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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Mark Shaw: One very dry demo | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

rethink

v. to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

synonym: reexplore, review, reconsider

(1) **rethink** a marketing plan, (2) **rethink** the role of the manager

We have to **rethink** our company's product lineup for further growth.

cinder

n. a small piece of partly burned coal or wood that has stopped glowing but is still hot or warm; the residue left over after combustion or burning, often used as a material in construction or landscaping

synonym: ash, debris, soot

(1) **cinder** ash, (2) **cinder** path

The old house was empty and filled with piles of **cinder** and debris.

nanoscale

adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

(1) **nanoscale** device, (2) things at the **nanoscale**

This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the **nanoscale** lattice structure of the metal.

hydrophobic

adj. tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water

synonym : water-repelling, aquaphobic, water-resistant

(1) **hydrophobic** molecules, (2) **hydrophobic** amino acids
The **hydrophobic** coating on the fabric repels water, keeping the wearer dry in a downpour.

porous

adj. having many small holes and being able to absorb or pass through fluids

synonym : permeable, spongy, absorbent

(1) **porous** materials, (2) **porous** membrane
Our unfenced and largely unpoliced border inevitably has been very **porous** for insurgents.

slump

v. to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality

synonym : drop, sink, sag

(1) **slump** against pillows, (2) economic **slump**
Sales of the product **slumped** after the negative reviews were published.

nanoparticle

n. a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter

(1) aluminum **nanoparticle**, (2) atmospheric **nanoparticle**
For some creatures, carbon **nanoparticles** are deadly.

coax

v. to persuade, encourage, or gently urge someone to do something; to manipulate or persuade something to work or function properly

synonym : persuade, cajole, lure

(1) **coax** a confession, (2) **coax** a smile
She tried to **coax** her cat out of the tree with a can of tuna.

crag

n. a steep or rugged rock or cliff, typically found in mountainous or coastal areas

synonym: cliff, precipice, palisade

(1) rocky **crag**, (2) steep **crag**

We hiked up the treacherous **crag** to reach the breathtaking view at the top.

interstice

n. a small space or gap between parts or objects, often within a larger structure; a break or interval between events or periods

synonym: gap, crevice, interval

(1) cracked **interstice**, (2) fill in the **interstice**

There was a small **interstice** between the two buildings, just enough space to squeeze through.

glide

v. to move smoothly and effortlessly

synonym: slide, skim, coast

(1) **glide** through the water, (2) **glide** down the mountain

The eagle gracefully **glided** on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.

paddle

n. a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance

synonym: oar, oarlock, scull

(1) **paddle** strokes, (2) canoe **paddle**

The **paddle** boarders glided across the crystal-clear waters of the cove.

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.

revolutionize

v. to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas

synonym: transform, innovate, modernize

(1) **revolutionize** the industry, (2) **revolutionize** the technology

The invention of the smartphone **revolutionized** the way we communicate with each other.

Session 2: Spelling

1. ci___r path *n.* a small piece of partly burned coal or wood that has stopped glowing but is still hot or warm; the residue left over after combustion or burning, often used as a material in construction or landscaping

2. fill in the int_____ce *n.* a small space or gap between parts or objects, often within a larger structure; a break or interval between events or periods

3. things at the na_____le *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

4. gl__e through the water *v.* to move smoothly and effortlessly

5. gl__e down the mountain *v.* to move smoothly and effortlessly

6. po___s materials *adj.* having many small holes and being able to absorb or pass through fluids

7. po___s membrane *adj.* having many small holes and being able to absorb or pass through fluids

8. ex___e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

9. re_____k a marketing plan *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it

10. hyd_____ic amino acids *adj.* tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water

ANSWERS: 1. cinder, 2. interstice, 3. nanoscale, 4. glide, 5. glide, 6. porous, 7. porous, 8. excite, 9. rethink, 10. hydrophobic

11. na_____le device *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
12. pa___e strokes *n.* a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance
13. c__x a confession *v.* to persuade, encourage, or gently urge someone to do something; to manipulate or persuade something to work or function properly
14. hyd_____ic molecules *adj.* tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water
15. aluminum nan_____cle *n.* a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter
16. rocky c__g *n.* a steep or rugged rock or cliff, typically found in mountainous or coastal areas
17. atmospheric nan_____cle *n.* a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter
18. cracked int_____ce *n.* a small space or gap between parts or objects, often within a larger structure; a break or interval between events or periods
19. re_____k the role of the manager *v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
20. economic sl__p *v.* to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality

ANSWERS: 11. nanoscale, 12. paddle, 13. coax, 14. hydrophobic, 15. nanoparticle, 16. crag, 17. nanoparticle, 18. interstice, 19. rethink, 20. slump

21. rev_____ize the technology *v.* to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas
22. c__x a smile *v.* to persuade, encourage, or gently urge someone to do something; to manipulate or persuade something to work or function properly
23. sl__p against pillows *v.* to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality
24. rev_____ize the industry *v.* to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas
25. ci___r ash *n.* a small piece of partly burned coal or wood that has stopped glowing but is still hot or warm; the residue left over after combustion or burning, often used as a material in construction or landscaping
26. ex___e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
27. steep c__g *n.* a steep or rugged rock or cliff, typically found in mountainous or coastal areas
28. canoe pa___e *n.* a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance

ANSWERS: 21. revolutionize, 22. coax, 23. slump, 24. revolutionize, 25. cinder, 26. excite, 27. crag, 28. paddle

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The invention of the smartphone _____ the way we communicate with each other.
 - v. to bring about a complete or radical change in something, often through the introduction of new methods or ideas

2. This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the _____ lattice structure of the metal.
 - adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

3. The news of her promotion _____ her.
 - v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

4. We hiked up the treacherous _____ to reach the breathtaking view at the top.
 - n. a steep or rugged rock or cliff, typically found in mountainous or coastal areas

5. The _____ coating on the fabric repels water, keeping the wearer dry in a downpour.
 - adj. tending to repel or be unreactive towards the water; lacking affinity for water

6. The eagle gracefully _____ on the thermals, soaring above the mountains.
 - v. to move smoothly and effortlessly

7. She tried to _____ her cat out of the tree with a can of tuna.
 - v. to persuade, encourage, or gently urge someone to do something; to manipulate or persuade something to work or function properly

ANSWERS: 1. revolutionized, 2. nanoscale, 3. excited, 4. crag, 5. hydrophobic, 6. glided, 7. coax

8. For some creatures, carbon _____ are deadly.
- n.* a particle of matter that is between 1 and 100 nanometres (nm) in diameter
9. There was a small _____ between the two buildings, just enough space to squeeze through.
- n.* a small space or gap between parts or objects, often within a larger structure; a break or interval between events or periods
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- v.* to fall or sink suddenly, often due to loss of support or stability; to decline or decrease abruptly, as in business or economic conditions; to become despondent or dispirited; (noun) a sudden or prolonged decline or drop in value, price, or quality
11. Our unfenced and largely unpoliced border inevitably has been very _____ for insurgents.
- adj.* having many small holes and being able to absorb or pass through fluids
12. The old house was empty and filled with piles of _____ and debris.
- n.* a small piece of partly burned coal or wood that has stopped glowing but is still hot or warm; the residue left over after combustion or burning, often used as a material in construction or landscaping
13. We have to _____ our company's product lineup for further growth.
- v.* to consider again a plan, idea, etc., especially to change it
14. The _____ boards glided across the crystal-clear waters of the cove.
- n.* a flat, usually wooden implement with a handle used for stirring, mixing, or beating a liquid or substance

ANSWERS: 8. nanoparticles, 9. interstice, 10. slumped, 11. porous, 12. cinder, 13. rethink, 14. paddle

ANSWERS: