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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Sherry Turkle: Connected, but alone? | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

embody

v. to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea

synonym: represent, exemplify, personify

(1) **embody** my goal, (2) **embody** a spirit of charity

The company's new products **embody** the values of innovation and sustainability.

paradox

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

synonym: incongruity, dichotomy, contradiction

(1) French **paradox**, (2) the **paradox** of the heap

There are many theories to explain this **paradox**.

unplug

v. to disconnect the plug of electrical equipment from the electricity supply

synonym: disconnect, clear, open

(1) **unplug** the power cord, (2) **unplug** a USB stick

Please **unplug** the heater before you go to bed.

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.

disturb

v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.
synonym : agitate, bother, intrude

(1) **disturb** the peace, (2) **disturb** his sleep

Tourists frequently **disturb** the island's delicate natural balance.

reverie

n. a state of thinking about pleasant things; a daydream; absentminded dreaming while awake

synonym : daze, trance, daydreaming

(1) fall into **reverie**, (2) awake from **reverie**

The test results break his **reverie**.

lament

v. to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning

synonym : mourn, grieve, bemoan

(1) **lament** my misfortunes, (2) **lament** the situation

She **lamented** the loss of her beloved cat.

wistful

adj. expressing a feeling of vague, sad, or inconsolable longing

synonym : longing, nostalgic, pensive

(1) in a **wistful** mood, (2) **wistful** feeling

He had a **wistful** look in his eyes as he remembered the past.

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.

tweet

n. a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

synonym : peep, chirp, post (on Twitter)

(1) a chick's **tweet**, (2) his latest **tweets**

We could hear the **tweet** of baby birds.

sip v. to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink

synonym: taste, sample, drink

(1) **sip** a drink, (2) take a **sip** of beer

He **sipped** his tea slowly, savoring the taste.

gulp v. to swallow quickly and forcefully; to take in a large amount of air or liquid quickly and audibly because of surprise, fear, or excitement

synonym: swallow, chug, gulp down

(1) **gulp** water, (2) **gulp** air

He had to **gulp** down his coffee before rushing to work.

bedrock n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

synonym: foundation, foundation stone, base

(1) **bedrock** foundation, (2) **bedrock** geology

The **bedrock** beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.

dispense v. to distribute, allocate, or deliver something to the intended recipients

synonym: distribute, allocate, deal out

(1) **dispense** with ceremony, (2) **dispense** justice

The pharmacist started to **dispense** medication to patients.

smartphone n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

(1) **smartphone** app developer, (2) **smartphone** addict

Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of **smartphones**.

sociable *adj.* being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others

synonym: friendly, outgoing, affable

(1) **sociable** gathering, (2) **sociable** atmosphere

She is a very **sociable** person who loves meeting new people.

pretension

n. the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition

synonym : presumption, pretense, affectation

(1) **pretension** to authority, (2) baseless **pretension**

His **pretensions** of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.

empathy

n. the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

synonym : compassion, sympathy, tenderness

(1) full of **empathy**, (2) **empathy** for patients

Empathy is also necessary to understand history.

wrench

v. to pull or twist something suddenly or violently

synonym : twist, turn, bend

(1) **wrench** off the lock, (2) **wrench** my back

A deep sigh was **wrenched** from his chest.

steppe

n. a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

synonym : prairie, savannah, grassland

(1) **steppe** climate, (2) barren **steppe**

The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast **steppe**.

intimacy

n. close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person

synonym : closeness, familiarity, nearness

(1) on terms of **intimacy**, (2) build **intimacy**

They were looking for **intimacy** in their relationship and wanted to be close to each other.

gratify

v. to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite

synonym : please, satisfy, fulfill

(1) **gratify** desires, (2) **gratify** curiosity

I always try to **gratify** my boss by achieving the sales target every month.

psyche

n. the human soul, mind, or spirit

synonym : mind, soul, spirit

(1) deep **psyche**, (2) **psyche** healing

The therapist helped her understand the workings of her **psyche** and how to cope with her anxiety.

fidget

v. to make small, restless movements; to be unable to sit still

synonym : fiddle, jiggle, squirm

(1) **fidget** with hands, (2) **fidget** on my lap

He **fidgeted** with his pen while waiting for the interview to begin.

cultivate

v. to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants

synonym : boost, foster, nurture

(1) **cultivate** a field, (2) **cultivate** relationships

University is a great place to **cultivate** our minds and expertise.

solitude

n. the state of being alone and isolated from others

synonym : isolation, seclusion, loneliness

(1) live in **solitude**, (2) enjoyment of **solitude**

He sought **solitude** in the wilderness to escape the distractions of modern life.

smite

v. to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction

synonym : hit, strike, batter

(1) **smite** enemies, (2) **smite** a blow

The hero was able to **smite** the monster with a single blow.

spoil

v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

synonym: rot, decay, deteriorate

(1) **spoil** a person's sport, (2) **spoil** the surprise

If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will **spoil**.

reconsider

v. to think about a decision or opinion again to

synonym: rethink, review, revisit

(1) **reconsider** the determination, (2) **reconsider** my transfer

He humbly **reconsidered** his conduct.

reclaim

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

synonym: recoup, regain, retake

(1) **reclaim** a competitive position, (2) **reclaim** land from the sea

You may be entitled to **reclaim** some tax.

stumble

v. to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

synonym: bumble, struggle, misstep

(1) **stumble** financially, (2) **stumble** through life

She **stumbled** over the tree root.

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**.

redefine

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

synonym : reconsider, reformulate, alter

(1) **redefine** customer experience, (2) **redefine** our role

The video telephony application has **redefined** the way we work.

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.

promenade

n. a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern

synonym : stroll, walkway, boulevard

(1) evening **promenade**, (2) **promenade** in the park

The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful **promenade** for tourists and locals alike.

cavalry

n. a highly mobile army unit

(1) troop of **cavalry**, (2) superbly trained **cavalry**

The **cavalry** regrouped and launched another attack.

Session 2: Spelling

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|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. em____y for patients | <i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation |
| 2. pre_____on to authority | <i>n.</i> the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition |
| 3. sp__l a person's sport | <i>v.</i> to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad |
| 4. sm__e a blow | <i>v.</i> to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction |
| 5. em____y my goal | <i>v.</i> to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea |
| 6. be____k geology | <i>n.</i> the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium |
| 7. r_v up the crowd | <i>n.</i> 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 |
| 8. the pa_____x of the heap | <i>n.</i> a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange; |

ANSWERS: 1. empathy, 2. pretension, 3. spoil, 4. smite, 5. embody, 6. bedrock, 7. rev, 8. paradox

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|------|---|
| 9. wr___h off the lock | v. | to pull or twist something suddenly or violently |
| 10. cu_____te relationships | v. | to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants |
| 11. re_____h photo | v. | to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools |
| 12. so_____le atmosphere | adj. | being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others |
| 13. in a wi_____l mood | adj. | expressing a feeling of vague, sad, or inconsolable longing |
| 14. di_____b the peace | v. | to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc. |
| 15. re_____m land from the sea | v. | to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back |
| 16. st_____e financially | v. | to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily |
| 17. s_p a drink | v. | to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink |
| 18. rec_____er the determination | v. | to think about a decision or opinion again to |
| 19. sp__l the surprise | v. | to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad |
| 20. sma_____ne app developer | n. | a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet |

ANSWERS: 9. wrench, 10. cultivate, 11. retouch, 12. sociable, 13. wistful, 14. disturb, 15. reclaim, 16. stumble, 17. sip, 18. reconsider, 19. spoil, 20. smartphone

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|----------------------------------|--|
| 21. deep ps___e | <i>n.</i> the human soul, mind, or spirit |
| 22. full of em____y | <i>n.</i> the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation |
| 23. re____ne customer experience | <i>v.</i> to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way |
| 24. live in so____de | <i>n.</i> the state of being alone and isolated from others |
| 25. un___g a USB stick | <i>v.</i> to disconnect the plug of electrical equipment from the electricity supply |
| 26. re____ne our role | <i>v.</i> to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way |
| 27. fi___t with hands | <i>v.</i> to make small, restless movements; to be unable to sit still |
| 28. build in____cy | <i>n.</i> close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person |
| 29. his latest tw__ts | <i>n.</i> a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application |
| 30. a chick's tw__t | <i>n.</i> a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application |
| 31. sm__e enemies | <i>v.</i> to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction |

ANSWERS: 21. psyche, 22. empathy, 23. redefine, 24. solitude, 25. unplug, 26. redefine, 27. fidget, 28. intimacy, 29. tweet, 30. tweet, 31. smite

32. wi_____l feeling *adj.* expressing a feeling of vague, sad, or inconsolable longing
33. fi___t on my lap *v.* to make small, restless movements; to be unable to sit still
34. superbly trained ca_____y *n.* a highly mobile army unit
35. sma_____ne addict *n.* a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet
36. di_____se justice *v.* to distribute, allocate, or deliver something to the intended recipients
37. be_____k foundation *n.* the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium
38. re_____m a competitive position *v.* to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back
39. fall into re_____e *n.* a state of thinking about pleasant things; a daydream; absentminded dreaming while awake
40. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
41. troop of ca_____y *n.* a highly mobile army unit
42. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
43. evening pr_____de *n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern

ANSWERS: 32. wistful, 33. fidget, 34. cavalry, 35. smartphone, 36. dispense, 37. bedrock, 38. reclaim, 39. reverie, 40. opportune, 41. cavalry, 42. opportune, 43. promenade

44. 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
45. gr____y desires *v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite
46. st____e through life *v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily
47. awake from re____e *n.* a state of thinking about pleasant things; a daydream; absentminded dreaming while awake
48. pr____de in the park *n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
49. em___y a spirit of charity *v.* to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea
50. g__p air *v.* to swallow quickly and forcefully; to take in a large amount of air or liquid quickly and audibly because of surprise, fear, or excitement
51. gr____y curiosity *v.* to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite

ANSWERS: 44. rev, 45. gratify, 46. stumble, 47. reverie, 48. promenade, 49. embody, 50. gulp, 51. gratify

52. so____le gathering *adj.* being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others
53. la____t the situation *v.* to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning
54. st____e climate *n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America
55. re____h painting *v.* to touch up or make small changes to a photograph, painting, or other images using digital or manual tools
56. ps____e healing *n.* the human soul, mind, or spirit
57. ex____e the crowd *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
58. baseless pre____on *n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
59. un____g the power cord *v.* to disconnect the plug of electrical equipment from the electricity supply
60. di____b his sleep *v.* to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.

ANSWERS: 52. sociable, 53. lament, 54. steppe, 55. retouch, 56. psyche, 57. excite, 58. pretension, 59. unplug, 60. disturb

61. French pa____x *n.* a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;
62. di____se with ceremony *v.* to distribute, allocate, or deliver something to the intended recipients
63. ex____e rebellion *v.* to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager
64. on terms of in____cy *n.* close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person
65. wr____h my back *v.* to pull or twist something suddenly or violently
66. barren st____e *n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America
67. enjoyment of so____de *n.* the state of being alone and isolated from others
68. cu____te a field *v.* to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants
69. g__p water *v.* to swallow quickly and forcefully; to take in a large amount of air or liquid quickly and audibly because of surprise, fear, or excitement

ANSWERS: 61. paradox, 62. dispense, 63. excite, 64. intimacy, 65. wrench, 66. steppe, 67. solitude, 68. cultivate, 69. gulp

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The pharmacist started to _____ medication to patients.
 - v. to distribute, allocate, or deliver something to the intended recipients

2. 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

3. 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

4. I always try to _____ my boss by achieving the sales target every month.
 - v. to give pleasure or satisfaction to; to provide someone with what they want or need; to indulge or satisfy a desire or appetite

5. The therapist helped her understand the workings of her _____ and how to cope with her anxiety.
 - n. the human soul, mind, or spirit

6. A deep sigh was _____ from his chest.
 - v. to pull or twist something suddenly or violently

7. If you leave the milk out of the refrigerator for too long, it will _____.
 - v. to ruin the taste, appearance, or quality of something; to become or cause something to become rotten or bad

ANSWERS: 1. dispense, 2. rev, 3. retouched, 4. gratify, 5. psyche, 6. wrenched, 7. spoil

8. His _____ of being a gourmet were quickly exposed when he could not identify basic herbs and spices.
- n.* the act of claiming or asserting something, especially without good reason or without evidence; an unfounded or excessive claim or ambition
9. He sought _____ in the wilderness to escape the distractions of modern life.
- n.* the state of being alone and isolated from others
10. The boardwalk by the beach was a beautiful _____ for tourists and locals alike.
- n.* a stroll or walk, often taken in a public place or park; a public place for walking or strolling, often filled with shops or vendors; a dance movement in which the partners move around the floor in a circle or similar pattern
11. The _____ regrouped and launched another attack.
- n.* a highly mobile army unit
12. The hero was able to _____ the monster with a single blow.
- v.* to strike with a heavy blow or weapon; to defeat or conquer decisively; to afflict with sudden or severe pain or affliction
13. He had to _____ down his coffee before rushing to work.
- v.* to swallow quickly and forcefully; to take in a large amount of air or liquid quickly and audibly because of surprise, fear, or excitement
14. Please _____ the heater before you go to bed.
- v.* to disconnect the plug of electrical equipment from the electricity supply
15. They were looking for _____ in their relationship and wanted to be close to each other.
- n.* close familiarity or friendship; a close, familiar, and usually affectionate or loving personal relationship with another person

ANSWERS: 8. pretensions, 9. solitude, 10. promenade, 11. cavalry, 12. smite, 13. gulp, 14. unplug, 15. intimacy

16. The test results break his _____.

- n.* a state of thinking about pleasant things; a daydream; absentminded dreaming while awake

17. She _____ over the tree root.

- v.* to miss a step and fall or nearly fall; to walk unsteadily

18. University is a great place to _____ our minds and expertise.

- v.* to prepare and foster land for growing crops or plants

19. _____ is also necessary to understand history.

- n.* the ability to share another person's feelings or experiences by imagining that person's situation

20. The nomadic tribes set up camp on the vast _____.

- n.* a vast, wide, and usually treeless plain, typically found in semi-arid or arid regions, characterized by fertile soil and grassy vegetation, often used for grazing livestock; an expansive and open grassland ecosystem found in Eurasia and North America

21. He humbly _____ his conduct.

- v.* to think about a decision or opinion again to

22. He _____ his tea slowly, savoring the taste.

- v.* to drink a liquid by taking small mouthfuls; (noun) a small drink

23. We could hear the _____ of baby birds.

- n.* a short, high sound made by a small bird; a message sent using Twitter, the social media application

ANSWERS: 16. reverie, 17. stumbled, 18. cultivate, 19. Empathy, 20. steppe, 21. reconsidered, 22. sipped, 23. tweet

24. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose

25. The news of her promotion _____ her.

v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

26. You may be entitled to _____ some tax.

v. to take back something previously lost, given, or paid, or ask to have it back

27. The _____ beneath the soil is extremely solid and stable.

n. the solid rock underlying soil or alluvium

28. Tourists frequently _____ the island's delicate natural balance.

v. to interrupt someone who is trying to work, sleep, etc.

29. The company's new products _____ the values of innovation and sustainability.

v. to represent or exemplify something; to give tangible form to an abstract idea

30. There are many theories to explain this _____.

n. a statement, situation, or person that has two opposite facts or features and therefore seems impossible, is difficult to understand, or is strange;

31. She is a very _____ person who loves meeting new people.

adj. being friendly, outgoing, and inclined to engage in social activities or interactions; enjoying the company of others

32. Internet traffic volumes have increased significantly with the advent of _____.

n. a mobile phone that functions as a computer and connects to the Internet

ANSWERS: 24. opportune, 25. excited, 26. reclaim, 27. bedrock, 28. disturb, 29. embody, 30. paradox, 31. sociable, 32. smartphones

33. He had a _____ look in his eyes as he remembered the past.

adj. expressing a feeling of vague, sad, or inconsolable longing

34. She _____ the loss of her beloved cat.

v. to express sadness, grief, or disappointment about something, often by complaining or mourning

35. He _____ with his pen while waiting for the interview to begin.

v. to make small, restless movements; to be unable to sit still

36. The video telephony application has _____ the way we work.

v. to change the meaning or interpretation of something; to make people think about something in a new or different way

ANSWERS: 33. wistful, 34. lamented, 35. fidgeted, 36. redefined