based solar cells are highly efficient and often used in space technology.

rhenium

n. a rare metallic element with the atomic number 75 and the symbol Re that is silvery-white in color and has a very high melting point, often used in the production of filaments for electrical devices and catalysts for chemical reactions

synonym : Re

(1) **rhenium** catalyst, (2) **rhenium** isotopes

The **rhenium** alloy used in jet engines can withstand extremely high temperatures.

manganese

n. a chemical element with the symbol Mn and atomic number 25, commonly used in steel production and other alloys

synonym : Mn

(1) **manganese** nodules, (2) **manganese** steel

Manganese dioxide is used as a catalyst in some chemical reactions.

technetium

n. a radioactive metallic element with the atomic number 43 and the symbol Tc that has no stable isotopes and is used in medical imaging procedures and as a tracer in various scientific studies

synonym : Tc

(1) **technetium** scan, (2) **technetium-99m** tracer

Due to its radioactive nature, handling **technetium** materials requires strict safety protocols.

synthesize

v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

synonym : incorporate, amalgamate

(1) **synthesize** molecules, (2) **synthesize** information

The spider can **synthesize** multiple different silk proteins.

cyclotron

n. a type of particle accelerator used to produce high-energy, charged particles for medical, scientific, or industrial purposes, often used in medical imaging or radiation therapy

synonym : particle accelerator, atom smasher

(1) **cyclotron-produced** radiotracers, (2) medical **cyclotron**
The **cyclotron** facility at the university is one of the most advanced in the country.

undiscovered

adj. not yet found or known

synonym: unknown, hidden, unexplored

(1) **undiscovered** territory, (2) **undiscovered** potential
The jungle is full of **undiscovered** species waiting to be found.

Session 2: Spelling

1. medical cy_____on
n. a type of particle accelerator used to produce high-energy, charged particles for medical, scientific, or industrial purposes, often used in medical imaging or radiation therapy
2. 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
3. Sa_____it language
n. an ancient language of India and an important sacred language in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism; used as a scholarly and literary language in South Asia for thousands of years
4. pa____y sum
adj. lacking in importance, value, or quality; insignificant; meager or inadequate
5. tec_____um scan
n. a radioactive metallic element with the atomic number 43 and the symbol Tc that has no stable isotopes and is used in medical imaging procedures and as a tracer in various scientific studies
6. rh_____m catalyst
n. a rare metallic element with the atomic number 75 and the symbol Re that is silvery-white in color and has a very high melting point, often used in the production of filaments for electrical devices and catalysts for chemical reactions

ANSWERS: 1. cyclotron, 2. paraphrase, 3. Sanskrit, 4. paltry, 5. technetium, 6. rhenium

7. economic bri_____ce *n.* the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
8. cen_____er measurement *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
9. have the g__l *n.* rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will
10. sc_____um chloride *n.* a silver-white metallic element with the atomic number 21 and the symbol Sc that has a high melting point and is used in the production of high-intensity light bulbs and the aerospace industry
11. sc_____um oxide *n.* a silver-white metallic element with the atomic number 21 and the symbol Sc that has a high melting point and is used in the production of high-intensity light bulbs and the aerospace industry
12. g__l and wormwood *n.* rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will
13. ge_____um crystal *n.* a chemical element with the symbol Ge and atomic number 32, which is a hard and grayish-white metalloid used in a variety of electronic applications, alloys, and as a semiconductor in transistors and other devices

ANSWERS: 7. brilliance, 8. centimeter, 9. gall, 10. scandium, 11. scandium, 12. gall, 13. germanium

14. cy_____on-produced radiotracers *n.* a type of particle accelerator used to produce high-energy, charged particles for medical, scientific, or industrial purposes, often used in medical imaging or radiation therapy
15. rec_____ble landmark *adj.* easy to become aware of or identify
16. Sa_____it literature *n.* an ancient language of India and an important sacred language in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism; used as a scholarly and literary language in South Asia for thousands of years
17. to a rec_____ble degree *adj.* easy to become aware of or identify
18. pla_____er image *n.* a temporary or substitute element or object used to mark a position, space, or value, typically to be replaced or filled in with the correct or finalized content at a later time; a temporary member of a team or a temporary solution
19. thirty cen_____ers tall *n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
20. und_____red potential *adj.* not yet found or known
21. bo_____de employee *adj.* genuine or real; describing something or someone that is genuinely what they claim to be and can be trusted or accepted as true or authentic
22. marble s__b *n.* a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure

ANSWERS: 14. cyclotron, 15. recognizable, 16. Sanskrit, 17. recognizable, 18. placeholder, 19. centimeter, 20. undiscovered, 21. bonafide, 22. slab

23. a s__b of chocolate *n.* a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure
24. und_____red territory *adj.* not yet found or known
25. syn_____ze information *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
26. tec_____um-99m tracer *n.* a radioactive metallic element with the atomic number 43 and the symbol Tc that has no stable isotopes and is used in medical imaging procedures and as a tracer in various scientific studies
27. syn_____ze molecules *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
28. bo_____de agreement *adj.* genuine or real; describing something or someone that is genuinely what they claim to be and can be trusted or accepted as true or authentic
29. una_____ng appearance *adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward
30. ma_____se steel *n.* a chemical element with the symbol Mn and atomic number 25, commonly used in steel production and other alloys
31. ge_____um diode *n.* a chemical element with the symbol Ge and atomic number 32, which is a hard and grayish-white metalloid used in a variety of electronic applications, alloys, and as a semiconductor in transistors and other devices
32. pa____y excuse *adj.* lacking in importance, value, or quality; insignificant; meager or inadequate

ANSWERS: 23. slab, 24. undiscovered, 25. synthesize, 26. technetium, 27. synthesize, 28. bonafide, 29. unassuming, 30. manganese, 31. germanium, 32. paltry

33. rh_____m isotopes *n.* a rare metallic element with the atomic number 75 and the symbol Re that is silvery-white in color and has a very high melting point, often used in the production of filaments for electrical devices and catalysts for chemical reactions
34. bri_____ce of diamond *n.* the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
35. an una_____ng fashion *adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward
36. par_____se the meaning *v.* to restate or reword a passage in one's own words, often to clarify or simplify the original meaning
37. ma_____se nodules *n.* a chemical element with the symbol Mn and atomic number 25, commonly used in steel production and other alloys
38. data pla_____er *n.* a temporary or substitute element or object used to mark a position, space, or value, typically to be replaced or filled in with the correct or finalized content at a later time; a temporary member of a team or a temporary solution

ANSWERS: 33. rhenium, 34. brilliance, 35. unassuming, 36. paraphrase, 37. manganese, 38. placeholder

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. 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
2. The _____ in the presentation allowed for easy customization of the information.
 - n.* a temporary or substitute element or object used to mark a position, space, or value, typically to be replaced or filled in with the correct or finalized content at a later time; a temporary member of a team or a temporary solution
3. His _____ manner concealed his ambition.
 - adj.* not arrogant, bold, or forward
4. Due to its radioactive nature, handling _____ materials requires strict safety protocols.
 - n.* a radioactive metallic element with the atomic number 43 and the symbol Tc that has no stable isotopes and is used in medical imaging procedures and as a tracer in various scientific studies
5. The use of _____ alloys enhances the performance of sports equipment.
 - n.* a silver-white metallic element with the atomic number 21 and the symbol Sc that has a high melting point and is used in the production of high-intensity light bulbs and the aerospace industry
6. Some Indian classical dances and music are based on _____ scriptures and texts.
 - n.* an ancient language of India and an important sacred language in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism; used as a scholarly and literary language in South Asia for thousands of years

ANSWERS: 1. paraphrased, 2. placeholders, 3. unassuming, 4. technetium, 5. scandium, 6. Sanskrit

7. The construction workers poured a large _____ of concrete for the foundation of the building.
- n.* a flat, rectangular piece of material, such as wood or concrete; often used to describe a large, heavy, or solid object or structure
8. The _____ facility at the university is one of the most advanced in the country.
- n.* a type of particle accelerator used to produce high-energy, charged particles for medical, scientific, or industrial purposes, often used in medical imaging or radiation therapy
9. The _____ alloy used in jet engines can withstand extremely high temperatures.
- n.* a rare metallic element with the atomic number 75 and the symbol Re that is silvery-white in color and has a very high melting point, often used in the production of filaments for electrical devices and catalysts for chemical reactions
10. _____ dioxide is used as a catalyst in some chemical reactions.
- n.* a chemical element with the symbol Mn and atomic number 25, commonly used in steel production and other alloys
11. The room was only one _____ wider than the piano, making it a tight fit.
- n.* a unit of measurement of length in the metric system, equivalent to one-hundredth of a meter
12. After working long hours for a _____ paycheck, the employee began to search for a new job.
- adj.* lacking in importance, value, or quality; insignificant; meager or inadequate

ANSWERS: 7. slab, 8. cyclotron, 9. rhenium, 10. Manganese, 11. centimeter, 12. paltry

13. His car was easily _____ in the parking lot.

adj. easy to become aware of or identify

14. _____ solar cells are highly efficient and often used in space technology.

n. a chemical element with the symbol Ge and atomic number 32, which is a hard and grayish-white metalloid used in a variety of electronic applications, alloys, and as a semiconductor in transistors and other devices

15. She had a _____ talent for singing, evident by her numerous awards and performances.

adj. genuine or real; describing something or someone that is genuinely what they claim to be and can be trusted or accepted as true or authentic

16. The spider can _____ multiple different silk proteins.

v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound

17. The scientist's _____ led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.

n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining

18. The jungle is full of _____ species waiting to be found.

adj. not yet found or known

19. He sometimes recalls _____ past mistakes.

n. rudeness and the inability to understand that one's conduct or words are not acceptable to others; a feeling of deep and bitter anger and ill-will

ANSWERS: 13. recognizable, 14. Germanium-based, 15. bonafide, 16. synthesize, 17. brilliance, 18. undiscovered, 19. gall