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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Robert Hammond: Building a park in the sky | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

elevate

v. to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

synonym: lift, heighten, promote

(1) **elevate** educational standards, (2) **elevate** a close relationship

Eating food in a hurry **elevates** blood glucose levels.

horseback

n. the back of a horse; the act of riding on a horse

synonym: equestrian, horse riding, mounted

(1) **horseback** trek, (2) **horseback** adventure

We went on a scenic trail ride on **horseback** through the mountains.

thanksgiving

n. an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year

synonym: gratitude, appreciation, recognition

(1) **thanksgiving** traditions, (2) **thanksgiving** parade

My family gathers together every year for **thanksgiving** dinner.

demolish

v. to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something

synonym : destroy, wreck, level

(1) **demolish** a myth, (2) **demolish** a bridge

The city decided to **demolish** the old, unsafe building and build a new one.

rusty

adj. covered with rust (= a reddish-brown coating or corrosion layer); deteriorated or corroded due to lack of use or exposure to the elements; affected by disuse or neglect

synonym : corroded, oxidized, weathered

(1) **rusty** metal, (2) **rusty** nail

The **rusty** gate creaked loudly as it opened.

relic

n. an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value

synonym : whiff, vestige, antique

(1) historical **relic**, (2) holy **relics**

This bronze sword is a **relic** of ancient times.

coalesce

v. to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole

synonym : merge, combine, unite

(1) **coalesce** ideas, (2) **coalesce** with the other

The various departments of the company will **coalesce** into one cohesive unit.

numb

adj. unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity

synonym : dazed, insensitive, emotionless

(1) **numb** with cold, (2) a **numb** mind

My left arm became **numb**.

sect

n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

synonym : group, faction, cult

(1) **sect** beliefs, (2) secret **sect**

The minority **sect** believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.

amphitheater

n. an open-air theater, usually circular or oval, with tiers of seats surrounding a central performance area

synonym : arena, stadium, coliseum

(1) outdoor **amphitheater**, (2) ancient **amphitheater**

The performers took to the stage in the **amphitheater's** center, surrounded by cheering fans.

jean

n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing

synonym : denim, cotton, pants

(1) a **jean** skirt, (2) **jean** denim

She wore her favorite pair of **jeans** to the party.

flyover

n. a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping

synonym : overpass, bridge, flypast

(1) **flyover** zone, (2) **flyover** construction

The city's new **flyover** allows traffic to bypass the busy intersection below.

billboard

n. a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads

synonym : hoarding, signboard, advertisement

(1) **billboard** advertising, (2) digital **billboard**

The new **billboard** on the highway promotes a popular vacation destination.

playful

adj. having a lighthearted, mischievous, or fun-loving nature; displaying a sense of enjoyment or amusement; characterized by a desire for entertainment or play

synonym : mischievous, frisky, sportful

(1) **playful** puppy, (2) **playful** children

The children couldn't contain their **playful** excitement at seeing the new playground.

frightening

adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming

synonym : scary, terrifying, alarming

(1) cast **frightening** eyes, (2) **frightening** experience

The news of the pandemic was a **frightening** reminder of the fragility of human health.

recreate

v. to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again

synonym : renovate, vivify, revive

(1) **recreate** a single country, (2) **recreate** the feeling of the 1920s

She **recreated** the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.

Session 2: Spelling

1. fl____r construction *n.* a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping

2. tha_____ing traditions *n.* an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year

3. historical re__c *n.* an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value

4. outdoor amp_____ter *n.* an open-air theater, usually circular or oval, with tiers of seats surrounding a central performance area

5. ru__y metal *adj.* covered with rust (= a reddish-brown coating or corrosion layer); deteriorated or corroded due to lack of use or exposure to the elements; affected by disuse or neglect

6. secret s__t *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream

ANSWERS: 1. flyover, 2. thanksgiving, 3. relic, 4. amphitheater, 5. rusty, 6. sect

7. de_____sh a myth *v.* to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something
8. j__n denim *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
9. ho_____ck trek *n.* the back of a horse; the act of riding on a horse
10. bi_____rd advertising *n.* a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads
11. re_____te a single country *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
12. de_____sh a bridge *v.* to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something
13. ru__y nail *adj.* covered with rust (= a reddish-brown coating or corrosion layer); deteriorated or corroded due to lack of use or exposure to the elements; affected by disuse or neglect
14. el_____e a close relationship *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
15. co_____ce with the other *v.* to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole

ANSWERS: 7. demolish, 8. jean, 9. horseback, 10. billboard, 11. recreate, 12. demolish, 13. rusty, 14. elevate, 15. coalesce

16. tha_____ing parade *n.* an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year
17. a n__b mind *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
18. cast fri_____ng eyes *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
19. co_____ce ideas *v.* to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole
20. ho_____ck adventure *n.* the back of a horse; the act of riding on a horse
21. ancient amp_____ter *n.* an open-air theater, usually circular or oval, with tiers of seats surrounding a central performance area
22. s__t beliefs *n.* a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
23. a j__n skirt *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
24. el_____e educational standards *v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position

ANSWERS: 16. thanksgiving, 17. numb, 18. frightening, 19. coalesce, 20. horseback, 21. amphitheater, 22. sect, 23. jean, 24. elevate

25. pl_____l puppy *adj.* having a lighthearted, mischievous, or fun-loving nature; displaying a sense of enjoyment or amusement; characterized by a desire for entertainment or play
26. pl_____l children *adj.* having a lighthearted, mischievous, or fun-loving nature; displaying a sense of enjoyment or amusement; characterized by a desire for entertainment or play
27. digital bi_____rd *n.* a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads
28. n__b with cold *adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
29. fri_____ng experience *adj.* causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
30. holy re__cs *n.* an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value
31. re_____te the feeling of the 1920s *v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
32. fl_____r zone *n.* a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping

ANSWERS: 25. playful, 26. playful, 27. billboard, 28. numb, 29. frightening, 30. relic, 31. recreate, 32. flyover

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. My family gathers together every year for _____ dinner.
n. an annual holiday celebrated primarily in the United States and Canada, typically observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S. and on the second Monday in October in Canada, that commemorates the giving of thanks for the blessings of the previous year
2. The minority _____ believed in a set of unconventional religious practices.
n. a group of people who follow a particular religious or philosophical belief system, especially one that is regarded as outside the norm or mainstream
3. We went on a scenic trail ride on _____ through the mountains.
n. the back of a horse; the act of riding on a horse
4. The news of the pandemic was a _____ reminder of the fragility of human health.
adj. causing fear or alarm, or very surprising and alarming
5. The city decided to _____ the old, unsafe building and build a new one.
v. to completely destroy or tear down a building, structure, or other entity; to ruin or eliminate the effectiveness or power of something
6. The _____ gate creaked loudly as it opened.
adj. covered with rust (= a reddish-brown coating or corrosion layer); deteriorated or corroded due to lack of use or exposure to the elements; affected by disuse or neglect
7. The children couldn't contain their _____ excitement at seeing the new playground.
adj. having a lighthearted, mischievous, or fun-loving nature; displaying a sense of enjoyment or amusement; characterized by a desire for entertainment or play

ANSWERS: 1. thanksgiving, 2. sect, 3. horseback, 4. frightening, 5. demolish, 6. rusty, 7. playful

8. The performers took to the stage in the _____ center, surrounded by cheering fans.
- n.* an open-air theater, usually circular or oval, with tiers of seats surrounding a central performance area
9. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.
- n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
10. Eating food in a hurry _____ blood glucose levels.
- v.* to raise something from a lower to a higher position; to give a promotion to or assign to a higher position
11. My left arm became _____.
- adj.* unable to feel physical sensation and movement; not showing human feeling or sensitivity
12. The new _____ on the highway promotes a popular vacation destination.
- n.* a large outdoor sign or display that is used for advertising, marketing, or public information, typically located along highways or main roads
13. She _____ the atmosphere of the pre-war age with her stage setting.
- v.* to make something that existed previously happen or appear to exist again
14. This bronze sword is a _____ of ancient times.
- n.* an object from a previous era, especially one of historical value
15. The various departments of the company will _____ into one cohesive unit.
- v.* to come together or merge into a single group, mass, or whole; to blend or combine elements or ideas into a unified whole

ANSWERS: 8. amphitheater's, 9. jeans, 10. elevates, 11. numb, 12. billboard, 13. recreated, 14. relic, 15. coalesce

16. The city's new _____ allows traffic to bypass the busy intersection below.

- n.* a region or area of a country that is often flown over by planes and not typically visited or considered by travelers; a flight that passes over a specific area without stopping

ANSWERS: 16. flyover