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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Anna Mracek Dietrich: A plane you can drive | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

cockpit

n. the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft

synonym: flight deck, control room, bridge

(1) navigator's **cockpit**, (2) **cockpit** ship

The pilot sat in the **cockpit** of the airplane.

avionic

adj. relating to aviation electronics or technology; referring to aircraft or aerospace navigation, communication, control, or instrumentation systems

synonym: aviation-related, aircraft

(1) **avionic** technology, (2) **avionic** design

The **avionic** systems on the new airplane model are state-of-the-art.

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.

quo

n. the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue

synonym: status, condition, state

(1) status **quo** politician, (2) **quo** warranto

The company has been successful in maintaining the status **quo**.

upstate

adj. relating to or located in the region that is located in the northern part of a state or country, particularly in the United States

synonym : northern

(1) **upstate** Connecticut, (2) **upstate** region

He grew up in a small town in **upstate** New York.

copilot

n. a second pilot who assists the pilot in operating an aircraft, often responsible for monitoring instruments, communicating with control towers, and assisting with navigation

synonym : second-in-command

(1) **copilot** training program, (2) **copilot** duties

The **copilot** seat in the cockpit provides a vantage point for the secondary pilot to monitor and assist with the aircraft's operations.

flatter

v. to praise or compliment someone insincerely or excessively to gain favor or manipulate them; to make someone feel pleased or proud by praising or complimenting them, often genuinely

synonym : compliment, praise, butter up

(1) **flatter** his superiors, (2) **flatter** the host

She managed to **flatter** her boss into giving her a promotion.

hurdle

n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome

synonym : obstacle, barrier, challenge

(1) overcome **hurdles**, (2) **hurdle** race

The company faced several **hurdles** in the development of its new product.

counterintuitive

adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest

synonym : unreasonable, paradoxical, nonsensical

(1) **counterintuitive** results, (2) **counterintuitive** behavior
The **counterintuitive** nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.

pothole

n. a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles

synonym: chuckhole, pit, depression

(1) deep **pothole**, (2) **pothole** repair

The car hit a **pothole** and caused a flat tire.

cobble

n. a rounded, irregularly shaped stone used for paving streets or for building walls; (verb) to make or repair something in a rough and hurried way

synonym: pebble, boulder, stone

(1) **cobble** driveway, (2) **cobble** up a policy accord

The town is known for its historic **cobble** streets, which were laid by hand in the 19th century.

contend

v. to struggle to win or surmount something

synonym: compete, oppose, argue

(1) **contend** that tobacco is nonaddictive, (2) **contend** for a championship

Tobacco companies have long **contended** that their product is not addictive.

propeller

n. a device with rotating blades or vanes used for propulsion or creating lift, typically used on boats or aircraft

synonym: prop, rotor, fan

(1) **propeller** design, (2) **propeller** aircraft

The boat's **propeller** stopped working in the middle of the lake.

occupant

n. a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there

synonym: denizen, dweller, resident

(1) illegal **occupant**, (2) rear seat **occupants**
He found graffiti left by a previous **occupant** of the house.

exceedingly

adv. to an extreme degree

synonym: enormously, especially, exceptionally

(1) **exceedingly** common, (2) an **exceedingly** difficult book
Fear is **exceedingly** infectious, and children catch it from their elders.

excite

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

synonym: thrill, exhilarate, animate

(1) **excite** the crowd, (2) **excite** rebellion

The news of her promotion **excited** her.

unremarkable

adj. ordinary and not particularly interesting

synonym: commonplace, unmemorable, mundane

(1) completely ordinary and **unremarkable**,

(2) **unremarkable** in looks

He was very busy at work but otherwise led an **unremarkable** life.

politely

adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others

synonym: courteously, respectfully, graciously

(1) **politely** ask, (2) nodded **politely**

She **politely** declined the invitation to the party, saying she had other plans.

underutilized

adj. not used as much as is possible or necessary

synonym: underused, neglected, unappreciated

(1) **underutilized** resources, (2) **underutilized** space

The factory has been **underutilized** for years and requires renovation.

hanger

n. a device or object used for hanging or supporting something, often used for hanging clothes; a

loop-shaped object used to hang clothes in a closet

synonym : hook, peg, rack

(1) clothes **hanger**, (2) coat **hanger**

I hung the coat on a **hanger** in the closet.

unleaded

adj. referring to a substance, especially fuel or gasoline, that does not contain lead or other harmful additives

synonym : leadless, lead-free

(1) **unleaded** petrol, (2) **unleaded** fuel

I must fill my car with **unleaded** gasoline before going on a long road trip.

lug

v. to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion

synonym : carry, haul, transport

(1) **lug** a hose, (2) **lug** my son into a room

He had to **lug** the heavy suitcase up the stairs.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. l_g my son into a room
v. to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion
2. av____c technology
adj. relating to aviation electronics or technology; referring to aircraft or aerospace navigation, communication, control, or instrumentation systems
3. nodded po____ly
adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
4. coat ha____r
n. a device or object used for hanging or supporting something, often used for hanging clothes; a loop-shaped object used to hang clothes in a closet
5. cou_____ive results
adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest
6. co____d for a championship
v. to struggle to win or surmount something
7. overcome hu____es
n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
8. av____c design
adj. relating to aviation electronics or technology; referring to aircraft or aerospace navigation, communication, control, or instrumentation systems
9. co____t ship
n. the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft

ANSWERS: 1. lug, 2. avionic, 3. politely, 4. hanger, 5. counterintuitive, 6. contend, 7. hurdle, 8. avionic, 9. cockpit

10. deep po____e *n.* a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles
11. pr_____er design *n.* a device with rotating blades or vanes used for propulsion or creating lift, typically used on boats or aircraft
12. co____t training program *n.* a second pilot who assists the pilot in operating an aircraft, often responsible for monitoring instruments, communicating with control towers, and assisting with navigation
13. cou_____ive behavior *adj.* contrary to what common sense would suggest
14. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
15. an exc_____ly difficult book *adv.* to an extreme degree
16. und_____zed space *adj.* not used as much as is possible or necessary
17. co___e driveway *n.* a rounded, irregularly shaped stone used for paving streets or for building walls; (verb) to make or repair something in a rough and hurried way
18. un_____ed petrol *adj.* referring to a substance, especially fuel or gasoline, that does not contain lead or other harmful additives
19. po____e repair *n.* a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles

ANSWERS: 10. pothole, 11. propeller, 12. copilot, 13. counterintuitive, 14. opportune, 15. exceedingly, 16. underutilized, 17. cobble, 18. unleaded, 19. pothole

20. co____t duties *n.* a second pilot who assists the pilot in operating an aircraft, often responsible for monitoring instruments, communicating with control towers, and assisting with navigation
21. rear seat oc____nts *n.* a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there
22. status q_o politician *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
23. completely ordinary and unr____ble *adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting
24. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
25. hu___e race *n.* a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome
26. unr____ble in looks *adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting
27. op____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
28. exc____ly common *adv.* to an extreme degree
29. clothes ha___r *n.* a device or object used for hanging or supporting something, often used for hanging clothes; a loop-shaped object used to hang clothes in a closet
30. l_g a hose *v.* to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion

ANSWERS: 20. copilot, 21. occupant, 22. quo, 23. unremarkable, 24. excite, 25. hurdle, 26. unremarkable, 27. opportune, 28. exceedingly, 29. hanger, 30. lug

31. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
32. fl____r the host *v.* to praise or compliment someone insincerely or excessively to gain favor or manipulate them; to make someone feel pleased or proud by praising or complimenting them, often genuinely
33. un____ed fuel *adj.* referring to a substance, especially fuel or gasoline, that does not contain lead or other harmful additives
34. pr____er aircraft *n.* a device with rotating blades or vanes used for propulsion or creating lift, typically used on boats or aircraft
35. co___e up a policy accord *n.* a rounded, irregularly shaped stone used for paving streets or for building walls; (verb) to make or repair something in a rough and hurried way
36. up____e region *adj.* relating to or located in the region that is located in the northern part of a state or country, particularly in the United States
37. q_o warranto *n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
38. fl____r his superiors *v.* to praise or compliment someone insincerely or excessively to gain favor or manipulate them; to make someone feel pleased or proud by praising or complimenting them, often genuinely
39. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

ANSWERS: 31. excite, 32. flatter, 33. unleaded, 34. propeller, 35. cobble, 36. upstate, 37. quo, 38. flatter, 39. aft

40. po____ly ask *adv.* in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
41. navigator's co____t *n.* the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft
42. a_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
43. co____d that tobacco is nonaddictive *v.* to struggle to win or surmount something
44. up____e Connecticut *adj.* relating to or located in the region that is located in the northern part of a state or country, particularly in the United States
45. illegal oc____nt *n.* a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there
46. und_____zed resources *adj.* not used as much as is possible or necessary

ANSWERS: 40. politely, 41. cockpit, 42. aft, 43. contend, 44. upstate, 45. occupant, 46. underutilized

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
2. The _____ nature of quantum physics has been a source of confusion for scientists for decades.
adj. contrary to what common sense would suggest
3. The factory has been _____ for years and requires renovation.
adj. not used as much as is possible or necessary
4. 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
5. She _____ declined the invitation to the party, saying she had other plans.
adv. in a courteous or respectful manner, showing good manners or consideration for others
6. He found graffiti left by a previous _____ of the house.
n. a person who lives or works at a particular place for a long time or who was born there
7. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 1. opportune, 2. counterintuitive, 3. underutilized, 4. aft, 5. politely, 6. occupant, 7. excited

8. The town is known for its historic _____ streets, which were laid by hand in the 19th century.
- n.* a rounded, irregularly shaped stone used for paving streets or for building walls; (verb) to make or repair something in a rough and hurried way
9. The _____ seat in the cockpit provides a vantage point for the secondary pilot to monitor and assist with the aircraft's operations.
- n.* a second pilot who assists the pilot in operating an aircraft, often responsible for monitoring instruments, communicating with control towers, and assisting with navigation
10. The _____ systems on the new airplane model are state-of-the-art.
- adj.* relating to aviation electronics or technology; referring to aircraft or aerospace navigation, communication, control, or instrumentation systems
11. Tobacco companies have long _____ that their product is not addictive.
- v.* to struggle to win or surmount something
12. He was very busy at work but otherwise led an _____ life.
- adj.* ordinary and not particularly interesting
13. The pilot sat in the _____ of the airplane.
- n.* the area in an aircraft or spacecraft from which the pilot controls the aircraft or spacecraft
14. The company has been successful in maintaining the status ____.
- n.* the existing state or condition of something, especially in relation to a particular situation or issue
15. Fear is _____ infectious, and children catch it from their elders.
- adv.* to an extreme degree

ANSWERS: 8. cobble, 9. copilot, 10. avionic, 11. contended, 12. unremarkable, 13. cockpit, 14. quo, 15. exceedingly

16. I must fill my car with _____ gasoline before going on a long road trip.

adj. referring to a substance, especially fuel or gasoline, that does not contain lead or other harmful additives

17. The boat's _____ stopped working in the middle of the lake.

n. a device with rotating blades or vanes used for propulsion or creating lift, typically used on boats or aircraft

18. The company faced several _____ in the development of its new product.

n. a barrier or obstacle that must be overcome

19. He grew up in a small town in _____ New York.

adj. relating to or located in the region that is located in the northern part of a state or country, particularly in the United States

20. She managed to _____ her boss into giving her a promotion.

v. to praise or compliment someone insincerely or excessively to gain favor or manipulate them; to make someone feel pleased or proud by praising or complimenting them, often genuinely

21. The car hit a _____ and caused a flat tire.

n. a hole or depression in a road surface, usually caused by wear, weathering, or erosion; can be dangerous to drivers and cause damage to vehicles

22. He had to _____ the heavy suitcase up the stairs.

v. to carry or drag something with effort; to pull something along with a sudden or jerky motion

23. I hung the coat on a _____ in the closet.

n. a device or object used for hanging or supporting something, often used for hanging clothes; a loop-shaped object used to hang clothes in a closet

ANSWERS: 16. unleaded, 17. propeller, 18. hurdles, 19. upstate, 20. flatter, 21. pothole, 22. lug, 23. hanger

ANSWERS: