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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Maurizio Seracini: The secret lives of paintings | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

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.

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.

bioengineering

n. the application of engineering principles to the design and production of biological systems and products

synonym : biomedical engineering, genetic engineering, biotechnology

(1) **bioengineering** field, (2) **bioengineering** techniques

The **bioengineering** lab has state-of-the-art equipment and software for analyzing biological systems and designing new solutions.

mural

adj. a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface

synonym : wall painting, fresco, wall art

(1) **mural** painting, (2) a **mural** decoration

The **mural** on the wall depicted the history of the city.

reconstruct

v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed

synonym : rebuild, revamp, reorganize

(1) **reconstruct** an image, (2) **reconstruct** the original text

They've decided to **reconstruct** a ruined castle.

remodel

v. to change the structure or form of something

synonym : refurbish, remake, revamp

(1) **remodel** the car, (2) **remodel** portfolio

We are **remodeling** these rooms now.

thermography

n. a technique that uses infrared imaging to create visual representations of temperature variations on the surface of an object or a living organism, often employed in medical diagnostics, building inspections, and industrial applications

synonym : thermal imaging, infrared imaging

(1) **thermography** scan, (2) medical **thermography**

Thermography imaging can provide early detection of certain breast cancers, complementing traditional mammography.

restructure

v. to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively

synonym : reorganize, revamp, reconstruct

(1) **restructure** sentence, (2) **restructure** my debts

The economic downturn made it necessary to **restructure** the business.

staircase

n. a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side

synonym : stairway, stairwell

(1) spiral **staircase**, (2) beetle up the **staircase**

She walked urgently down the emergency **staircase**.

novella

n. a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel

synonym : short novel, long story, narrative

(1) write a **novella**, (2) a **novella** set in a medieval kingdom

I am reading a famous **novella** about a group of friends who go on a road trip.

archaeology

n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures

(1) the institute of **archaeology**, (2) prehistoric **archaeology**

She teaches **archaeology** at the local university.

fieldwork

n. real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.

(1) meticulous **fieldwork**, (2) perform **fieldwork**

Numerous instances from **fieldwork** show these hypotheses in great detail.

confine

v. to restrict the movement of someone or something

synonym : restrict, limit, contain

(1) **confine** themselves solely, (2) **confine** the scope of use

The animal was **confined** in a small cage.

endoscope

n. a medical instrument that consists of a long, flexible tube with a light and a camera on end, used to examine the interior of a body cavity or organ visually

(1) medical **endoscope**, (2) flexible **endoscope**

The doctor used a diagnostic **endoscope** to examine the patient's stomach during the medical procedure.

beige

n. a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color

synonym : tan, khaki, sand

(1) **beige** walls, (2) **beige** fabric

The curtains in the bedroom were a beautiful shade of **beige**, which complemented the natural lighting.

diffraction

n. the bending of waves, particularly light or sound waves, as they pass through a small opening or around an obstacle, causing interference or the separation of the waves into distinct bands or zones

synonym : bending, refraction, scattering

(1) X-ray **diffraction**, (2) **diffraction** grating

The **diffraction** pattern of the light passing through the prism was a beautiful rainbow of colors.

pigment

n. a substance that gives color to a material, such as paint, ink, or biological tissue; often derived from natural sources or synthetically produced

synonym : dye, colorant, tint

(1) skin **pigment**, (2) **pigment** accumulation

The use of synthetic **pigments** in food production has become controversial due to health concerns.

varnish

n. a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry

(1) **varnish** oil, (2) fast-acting **varnish**

This **varnish** provides a long-lasting and durable gloss finish.

retouch

v. to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools

synonym : edit, revise, touch up

(1) **retouch** photo, (2) **retouch** painting

She had her portrait **retouched** to remove blemishes.

unicorn

n. a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion

synonym : mythical creature, fantasy animal, legendary horse

(1) **unicorn** beetle, (2) **unicorn** investors

In medieval times, people believed that the **unicorn** horn had magical powers that could cure diseases.

writ *n.* a written legal order or command
synonym: legal document, order, legal process
(1) a **writ** of summons, (2) issue a **writ**
He was served with a **writ** of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.

admiration *n.* the feeling or attitude of respect and approval for someone or something
synonym: respect, esteem, appreciation
(1) ungrudging **admiration**, (2) **admiration** by other people
The artist received **admiration** for their work from critics and fans alike.

adoration *n.* deep love and respect shown towards someone or something; worship or deep reverence
synonym: worship, idolization, devotion
(1) **adoration** of a celebrity, (2) puppy **adoration**
The child's **adoration** for his favorite superhero was unwavering.

rev *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
synonym: revolution, RPM, speed
(1) low- **rev** engine, (2) **rev** up the crowd
He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud **rev**.

geniality *n.* the quality of being friendly, cheerful, or pleasant; having a warm and kindly nature and demeanor
synonym: friendliness, warmth, affability
(1) charming **geniality**, (2) good-natured **geniality**

The workshop emphasized the importance of **geniality** in customer service roles, ensuring clients always felt welcomed.

epiphany

n. a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

synonym: revelation, enlightenment, insight

(1) **epiphany** about life, (2) Feast of **Epiphany**

She had an **epiphany** while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.

augment

v. to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it

synonym: boost, increase, expand

(1) **augment** the reality, (2) **augment** immunity

Economic factors and monetary policy **augmented** inflation.

iconography

n. the visual images or symbols used in a particular field of study, worship, or art; a system or language of imagery used to represent ideas or concepts

synonym: symbolism, iconology, representation

(1) religious **iconography**, (2) digital **iconography**

The **iconography** of the logo was immediately recognizable as belonging to the famous brand.

layman

n. a person who is not a professional or expert in a particular field, typically referring to someone who lacks specialized knowledge or training in a specific subject

synonym: layperson, non-expert, novice

(1) **layman** perspective, (2) **layman's** language

The doctor explained the procedure to me in **layman's** terms so I could understand it.

protagonist

n. the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories

synonym: hero, central figure, leading character

(1) **protagonist** of drama, (2) play a **protagonist**

The **protagonist's** triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.

rediscover

v. to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost

synonym: recover, get back, revive

(1) **rediscover** a value, (2) **rediscover** an old truth

The painting was **rediscovered** in an attic and turned out to be a long-lost masterpiece.

Renaissance

n. a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music

synonym: rebirth, golden age

(1) artistic **renaissance**, (2) industrial **renaissance**

Folk music is now experiencing a **renaissance**.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. flexible en_____pe | <i>n.</i> a medical instrument that consists of a long, flexible tube with a light and a camera on end, used to examine the interior of a body cavity or organ visually |
| 2. be__e walls | <i>n.</i> a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color |
| 3. pro_____st of drama | <i>n.</i> the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories |
| 4. charming ge_____ty | <i>n.</i> the quality of being friendly, cheerful, or pleasant; having a warm and kindly nature and demeanor |
| 5. play a pro_____st | <i>n.</i> the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories |
| 6. medical en_____pe | <i>n.</i> a medical instrument that consists of a long, flexible tube with a light and a camera on end, used to examine the interior of a body cavity or organ visually |
| 7. re_____l the car | <i>v.</i> to change the structure or form of something |
| 8. ad_____on of a celebrity | <i>n.</i> deep love and respect shown towards someone or something; worship or deep reverence |
| 9. good-natured ge_____ty | <i>n.</i> the quality of being friendly, cheerful, or pleasant; having a warm and kindly nature and demeanor |

ANSWERS: 1. endoscope, 2. beige, 3. protagonist, 4. geniality, 5. protagonist, 6. endoscope, 7. remodel, 8. adoration, 9. geniality

10. meticulous fi_____rk *n.* real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.
11. beetle up the st_____se *n.* a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side
12. res_____re my debts *v.* to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively
13. au_____t the reality *v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
14. medical the_____phy *n.* a technique that uses infrared imaging to create visual representations of temperature variations on the surface of an object or a living organism, often employed in medical diagnostics, building inspections, and industrial applications
15. bio_____ing field *n.* the application of engineering principles to the design and production of biological systems and products
16. res_____re sentence *v.* to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively
17. skin pi_____t *n.* a substance that gives color to a material, such as paint, ink, or biological tissue; often derived from natural sources or synthetically produced
18. la___n's language *n.* a person who is not a professional or expert in a particular field, typically referring to someone who lacks specialized knowledge or training in a specific subject

ANSWERS: 10. fieldwork, 11. staircase, 12. restructure, 13. augment, 14. thermography, 15. bioengineering, 16. restructure, 17. pigment, 18. layman

19. co____e themselves solely *v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
20. prehistoric arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
21. a no____a set in a medieval kingdom *n.* a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel
22. a mu__l decoration *adj.* a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
23. spiral st_____se *n.* a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side
24. artistic ren_____ce *n.* a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music
25. au____t immunity *v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
26. pi____t accumulation *n.* a substance that gives color to a material, such as paint, ink, or biological tissue; often derived from natural sources or synthetically produced
27. red_____er an old truth *v.* to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost
28. issue a w__t *n.* a written legal order or command
29. r_v up the crowd *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 19. confine, 20. archaeology, 21. novella, 22. mural, 23. staircase, 24. Renaissance, 25. augment, 26. pigment, 27. rediscover, 28. writ, 29. rev

30. rec_____ct the original text *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
31. re_____l portfolio *v.* to change the structure or form of something
32. perform fi_____rk *n.* real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.
33. puppy ad_____on *n.* deep love and respect shown towards someone or something; worship or deep reverence
34. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
35. un_____n beetle *n.* a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion
36. dif_____on grating *n.* the bending of waves, particularly light or sound waves, as they pass through a small opening or around an obstacle, causing interference or the separation of the waves into distinct bands or zones
37. 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
38. re_____h photo *v.* to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools

ANSWERS: 30. reconstruct, 31. remodel, 32. fieldwork, 33. adoration, 34. opportune, 35. unicorn, 36. diffraction, 37. unfold, 38. retouch

39. low-r_v engine *n.* a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute
40. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
41. fast-acting va_____h *n.* a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry
42. Feast of Ep_____ny *n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
43. digital ico_____hy *n.* the visual images or symbols used in a particular field of study, worship, or art; a system or language of imagery used to represent ideas or concepts
44. be__e fabric *n.* a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color
45. ep_____ny about life *n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus
46. ungrudging adm_____on *n.* the feeling or attitude of respect and approval for someone or something
47. write a no_____a *n.* a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel

ANSWERS: 39. rev, 40. opportune, 41. varnish, 42. epiphany, 43. iconography, 44. beige, 45. epiphany, 46. admiration, 47. novella

48. un_____n investors *n.* a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion
49. bio_____ing techniques *n.* the application of engineering principles to the design and production of biological systems and products
50. the institute of arc_____gy *n.* the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures
51. a w__t of summons *n.* a written legal order or command
52. co_____e the scope of use *v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something
53. religious ico_____hy *n.* the visual images or symbols used in a particular field of study, worship, or art; a system or language of imagery used to represent ideas or concepts
54. mu__l painting *adj.* a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
55. rec_____ct an image *v.* to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
56. the_____phy scan *n.* a technique that uses infrared imaging to create visual representations of temperature variations on the surface of an object or a living organism, often employed in medical diagnostics, building inspections, and industrial applications
57. va_____h oil *n.* a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry

ANSWERS: 48. unicorn, 49. bioengineering, 50. archaeology, 51. writ, 52. confine, 53. iconography, 54. mural, 55. reconstruct, 56. thermography, 57. varnish

58. X-ray dif_____on
- n.* the bending of waves, particularly light or sound waves, as they pass through a small opening or around an obstacle, causing interference or the separation of the waves into distinct bands or zones
59. 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
60. adm_____on by other people
- n.* the feeling or attitude of respect and approval for someone or something
61. la___n perspective
- n.* a person who is not a professional or expert in a particular field, typically referring to someone who lacks specialized knowledge or training in a specific subject
62. industrial ren_____ce
- n.* a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music
63. re_____h painting
- v.* to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools
64. red_____er a value
- v.* to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost

ANSWERS: 58. diffraction, 59. unfold, 60. admiration, 61. layman, 62. Renaissance, 63. retouch, 64. rediscover

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. They've decided to _____ a ruined castle.
v. to build or form something again that has been damaged or destroyed
2. We are _____ these rooms now.
v. to change the structure or form of something
3. The economic downturn made it necessary to _____ the business.
v. to organize a company, business, or system in a new and different way to make it work more effectively
4. Folk music is now experiencing a _____.
n. a new growth in activity or enthusiasm in anything, particularly art, literature, or music
5. The painting was _____ in an attic and turned out to be a long-lost masterpiece.
v. to discover or find again something that was previously known but lost
6. The _____ triumph over adversity was the theme of this play.
n. the main character in a literary work, film, or other stories
7. In medieval times, people believed that the _____ horn had magical powers that could cure diseases.
n. a mythical horse-like creature with a single horn on its forehead; a privately held startup company that reached a valuation of \$1 billion
8. She teaches _____ at the local university.
n. the branch of anthropology that studies prehistoric people and their cultures

ANSWERS: 1. reconstruct, 2. remodeling, 3. restructure, 4. renaissance, 5. rediscovered, 6. protagonist's, 7. unicorn, 8. archaeology

9. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.
n. a written legal order or command
10. The use of synthetic _____ in food production has become controversial due to health concerns.
n. a substance that gives color to a material, such as paint, ink, or biological tissue; often derived from natural sources or synthetically produced
11. The artist received _____ for their work from critics and fans alike.
n. the feeling or attitude of respect and approval for someone or something
12. This _____ provides a long-lasting and durable gloss finish.
n. a liquid that is painted onto wood, metal, etc. and that forms a hard, clear, shiny surface when dry
13. The doctor used a diagnostic _____ to examine the patient's stomach during the medical procedure.
n. a medical instrument that consists of a long, flexible tube with a light and a camera on end, used to examine the interior of a body cavity or organ visually
14. She had her portrait _____ to remove blemishes.
v. to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools
15. Numerous instances from _____ show these hypotheses in great detail.
n. real-world research or study conducted outside a library or laboratory.
16. He stepped on the gas pedal, and the engine released a loud _____.
n. a measure of the rate at which an engine or motor rotates, often expressed in revolutions per minute (RPM); (verb) to increase the number of rotations per minute

ANSWERS: 9. writ, 10. pigments, 11. admiration, 12. varnish, 13. endoscope, 14. retouched, 15. fieldwork, 16. rev

17. The workshop emphasized the importance of _____ in customer service roles, ensuring clients always felt welcomed.
- n.* the quality of being friendly, cheerful, or pleasant; having a warm and kindly nature and demeanor
18. Economic factors and monetary policy _____ inflation.
- v.* to increase the size, extent, quantity, etc. of something by adding something to it
19. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
20. The _____ lab has state-of-the-art equipment and software for analyzing biological systems and designing new solutions.
- n.* the application of engineering principles to the design and production of biological systems and products
21. The curtains in the bedroom were a beautiful shade of _____ which complemented the natural lighting.
- n.* a pale sandy yellowish-brown color; a cloth or material of this color
22. I am reading a famous _____ about a group of friends who go on a road trip.
- n.* a written work of fiction that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel
23. 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
24. She walked urgently down the emergency _____.
- n.* a set of stairs inside a building, usually with posts and bars that are fixed at the side

ANSWERS: 17. geniality, 18. augmented, 19. opportune, 20. bioengineering, 21. beige, 22. novella, 23. unfolded, 24. staircase

25. The _____ pattern of the light passing through the prism was a beautiful rainbow of colors.
- n.* the bending of waves, particularly light or sound waves, as they pass through a small opening or around an obstacle, causing interference or the separation of the waves into distinct bands or zones
26. _____ imaging can provide early detection of certain breast cancers, complementing traditional mammography.
- n.* a technique that uses infrared imaging to create visual representations of temperature variations on the surface of an object or a living organism, often employed in medical diagnostics, building inspections, and industrial applications
27. The child's _____ for his favorite superhero was unwavering.
- n.* deep love and respect shown towards someone or something; worship or deep reverence
28. The _____ on the wall depicted the history of the city.
- adj.* a large painting or other artwork that is applied directly to a wall or other surface
29. The doctor explained the procedure to me in _____ terms so I could understand it.
- n.* a person who is not a professional or expert in a particular field, typically referring to someone who lacks specialized knowledge or training in a specific subject
30. The _____ of the logo was immediately recognizable as belonging to the famous brand.
- n.* the visual images or symbols used in a particular field of study, worship, or art; a system or language of imagery used to represent ideas or concepts

ANSWERS: 25. diffraction, 26. Thermography, 27. adoration, 28. mural, 29. layman's, 30. iconography

31. She had an _____ while meditating and realized the answer to her problem.

- n.* a moment of sudden and great realization or revelation; a Christian festival, held on 6 January, celebrating the visit of the three wise men to the infant Jesus

32. The animal was _____ in a small cage.

- v.* to restrict the movement of someone or something

ANSWERS: 31. epiphany, 32. confined