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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Ayanna Howard: Make robots smarter | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

rover

n. a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon

synonym : vehicle, robot, explorer

(1) **rover** mission, (2) lunar **rover**

The **rover** on Mars is gathering data on the planet's surface and sending it back to Earth.

mimic

v. to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh

synonym : mirror, imitate, ape

(1) **mimic** a human voice, (2) **mimic** numerous instruments

He is very popular at school because he can **mimic** all the teachers' accents.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

fascinate

v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

synonym : captivate, intrigue, mesmerize

(1) **fascinate** the public, (2) **fascinate** the young
The magic tricks **fascinated** the children.

neuron

n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
synonym : nerve cell

(1) excite the **neurons**, (2) **neuron** cell body

Our body transfers information along each **neuron** using an electrical impulse.

instruct

v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

synonym : train, coach, guide

(1) **instruct** a student, (2) **instruct** a computer

The facility manager **instructed** the security guards to be on high alert.

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.

smartphone

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict

Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

twinkle

v. to shine with a flickering or sparkling light; (noun) the act of shining in a bright and cheerful way

synonym : sparkle, shine, glitter

(1) **twinkle** like a star, (2) the **twinkle** of the stars

His eyes **twinkled** with mischief.

Session 2: Spelling

1. fa_____te the young v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
2. ne____n cell body n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
3. fa_____te the public v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly
4. sma_____ne addict n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
5. sma_____ne app developer n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
6. in_____ct a student v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something
7. excite the ne____ns n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body
8. lunar ro____r n. a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon
9. mi__c numerous instruments v. to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh
10. tw_____e like a star v. to shine with a flickering or sparkling light; (noun) the act of shining in a bright and cheerful way

ANSWERS: 1. fascinate, 2. neuron, 3. fascinate, 4. smartphone, 5. smartphone, 6. instruct, 7. neuron, 8. rover, 9. mimic, 10. twinkle

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|---|---|
| 11. cannot log in to the a_p | <i>n.</i> (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC |
| 12. in____ct a computer | <i>v.</i> to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something |
| 13. a theoretical concept in
neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 14. the tw_____e of the stars | <i>v.</i> to shine with a flickering or sparkling light; (noun) the act of shining in a bright and cheerful way |
| 15. the branch of neu_____nce | <i>n.</i> the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system |
| 16. mi__c a human voice | <i>v.</i> to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh |
| 17. ro__r mission | <i>n.</i> a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon |
| 18. killer a_p | <i>n.</i> (abbreviation for application) software designed to run on smartphones and other mobile devices or inside a web browser on a PC |

ANSWERS: 11. app, 12. instruct, 13. neuroscience, 14. twinkle, 15. neuroscience, 16. mimic, 17. rover, 18. app

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. His eyes _____ with mischief.
 - v. to shine with a flickering or sparkling light; (noun) the act of shining in a bright and cheerful way

2. 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

3. The magic tricks _____ the children.
 - v. to attract and hold the attention of someone deeply and irresistibly

4. The _____ on Mars is gathering data on the planet's surface and sending it back to Earth.
 - n. a vehicle designed to travel over rough terrain, especially on the surface of a planet or moon

5. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.
 - n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

6. The facility manager _____ the security guards to be on high alert.
 - v. to teach someone practical skills or knowledge; to formally order or tell someone to do something

7. Our body transfers information along each _____ using an electrical impulse.
 - n. a cell that is specialized to carry information within the brain and between the brain and other parts of the body

ANSWERS: 1. twinkled, 2. app's, 3. fascinated, 4. rover, 5. smartphones, 6. instructed, 7. neuron

8. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
- n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
9. He is very popular at school because he can _____ all the teachers' accents.
- v.* to imitate someone's speech, movement, or behavior, especially to make others laugh

ANSWERS: 8. neuroscience, 9. mimic