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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Aaron Koblin: Visualizing ourselves ... with crowd-sourced data | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

opportune

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

synonym: suitable, timely, practical

(1) **opportune** occasion, (2) an **opportune** remark

The phone rang at the most **opportune** time.

ebb

n. the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede

synonym: regression, decline, (verb) decrease

(1) **ebb** and flow, (2) at a low **ebb**

The tide was at its **ebb**, revealing the sandy beach.

timelapse

n. a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly

(1) **timelapse** photography, (2) capture **timelapse** footage

The **timelapse** video beautifully captured the changing seasons over a year.

toggle

n. a switch, button, or lever that can be used to turn a device or feature on or off or to switch between different options or modes; (verb) to switch between two different

states, options, or modes, often repeatedly

synonym : switch, lever, button

(1) **toggle** condition, (2) **toggle** between two options

You need to use the **toggle** button to switch between the night and day modes on the app.

descend

v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood

synonym : dip, drop, come down

(1) **descend** a steep hill, (2) **descend** by elevator

She was **descended** from an old Italian noble family.

rev

n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

synonym : revolution, RPM, speed

(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd

He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

baron

n. a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)

synonym : nobleman, lord, peer

(1) media **baron**, (2) the domain of a **baron**

The **baron's** castle was the center of political and social life in the region.

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**.

juxtapose

v. to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of

surprise or incongruity

synonym : place side by side, compare, contrast

(1) **juxtapose** images, (2) **juxtapose** two ideas

The artist likes to **juxtapose** different styles and colors in her paintings.

toil

v. to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended periods of time

synonym : struggle, labor, work hard

(1) **toil** to make a living, (2) **toil** up the mountain

The farmers **toiled** in the fields, harvesting the crops before the start of the rainy season.

byproduct

n. a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else

synonym : side effect, spinoff, outgrowth

(1) toxic **byproducts**, (2) **byproduct** of technology

The **byproduct** of the energy production process is a large amount of carbon dioxide emissions.

trait

n. a particular feature of your nature

synonym : attribute, feature, quality

(1) chemical **trait**, (2) personality **traits**

Multiple genes may influence behavioral **traits** concurrently.

narrator

n. a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film

synonym : teller, storyteller

(1) first-person **narrator**, (2) the **narrator** of the TV program

The **narrator** makes use of the local dialect.

appease

v. to pacify or soothe someone, usually by agreeing to their demands or requests; to calm someone's anger or anxiety

synonym : pacify, calm, soothe

(1) **appease** hunger, (2) **appease** her fears

The manager tried to **appease** the angry customer by offering them a refund.

slap

v. to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly

synonym : smack, hit, whack

(1) **slap** on the back, (2) **slap** a heavy fine

The politician tried to **slap** down the rumors about his personal life.

teeny

adj. extremely small; tiny

synonym : tiny, mini, minuscule

(1) **teeny** bit, (2) so **teeny** tiny

The ring was so **teeny** that it almost looked like a toy.

stipple

v. to create a pattern or texture on a surface by applying a series of small dots or marks; to paint or draw using a technique of dotting or dapping

synonym : dot, speckle

(1) **stipple** a drawing, (2) **stipple** the background of the portrait

When applying makeup, some techniques require you to **stipple** foundation onto the skin using a special brush.

daisy

n. a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead

synonym : marguerite, bellis, chrysanthemum

(1) **daisy** chain, (2) lawn **daisy**

She picked a blue **daisy** from the meadow and placed it in her hair.

odyssey

n. a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy

(1) go on a serious **odyssey**, (2) cross-country **odyssey**

He continued the extraordinary **odyssey** with his brother.

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.

phoneme

n. the smallest possible unit of sound that can change the meaning of a word within a particular language; the basic unit of phonetics

synonym : sound, speech unit

(1) **phoneme** sequences, (2) consonant **phoneme**

The **phoneme** discrimination task revealed that she had difficulty differentiating between certain sounds.

honk

n. a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention

synonym : beep, toot, blare

(1) **honk** sound, (2) **honk** for attention

The incessant **honk** of the car's horn woke me from sleep.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

synonym : renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

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.

visualize

v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible

synonym: imagine, picture, envision

(1) **visualize** data, (2) **visualize** flying through space

She tried to **visualize** the layout of the new house in her mind.

frost

n. a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing

synonym: freeze, ice, blight

(1) five degrees of **frost**, (2) **frost** line

The **frost** on the ground made it slippery and difficult to walk.

creepy

adj. causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease

synonym: eerie, unsettling, spooky

(1) feel **creepy**, (2) **creepy** atmosphere

The old, abandoned house was **creepy** and gave me the chills.

weave

v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

synonym: braid, unite, contrive

(1) **weave** on a loom, (2) **weave** a story

The girl **weaves** a garland for her friend.

pointillism

n. a technique in art primarily associated with the Neo-Impressionist movement, where small, distinct dots or points of pure color are applied in patterns or groups to create an overall image or optical blending effect when seen from a distance

synonym: dotting, stippling, speckling

(1) **pointillism** technique, (2) **pointillism** style

The artist's use of **pointillism** created a unique and striking composition.

sketchy

adj. lacking in detail or completeness; vague, uncertain, or unreliable; suspicious or questionable

synonym : suspicious, dubious, questionable

(1) **sketchy** sources, (2) **sketchy** behavior

The neighborhood had a **sketchy** reputation due to its high crime rate.

amaze

v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

synonym : astound, surprise, stagger

(1) **amaze** and entertain visitors, (2) **amaze** everyone

The magician's tricks **amazed** the audience.

choreograph

v. to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music

(1) **choreograph** a stage performance, (2) exquisitely **choreographed**

He had **choreographed** the dance in this play himself.

butler

n. a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties

synonym : valet, majordomo, manservant

(1) **butler** service, (2) household **butler**

The personal **butler** announced that dinner was ready, and the guests went to the dining room.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------|---|
| 1. vi_____ze data | v. | to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible |
| 2. syn_____ze information | v. | to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound |
| 3. sk_____y sources | adj. | lacking in detail or completeness; vague, uncertain, or unreliable; suspicious or questionable |
| 4. consonant ph_____e | n. | the smallest possible unit of sound that can change the meaning of a word within a particular language; the basic unit of phonetics |
| 5. fr__t line | n. | a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing |
| 6. t__l to make a living | v. | to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended periods of time |
| 7. da__y chain | n. | a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead |
| 8. s__p on the back | v. | to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly |

ANSWERS: 1. visualize, 2. synthesize, 3. sketchy, 4. phoneme, 5. frost, 6. toil, 7. daisy, 8. slap

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----|---|
| 9. am__e everyone | v. | to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration |
| 10. h__k for attention | n. | a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention |
| 11. n__d neck | n. | a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc. |
| 12. household bu___r | n. | a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties |
| 13. by_____ct of technology | n. | a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else |
| 14. low-r_v engine | n. | a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute |
| 15. st_____e a drawing | v. | to create a pattern or texture on a surface by applying a series of small dots or marks; to paint or draw using a technique of dotting or dapping |
| 16. exquisitely cho_____phed | v. | to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music |
| 17. de_____d by elevator | v. | to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood |

ANSWERS: 9. amaze, 10. honk, 11. nerd, 12. butler, 13. byproduct, 14. rev, 15. stipple, 16. choreograph, 17. descend

18. ju_____se two ideas *v.* to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of surprise or incongruity
19. sk_____y behavior *adj.* lacking in detail or completeness; vague, uncertain, or unreliable; suspicious or questionable
20. so te__y tiny *adj.* extremely small; tiny
21. de_____d a steep hill *v.* to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
22. chemical tr__t *n.* a particular feature of your nature
23. ph_____e sequences *n.* the smallest possible unit of sound that can change the meaning of a word within a particular language; the basic unit of phonetics
24. syn_____ze molecules *v.* to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
25. to___e between two options *n.* a switch, button, or lever that can be used to turn a device or feature on or off or to switch between different options or modes; (verb) to switch between two different states, options, or modes, often repeatedly
26. bu___r service *n.* a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties
27. cr___y atmosphere *adj.* causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease

ANSWERS: 18. juxtapose, 19. sketchy, 20. teeny, 21. descend, 22. trait, 23. phoneme, 24. synthesize, 25. toggle, 26. butler, 27. creepy

28. am__e and entertain visitors *v.* to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration
29. five degrees of fr__t *n.* a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing
30. to___e condition *n.* a switch, button, or lever that can be used to turn a device or feature on or off or to switch between different options or modes; (verb) to switch between two different states, options, or modes, often repeatedly
31. ju_____se images *v.* to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of surprise or incongruity
32. ap_____e her fears *v.* to pacify or soothe someone, usually by agreeing to their demands or requests; to calm someone's anger or anxiety
33. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
34. s__p a heavy fine *v.* to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly
35. poi_____sm technique *n.* a technique in art primarily associated with the Neo-Impressionist movement, where small, distinct dots or points of pure color are applied in patterns or groups to create an overall image or optical blending effect when seen from a distance

ANSWERS: 28. amaze, 29. frost, 30. toggle, 31. juxtapose, 32. appease, 33. rev, 34. slap, 35. pointillism

36. e_b and flow *n.* the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede
37. first-person na____or *n.* a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
38. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
39. we__e a story *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
40. te__y bit *adj.* extremely small; tiny
41. media ba__n *n.* a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)
42. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
43. ti_____se photography *n.* a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly
44. vi_____ze flying through space *v.* to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
45. cross-country od_____y *n.* a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy

ANSWERS: 36. ebb, 37. narrator, 38. aft, 39. weave, 40. teeny, 41. baron, 42. opportune, 43. timelapse, 44. visualize, 45. odyssey

46. the na____or of the TV program *n.* a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
47. the domain of a ba__n *n.* a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)
48. poi_____sm style *n.* a technique in art primarily associated with the Neo-Impressionist movement, where small, distinct dots or points of pure color are applied in patterns or groups to create an overall image or optical blending effect when seen from a distance
49. ap_____e hunger *v.* to pacify or soothe someone, usually by agreeing to their demands or requests; to calm someone's anger or anxiety
50. t__l up the mountain *v.* to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended periods of time
51. re_____te the feeling of the 1920s *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
52. go on a serious od_____y *n.* a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy
53. lawn da__y *n.* a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead
54. toxic by_____cts *n.* a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else

ANSWERS: 46. narrator, 47. baron, 48. pointillism, 49. appease, 50. toil, 51. recreate, 52. odyssey, 53. daisy, 54. byproduct

55. re_____te a single country *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
56. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
57. feel cr____y *adj.* causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease
58. personality tr__ts *n.* a particular feature of your nature
59. we__e on a loom *v.* to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them
60. at a low e_b *n.* the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede
61. capture ti_____se footage *n.* a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly
62. st_____e the background of the portrait *v.* to create a pattern or texture on a surface by applying a series of small dots or marks; to paint or draw using a technique of dotting or dapping
63. cho_____ph a stage performance *v.* to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
64. a computer n__d *n.* a person who is very interested in and knowledgeable about a particular subject such as computers, mathematics, chess, etc.

ANSWERS: 55. recreate, 56. opportune, 57. creepy, 58. trait, 59. weave, 60. ebb, 61. timelapse, 62. stipple, 63. choreograph, 64. nerd

65. h__k sound

n. a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention

66. a_t view

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

ANSWERS: 65. honk, 66. aft

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ makes use of the local dialect.
n. a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
2. She picked a blue _____ from the meadow and placed it in her hair.
n. a wildflower that typically has a yellow disc at the center of a white or pink-and-white flowerhead
3. 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.
4. The personal _____ announced that dinner was ready, and the guests went to the dining room.
n. a male servant in charge of serving food and drinks and taking care of household duties
5. The old, abandoned house was _____ and gave me the chills.
adj. causing an uneasy feeling of fear or unease
6. The artist likes to _____ different styles and colors in her paintings.
v. to place two or more things side by side, often to compare or contrast them or to create an effect of surprise or incongruity
7. The _____ on the ground made it slippery and difficult to walk.
n. a thin layer of ice that forms on surfaces when the temperature falls below freezing; weather cold enough to cause freezing

ANSWERS: 1. narrator, 2. daisy, 3. nerd, 4. butler, 5. creepy, 6. juxtapose, 7. frost

8. The spider can _____ multiple different silk proteins.
v. to combine a substance to make a more complex product or compound
9. She _____ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
10. The _____ discrimination task revealed that she had difficulty differentiating between certain sounds.
n. the smallest possible unit of sound that can change the meaning of a word within a particular language; the basic unit of phonetics
11. The ring was so _____ that it almost looked like a toy.
adj. extremely small; tiny
12. You need to use the _____ button to switch between the night and day modes on the app.
n. a switch, button, or lever that can be used to turn a device or feature on or off or to switch between different options or modes; (verb) to switch between two different states, options, or modes, often repeatedly
13. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
14. The artist's use of _____ created a unique and striking composition.
n. a technique in art primarily associated with the Neo-Impressionist movement, where small, distinct dots or points of pure color are applied in patterns or groups to create an overall image or optical blending effect when seen from a distance

ANSWERS: 8. synthesize, 9. recreated, 10. phoneme, 11. teeny, 12. toggle, 13. opportune, 14. pointillism

15. He had _____ the dance in this play himself.
v. to compose a sequence of dance steps, often to music
16. She was _____ from an old Italian noble family.
v. to move downward and lower; to come from, or to be connected by a relationship of blood
17. The _____ castle was the center of political and social life in the region.
n. a member of the lowest grade of nobility (= group of people from a high social class)
18. The _____ video beautifully captured the changing seasons over a year.
n. a technique in photography or cinematography where a series of images or frames are taken at set intervals and then played back at a faster speed to create the illusion of time moving quickly
19. She tried to _____ the layout of the new house in her mind.
v. to form a mental image or concept of something; to make something visible
20. The manager tried to _____ the angry customer by offering them a refund.
v. to pacify or soothe someone, usually by agreeing to their demands or requests; to calm someone's anger or anxiety
21. The farmers _____ in the fields, harvesting the crops before the start of the rainy season.
v. to work hard and persistently; to engage in physically or mentally demanding tasks or activities for extended periods of time
22. 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

ANSWERS: 15. choreographed, 16. descended, 17. baron's, 18. timelapse, 19. visualize, 20. appease, 21. toiled, 22. aft

23. The neighborhood had a _____ reputation due to its high crime rate.
adj. lacking in detail or completeness; vague, uncertain, or unreliable; suspicious or questionable
24. The incessant _____ of the car's horn woke me from sleep.
n. a loud, harsh sound made by a vehicle's horn to signal a warning or attract attention
25. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
26. He continued the extraordinary _____ with his brother.
n. a long wandering and eventful journey; a Greek epic poem attributed to Homer, describing the journey of Odysseus after the fall of Troy
27. The _____ of the energy production process is a large amount of carbon dioxide emissions.
n. a secondary or incidental product produced in the manufacture or synthesis of something else
28. The tide was at its _____ revealing the sandy beach.
n. the movement of the tide out to sea; low tide; (verb) to flow back or recede
29. Multiple genes may influence behavioral _____ concurrently.
n. a particular feature of your nature
30. The magician's tricks _____ the audience.
v. to fill with wonder, surprise, or admiration

ANSWERS: 23. sketchy, 24. honk, 25. rev, 26. odyssey, 27. byproduct, 28. ebb, 29. traits, 30. amazed

31. The politician tried to _____ down the rumors about his personal life.
- v. to strike something or someone with an open palm or flat object, producing a sharp sound or sensation; to place something firmly, suddenly, or unexpectedly
32. When applying makeup, some techniques require you to _____ foundation onto the skin using a special brush.
- v. to create a pattern or texture on a surface by applying a series of small dots or marks; to paint or draw using a technique of dotting or dapping
33. The girl _____ a garland for her friend.
- v. to make cloth, a carpet, a basket, etc., by repeatedly crossing a single thread through two sets of long threads at a right angle to them

ANSWERS: 31. slap, 32. stipple, 33. weaves