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Pavan Sukhdev: Put a value on nature! | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

stern

adj. serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude

synonym: severe, harsh, strict

(1) **stern** warning, (2) a **stern** look

The students' antics did not amuse the **stern** teacher.

startling

adj. extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

synonym: alarming, astonishing, shocking

(1) **startling** earthquake shocks, (2) **startling** discovery

He describes the story with **startling** reality.

slew

v. to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay;
(noun) a large number or amount or extent

synonym: slide, curve, (noun) heap

(1) **slew** around suddenly, (2) have a **slew** of ideas

He **slew** many Trojan warriors in this war.

rainforest

n. a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

(1) **rainforest** destruction, (2) tropical **rainforest**

The destruction of the **rainforest** is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.

precipitate

v. to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process

synonym : hasten, accelerate, expedite

(1) **precipitate** a reaction, (2) **precipitate** a global energy crisis

The sudden rainstorm will **precipitate** flooding in low-lying areas.

pollination

n. the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds

synonym : flowering, fertilization, cross-fertilization

(1) **pollination** by insect, (2) the cross- **pollination** of the arts

The **pollination** process is crucial for the growth and reproduction of many plants.

pollinate

v. to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others

synonym : fertilize, propagate

(1) **pollinate** plants, (2) **pollinate** fruit trees

Without bees to **pollinate** the flowers, many crops would not exist.

glob

n. a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance

synonym : ball, lump, sphere

(1) **glob** of paint, (2) **glob** of honey

She squeezed a **glob** of toothpaste onto her toothbrush.

passee

adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

synonym :

outdated, old-fashioned, antique

(1) **passee** entertainment, (2) **passee** trend

Bell-bottom jeans, once considered **passee** fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.

medicinal

adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

synonym: curative, therapeutic, healing

(1) **medicinal** chemistry, (2) traditional **medicinal**

The **medicinal** properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.

depletion

n. the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level

synonym: exhaustion, deficiency, reduction

(1) **depletion** of bodily fluids, (2) **depletion** of ozone

The **depletion** of natural resources is a major concern for environmentalists.

artisan

n. a skilled craftsman or worker who produces handmade or traditionally crafted items, often using specialized tools or techniques; someone who is skilled in a particular trade or craft

synonym: craftsman, hand crafter, maker

(1) **artisan** bakery, (2) talented **artisan**

She is known in the community as a skilled **artisan** in pottery.

livelihood

n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.

synonym: occupation, living, income

(1) a means of **livelihood**, (2) **livelihood** assistance

I could no longer earn my own **livelihood**.

toad

n. a small, tailless amphibian with dry, warty skin and short legs; a person who is disliked or contemptible

synonym: frog, amphibian, batrachian

(1) **toad** in the garden, (2) **toad** caught in the trap

The kids went on a scavenger hunt in the park and found a **toad** under a big leaf.

sub-Saharan

adj. of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert

(1) **sub-Saharan** Africa, (2) **sub-Saharan** countries

The coffee producers in **sub-Saharan** countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.

tundra

n. a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen

synonym: arctic plain, permafrost, polar desert

(1) the Siberian **tundra**, (2) **tundra** biome

The Arctic **tundra** is a vast and desolate landscape with few signs of life.

mangrove

n. a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it

(1) **mangrove** forest, (2) **mangrove** swamp

The **mangrove** trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.

deplete

v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

synonym: exhaust, consume, use up

(1) **deplete** customer confidence, (2) **deplete** glycogen stores

If we continue to **deplete** the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.

cyclone

n. a violent, rotating windstorm that forms over tropical waters and can cause extensive damage to coastal regions, also known as a hurricane or typhoon, depending on the region in which it occurs

synonym: tornado, twister, hurricane

(1) **cyclone** warning, (2) devastating **cyclone**

The **cyclone's** strong winds and rough seas severely impacted the fishing industry.

externality

n. a cost or benefit that affects a third party who did not choose to incur that cost or benefit

synonym: impact, consequence, effect

(1) **externality** costs, (2) network **externality**

The negative **externality** of pollution affects not just the polluter but also people living in the surrounding area.

pollutant

n. a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil

synonym: contaminant, toxic substance

(1) noxious **pollutant**, (2) water **pollutant**

The factory's use of chemicals has made it a significant **pollutant** in the area.

deforestation

n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area

synonym: clear-cutting, desertification

(1) **deforestation** of the tropics, (2) the lowest **deforestation** rate

Large-scale **deforestation** also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.

industrious

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

synonym: diligent, hardworking, assiduous

(1) **industrious** worker, (2) **industrious** student

He was known to be very **industrious** and would often work late into the night.

retrospective

adj. looking back on or dealing with past events or situations, particularly those that are considered important or influential; an exhibition or showing of a particular artist's work, covering an extended period of time

synonym: backward-looking, reflective, nostalgic

(1) **retrospective** review, (2) **retrospective** study

The **retrospective** exhibition featured some of the artist's earliest works.

topsoil

n. the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors

synonym: top layer, surface soil, humus

(1) **topsoil** erosion, (2) nutrient-rich **topsoil**

The farmer trucked in some fresh **topsoil** to improve the fertility of his fields.

puma

n. a wild cat of the Americas that is similar in appearance to a lion and is also known as a cougar or mountain lion

synonym: cougar, mountain lion, panther

(1) **puma** habitat, (2) **puma** observation camp

The **puma** population in the region has been declining due to habitat loss and human activity.

chairperson

n. the officer who presides over organization meetings

synonym: director, head, leader

(1) vice **chairperson**, (2) the meeting elected a **chairperson**

The **chairperson** has the authority to approve or deny any request.

soot

n. a black, powdery substance that is produced by the incomplete burning of a material such as coal, wood, or oil and is often found on surfaces near the source of the fire

synonym: smut, dirt

(1) **soot-covered** walls, (2) black **soot**

The fire left a layer of **soot** on everything in the room.

acidification

n. the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid

(1) **acidification** of soil, (2) stream **acidification**

Ocean **acidification** leads to a decrease in tiny sea snails.

methane

n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel

(1) atmospheric **methane**, (2) reduce **methane** emissions

The ignition of **methane** gas in the plant killed five employees.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1. p__a observation camp | <i>n.</i> a wild cat of the Americas that is similar in appearance to a lion and is also known as a cougar or mountain lion |
| 2. talented ar____n | <i>n.</i> a skilled craftsman or worker who produces handmade or traditionally crafted items, often using specialized tools or techniques; someone who is skilled in a particular trade or craft |
| 3. aci_____ion of soil | <i>n.</i> the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid |
| 4. the meeting elected a cha_____on | <i>n.</i> the officer who presides over organization meetings |
| 5. have a s__w of ideas | <i>v.</i> to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay; (noun) a large number or amount or extent |
| 6. g__b of paint | <i>n.</i> a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance |
| 7. ret_____ive review | <i>adj.</i> looking back on or dealing with past events or situations, particularly those that are considered important or influential; an exhibition or showing of a particular artist's work, covering an extended period of time |
| 8. de_____on of ozone | <i>n.</i> the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level |
| 9. to_____l erosion | <i>n.</i> the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors |

ANSWERS: 1. puma, 2. artisan, 3. acidification, 4. chairperson, 5. slew, 6. glob, 7. retrospective, 8. depletion, 9. topsoil

10. the Siberian tu___a *n.* a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen
11. cy_____e warning *n.* a violent, rotating windstorm that forms over tropical waters and can cause extensive damage to coastal regions, also known as a hurricane or typhoon, depending on the region in which it occurs
12. vice cha_____on *n.* the officer who presides over organization meetings
13. water po_____nt *n.* a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil
14. pol_____on by insect *n.* the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds
15. de_____e glycogen stores *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
16. atmospheric me_____e *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
17. def_____ion of the tropics *n.* the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
18. pre_____te a global energy crisis *v.* to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process

ANSWERS: 10. tundra, 11. cyclone, 12. chairperson, 13. pollutant, 14. pollination, 15. deplete, 16. methane, 17. deforestation, 18. precipitate

19. nutrient-rich to_____l *n.* the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors
20. stream aci_____ion *n.* the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid
21. tropical rai_____st *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
22. the lowest def_____ion rate *n.* the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
23. a means of liv_____od *n.* a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
24. de_____e customer confidence *v.* to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials
25. ind_____us worker *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
26. liv_____od assistance *n.* a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
27. t__d in the garden *n.* a small, tailless amphibian with dry, warty skin and short legs; a person who is disliked or contemptible
28. st_____ng discovery *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying

ANSWERS: 19. topsoil, 20. acidification, 21. rainforest, 22. deforestation, 23. livelihood, 24. deplete, 25. industrious, 26. livelihood, 27. toad, 28. startling

29. ret_____ive study *adj.* looking back on or dealing with past events or situations, particularly those that are considered important or influential; an exhibition or showing of a particular artist's work, covering an extended period of time
30. the cross-pol_____on of the arts *n.* the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds
31. reduce me_____e emissions *n.* a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
32. network ext_____ty *n.* a cost or benefit that affects a third party who did not choose to incur that cost or benefit
33. ext_____ty costs *n.* a cost or benefit that affects a third party who did not choose to incur that cost or benefit
34. de_____on of bodily fluids *n.* the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
35. s__t-covered walls *n.* a black, powdery substance that is produced by the incomplete burning of a material such as coal, wood, or oil and is often found on surfaces near the source of the fire
36. p__a habitat *n.* a wild cat of the Americas that is similar in appearance to a lion and is also known as a cougar or mountain lion

ANSWERS: 29. retrospective, 30. pollination, 31. methane, 32. externality, 33. externality, 34. depletion, 35. soot, 36. puma

37. g__b of honey *n.* a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance
38. st_____ng earthquake shocks *adj.* extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
39. ma_____ve swamp *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
40. po_____te fruit trees *v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
41. devastating cy_____e *n.* a violent, rotating windstorm that forms over tropical waters and can cause extensive damage to coastal regions, also known as a hurricane or typhoon, depending on the region in which it occurs
42. t__d caught in the trap *n.* a small, tailless amphibian with dry, warty skin and short legs; a person who is disliked or contemptible
43. st__n warning *adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
44. sub_____an Africa *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
45. rai_____st destruction *n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall

ANSWERS: 37. glob, 38. startling, 39. mangrove, 40. pollinate, 41. cyclone, 42. toad, 43. stern, 44. sub-Saharan, 45. rainforest

46. sub_____an countries *adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
47. black s__t *n.* a black, powdery substance that is produced by the incomplete burning of a material such as coal, wood, or oil and is often found on surfaces near the source of the fire
48. me_____al chemistry *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
49. ar_____n bakery *n.* a skilled craftsperson or worker who produces handmade or traditionally crafted items, often using specialized tools or techniques; someone who is skilled in a particular trade or craft
50. a st__n look *adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
51. pre_____te a reaction *v.* to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process
52. ma_____ve forest *n.* a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
53. traditional me_____al *adj.* of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease
54. noxious po_____nt *n.* a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil

ANSWERS: 46. sub-Saharan, 47. soot, 48. medicinal, 49. artisan, 50. stern, 51. precipitate, 52. mangrove, 53. medicinal, 54. pollutant

55. pa__e entertainment *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
56. ind_____us student *adj.* hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort
57. s__w around suddenly *v.* to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay; (noun) a large number or amount or extent
58. po_____te plants *v.* to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
59. tu___a biome *n.* a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen
60. pa__e trend *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

ANSWERS: 55. passe, 56. industrious, 57. slew, 58. pollinate, 59. tundra, 60. passe

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The negative _____ of pollution affects not just the polluter but also people living in the surrounding area.
 - n.* a cost or benefit that affects a third party who did not choose to incur that cost or benefit
2. The _____ population in the region has been declining due to habitat loss and human activity.
 - n.* a wild cat of the Americas that is similar in appearance to a lion and is also known as a cougar or mountain lion
3. The students' antics did not amuse the _____ teacher.
 - adj.* serious, unyielding, or strict in manner or attitude
4. The destruction of the _____ is a ticking time bomb for the Earth.
 - n.* a forest rich in biodiversity that is generally found in tropical settings with heavy annual rainfall
5. The _____ of natural resources is a major concern for environmentalists.
 - n.* the reduction of something, especially a natural resource, to a critically low level
6. She squeezed a _____ of toothpaste onto her toothbrush.
 - n.* a small, round mass or lump; a drop or blob of liquid or viscous substance
7. The factory's use of chemicals has made it a significant _____ in the area.
 - n.* a substance or agent that pollutes or contaminates the environment, typically through release into the air, water, or soil

ANSWERS: 1. externality, 2. puma, 3. stern, 4. rainforest, 5. depletion, 6. glob, 7. pollutant

8. The _____ exhibition featured some of the artist's earliest works.
adj. looking back on or dealing with past events or situations, particularly those that are considered important or influential; an exhibition or showing of a particular artist's work, covering an extended period of time
9. He ____ many Trojan warriors in this war.
v. to turn or slip abruptly and sharply; (past for of) slay; (noun) a large number or amount or extent
10. The _____ process is crucial for the growth and reproduction of many plants.
n. the transfer of pollen from the male reproductive organs of one flower to the female reproductive organs of another flower, resulting in fertilization and the production of seeds
11. The _____ trees are known for their ability to survive in saltwater and sandy soil.
n. a tropical coastal tree or shrub that grows in saline soil and has prop roots that help to stabilize it
12. The sudden rainstorm will _____ flooding in low-lying areas.
v. to cause something to happen suddenly or unexpectedly; to cause a solid substance to form from a dissolved liquid or gas by means of a chemical reaction or physical process
13. If we continue to _____ the Earth's natural resources, we will cause severe damage to the environment.
v. to reduce something, especially supplies of energy, money, etc., by a large amount; to use up resources or materials

ANSWERS: 8. retrospective, 9. slew, 10. pollination, 11. mangrove, 12. precipitate, 13. deplete

14. Ocean _____ leads to a decrease in tiny sea snails.
n. the act or process of becoming acid or making something become acid
15. He describes the story with _____ reality.
adj. extremely surprising, astonishing, and sometimes worrying
16. The farmer trucked in some fresh _____ to improve the fertility of his fields.
n. the upper layer of soil that contains most of the nutrients and organic matter and is important for plant growth and cultivation; a shallow, loose layer of soil that can be easily removed or displaced by wind, water, or other factors
17. The ignition of _____ gas in the plant killed five employees.
n. a chemical compound with the chemical formula CH₄ with no smell or color, often used as a fuel
18. Without bees to _____ the flowers, many crops would not exist.
v. to transfer pollen from the male part of a flower to the female part, thereby fertilizing the plant and allowing it to produce fruit or seeds; to spread or disseminate an idea or influence to others
19. Large-scale _____ also has a significant impact on marine ecosystems in the area.
n. the act of cutting down or burning trees in a large area
20. I could no longer earn my own _____.
n. a means of earning money people need to pay for food, a place to live, clothing, etc.
21. The _____ properties of this herb have been known to help with various ailments.
adj. of or relating to the treatment or cure of disease

ANSWERS: 14. acidification, 15. startling, 16. topsoil, 17. methane, 18. pollinate, 19. deforestation, 20. livelihood, 21. medicinal

22. The _____ strong winds and rough seas severely impacted the fishing industry.
- n.* a violent, rotating windstorm that forms over tropical waters and can cause extensive damage to coastal regions, also known as a hurricane or typhoon, depending on the region in which it occurs
23. The Arctic _____ is a vast and desolate landscape with few signs of life.
- n.* a vast, treeless, and typically frozen plain in the Arctic regions, where the subsoil is permanently frozen
24. The fire left a layer of _____ on everything in the room.
- n.* a black, powdery substance that is produced by the incomplete burning of a material such as coal, wood, or oil and is often found on surfaces near the source of the fire
25. The coffee producers in _____ countries are at the sharp end of fluctuations in price.
- adj.* of or relating to or situated in the area south of the Sahara Desert
26. The _____ has the authority to approve or deny any request.
- n.* the officer who presides over organization meetings
27. The kids went on a scavenger hunt in the park and found a _____ under a big leaf.
- n.* a small, tailless amphibian with dry, warty skin and short legs; a person who is disliked or contemptible
28. Bell-bottom jeans, once considered _____ fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.
- adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

ANSWERS: 22. cyclone's, 23. tundra, 24. soot, 25. sub-Saharan, 26. chairperson, 27. toad, 28. passe

29. He was known to be very _____ and would often work late into the night.

adj. hardworking, diligent, and persistent in effort

30. She is known in the community as a skilled _____ in pottery.

n. a skilled craftsman or worker who produces handmade or traditionally crafted items, often using specialized tools or techniques; someone who is skilled in a particular trade or craft

ANSWERS: 29. industrious, 30. artisan