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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Sonaar Luthra: Meet the Water Canary | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

cholera

n. a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes

synonym: infectious disease, epidemic, plague

(1) **cholera** toxin, (2) **cholera** epidemic

The outbreak of **cholera** was a major health crisis in the 19th century.

supple

adj. flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

synonym: flexible, pliable, bendable

(1) **supple** muscles, (2) **supple** leather

The ballerina's **supple** movements left the audience mesmerized.

irreversible

adj. impossible to change or return to a previous condition

synonym: irrevocable, unrecoverable, permanent

(1) avoid **irreversible** damage, (2) an **irreversible** change

The development of agricultural technology has had an **irreversible** impact on humanity.

canary

n. a small, typically yellow songbird that is often kept as a pet or used to denote the presence of gas or other hazards in a mine

(1) **canary** bird, (2) **canary** yellow

The **canary** in the coal mine was used as an early warning system for miners about dangerous gases.

miner

n. a person who works in a mine (= excavation in the Earth from which ores and minerals are extracted), especially one who extracts coal, minerals, or precious metals from the Earth

synonym: digger, excavator, miner

(1) **miner** strike, (2) **miner** industry

The coal **miner** worked tirelessly to extract valuable minerals from deep underground.

hardworking

adj. tending to work with a lot of effort and care

synonym: diligent, dedicated, conscientious

(1) **hardworking** student, (2) retire from **hardworking** life

They sought candidates with **hardworking** and good-natured.

contaminate

v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

synonym: defile, pollute, adulterate

(1) **contaminate** with a disease, (2) **contaminate** his ego

We strive not to **contaminate** the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

reagent

n. a substance or compound used in a chemical reaction to detect, measure, or produce other substances or chemical changes

synonym: chemical, substance, solution

(1) testing **reagent**, (2) chemical **reagent**

The lab technician added a few drops of the **reagent** to the test tube.

actionable

adj. capable of being acted upon or pursued legally; able to be taken as a basis for legal actions or remedies

synonym: feasible, achievable, practical

(1) **actionable** advice, (2) **actionable** steps

The report highlighted several **actionable** recommendations for improving customer satisfaction.

lifesaving

n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

(1) **lifesaving** efforts, (2) **lifesaving** device

The patient needs a **lifesaving** transplant operation.

unfold

v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

synonym: open, spread out, expose

(1) **unfold** the story, (2) **unfold** the stroller

The mystery **unfolded** as the detectives gathered more clues.

disseminate

v. to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse

synonym: spread, circulate, propagate

(1) **disseminate** propaganda, (2) **disseminate** knowledge

It is important to **disseminate** accurate information to the public to prevent false rumors from spreading.

Session 2: Spelling

1. an irr_____ble change *adj.* impossible to change or return to a previous condition
2. lif_____ng efforts *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning
3. retire from har_____ng life *adj.* tending to work with a lot of effort and care
4. un____d the story *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown
5. su____e leather *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
6. mi__r strike *n.* a person who works in a mine (= excavation in the Earth from which ores and minerals are extracted), especially one who extracts coal, minerals, or precious metals from the Earth
7. har_____ng student *adj.* tending to work with a lot of effort and care
8. mi__r industry *n.* a person who works in a mine (= excavation in the Earth from which ores and minerals are extracted), especially one who extracts coal, minerals, or precious metals from the Earth
9. un____d the stroller *v.* to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

ANSWERS: 1. irreversible, 2. lifesaving, 3. hardworking, 4. unfold, 5. supple, 6. miner, 7. hardworking, 8. miner, 9. unfold

10. dis_____te propaganda *v.* to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse
11. act_____le steps *adj.* capable of being acted upon or pursued legally; able to be taken as a basis for legal actions or remedies
12. ch_____a toxin *n.* a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes
13. ca____y bird *n.* a small, typically yellow songbird that is often kept as a pet or used to denote the presence of gas or other hazards in a mine
14. su____e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
15. ca____y yellow *n.* a small, typically yellow songbird that is often kept as a pet or used to denote the presence of gas or other hazards in a mine
16. ch_____a epidemic *n.* a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes
17. dis_____te knowledge *v.* to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse

ANSWERS: 10. disseminate, 11. actionable, 12. cholera, 13. canary, 14. supple, 15. canary, 16. cholera, 17. disseminate

18. chemical re____t *n.* a substance or compound used in a chemical reaction to detect, measure, or produce other substances or chemical changes
19. act_____le advice *adj.* capable of being acted upon or pursued legally; able to be taken as a basis for legal actions or remedies
20. testing re____t *n.* a substance or compound used in a chemical reaction to detect, measure, or produce other substances or chemical changes
21. avoid irr_____ble damage *adj.* impossible to change or return to a previous condition
22. con_____te his ego *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
23. con_____te with a disease *v.* to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture
24. lif_____ng device *n.* the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

ANSWERS: 18. reagent, 19. actionable, 20. reagent, 21. irreversible, 22. contaminate, 23. contaminate, 24. lifesaving

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The mystery _____ as the detectives gathered more clues.
 - v. to open up or spread out something that is folded or rolled up; to reveal or disclose something that was previously hidden or unknown

2. The outbreak of _____ was a major health crisis in the 19th century.
 - n. a severe infectious disease that causes acute diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration, often resulting in a rapid and dangerous loss of body fluids and electrolytes

3. The lab technician added a few drops of the _____ to the test tube.
 - n. a substance or compound used in a chemical reaction to detect, measure, or produce other substances or chemical changes

4. The patient needs a _____ transplant operation.
 - n. the act or process of rescuing someone else's life, especially from drowning

5. The coal _____ worked tirelessly to extract valuable minerals from deep underground.
 - n. a person who works in a mine (= excavation in the Earth from which ores and minerals are extracted), especially one who extracts coal, minerals, or precious metals from the Earth

6. The _____ in the coal mine was used as an early warning system for miners about dangerous gases.
 - n. a small, typically yellow songbird that is often kept as a pet or used to denote the presence of gas or other hazards in a mine

7. It is important to _____ accurate information to the public to prevent false rumors from spreading.
 - v. to spread or distribute widely, especially information or ideas; to scatter or disperse

ANSWERS: 1. unfolded, 2. cholera, 3. reagent, 4. lifesaving, 5. miner, 6. canary, 7. disseminate

8. The ballerina's _____ movements left the audience mesmerized.

adj. flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

9. The report highlighted several _____ recommendations for improving customer satisfaction.

adj. capable of being acted upon or pursued legally; able to be taken as a basis for legal actions or remedies

10. The development of agricultural technology has had an _____ impact on humanity.

adj. impossible to change or return to a previous condition

11. They sought candidates with _____ and good-natured.

adj. tending to work with a lot of effort and care

12. We strive not to _____ the environment when demolishing petroleum plants.

v. to make something impure, unclean, or poisonous by contact or mixture

ANSWERS: 8. supple, 9. actionable, 10. irreversible, 11. hardworking, 12. contaminate