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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Edith Widder: How we found the giant squid | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

kraken

n. a legendary sea monster of enormous size and strength, typically described as having multiple arms or tentacles

synonym : giant squid, sea monster

(1) **kraken** mythology, (2) giant **kraken**

The legendary **kraken** was said to have the ability to sink ships.

terrifying

adj. very frightening or intimidating

synonym : frightening, intimidating, alarming

(1) **terrifying** experience, (2) **terrifying** events

Large earthquakes often generate **terrifying** tsunamis.

devour

v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

synonym : consume, swallow, destroy

(1) **devour** a meal, (2) **devour** my way

She **devoured** the mystery novel in one sitting.

fairytale

n. a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals

synonym : fable, myth, legend

(1) **fairytale** romance, (2) popular **fairytale**

The children's book was a **fairytale** about a princess and her journey to find true love.

unobtrusive

adj. not conspicuous or noticeable, especially in a way that is intended to avoid attracting attention or causing disruption; not interfering or obstructing

synonym : inconspicuous, unnoticed, subtle

(1) **unobtrusive** design, (2) **unobtrusive** presence

The security cameras were designed to be **unobtrusive** and blend in with their surroundings.

lure

v. to tempt or persuade someone to do something

synonym : tempt, entice, attract

(1) **lure** prey, (2) **lure** foreign investment

The salesperson used a special offer to **lure** customers into buying the product.

submersible

adj. able to be operated or used underwater; capable of being submerged in water or other liquid

synonym : submarine, underwater, submerged

(1) **submersible** pump, (2) **submersible** cable

The **submersible** vehicle can explore the depths of the ocean.

propulsion

n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means

synonym : propelling, driving, actuation

(1) **propulsion** technology, (2) nuclear **propulsion**

The spacecraft's **propulsion** system helped it travel through space.

hydrophone

n. a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance

synonym : underwater microphone, acoustic sensor, sonar receiver

(1) deep-sea **hydrophone**, (2) **hydrophone** sensor
The military uses **hydrophones** for underwater surveillance and communication.

whir

v. to make a low, continuous, and often rhythmic sound, similar to the sound of a machine or a motor rotating at high speed; (noun) a low, continuous sound that is produced by something rotating quickly or moving rapidly through the air

synonym: whizz, buzz, hum

(1) **whir** up and down, (2) machines **whirring**

The sound of the engine **whirred** as the plane took off.

beep

v. to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

synonym: bleep, honk, buzz

(1) **beep** out a warning, (2) **beep** the horn

The timer **beeped**, reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.

illumination

n. light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment

synonym: light, luminosity, brightness

(1) starry **illumination**, (2) indirect **illumination**

The skylight will give adequate **illumination** from above.

jellyfish

n. a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging

synonym: medusa, sea nettle, moon jelly

(1) spineless **jellyfish**, (2) **jellyfish** sting

The beach was filled with hundreds of **jellyfish**, so swimming was not recommended.

imitate

v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

synonym: mimic, emulate, replicate

(1) **imitate** painting styles, (2) **imitate** animal sounds

He **imitated** the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

luminescent

adj. emitting light or glowing softly, often without heat; having the ability to produce or emit light, especially through chemical reactions or by absorbing and then releasing energy

synonym: glowing, radiant, shining

(1) soft **luminescent** glow, (2) mesmerizing **luminescent** effect

The **luminescent** stars illuminated the night sky.

pinwheel

n. a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire

(1) a toy **pinwheel**, (2) **pinwheel** windmill

He spun the **pinwheel**, and it stopped with the pointer on five.

burglar

n. a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime

synonym: thief, robber, intruder

(1) ex-convict **burglar**, (2) caught the **burglar**

The skilled **burglar** bypassed the alarm system and entered the house without making a sound.

chew

v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

synonym: masticate, crush, grind

(1) **chew** each word, (2) **chew** a stick of gum

My dog loves to **chew** on bones.

predator

n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others

synonym: vulture, bloodsucker

(1) apex **predator**, (2) sexual **predators**

The native South American animals were in danger because

of the **predator's** arrival.

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.

garner

v. to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention

synonym: acquire, collect, obtain

(1) **garner** good reviews, (2) **garner** attention

He used his charm and charisma to **garner** support for his campaign.

tease

v. to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

synonym: bully, annoy, provoke

(1) **tease** the children, (2) **tease** wool

This ad is intended to **tease** a competing product.

narrator

n. a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film

synonym: teller, storyteller

(1) first-person **narrator**, (2) the **narrator** of the TV program

The **narrator** makes use of the local dialect.

diamondback

n. a venomous snake found in North and Central America, characterized by the diamond-shaped or diamond-like pattern on its skin, particularly on its back

synonym: rattlesnake, serpent, viper

(1) Eastern **diamondback**, (2) **diamondback's** venom

The **diamondback** rattlesnake is a common venomous snake in many parts of North America.

jig

n. a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool

synonym: dance, reel, minuet

(1) dancing a **jig**, (2) **jig** grinding machine

The traditional Irish **jig** is a lively folk dance involving much footwork.

longline

n. a type of fishing gear consisting of a long main line with many smaller baited lines attached to it at intervals; a type of clothing or fashion style that is distinguished by long, flowing lines and loose, comfortable shapes

(1) fishing **longline**, (2) **longline** buoy

Longline fishing gear has been criticized for its impact on marine ecosystems.

intensify

v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength

synonym: amplify, boost, strengthen

(1) **intensify** diplomatic efforts, (2) **intensify** a good relationship

Rebels have pledged to **intensify** the armed struggle against the dictatorship.

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.

flashlight

n. a portable electric light with a handle and a switch that can be turned on and off

synonym: torch, lamp, beacon

(1) **flashlight** beam, (2) **flashlight** batteries

He used a backup **flashlight** to find his way through the dark cave.

misty

adj. characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought

synonym : hazy, foggy, blurred

(1) **misty** intention, (2) **misty** forest

The **misty** morning made it hard to see the road ahead.

tentacle

n. a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving

(1) a squid's **tentacle**, (2) posterior **tentacle**

The police caught the fugitive criminal in the **tentacles** of an expanded investigation.

Session 2: Spelling

- | | | |
|----------------------------|------|---|
| 1. ex___e rebellion | v. | to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 2. giant kr___n | n. | a legendary sea monster of enormous size and strength, typically described as having multiple arms or tentacles |
| 3. spineless je_____sh | n. | a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging |
| 4. a squid's te_____le | n. | a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving |
| 5. b__p out a warning | v. | to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning |
| 6. an op_____ne remark | adj. | suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose |
| 7. caught the bu_____r | n. | a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime |
| 8. kr___n mythology | n. | a legendary sea monster of enormous size and strength, typically described as having multiple arms or tentacles |
| 9. c__w a stick of gum | v. | to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it |
| 10. ex___e the crowd | v. | to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager |
| 11. first-person na_____or | n. | a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film |

ANSWERS: 1. excite, 2. kraken, 3. jellyfish, 4. tentacle, 5. beep, 6. opportune, 7. burglar, 8. kraken, 9. chew, 10. excite, 11. narrator

12. the na_____or of the TV program *n.* a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
13. sexual pr_____ors *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
14. l__e prey *v.* to tempt or persuade someone to do something
15. ga___r attention *v.* to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention
16. nuclear pro_____on *n.* the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means
17. de___r my way *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
18. deep-sea hyd_____ne *n.* a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance
19. uno_____ve design *adj.* not conspicuous or noticeable, especially in a way that is intended to avoid attracting attention or causing disruption; not interfering or obstructing
20. im_____e animal sounds *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
21. soft lum_____nt glow *adj.* emitting light or glowing softly, often without heat; having the ability to produce or emit light, especially through chemical reactions or by absorbing and then releasing energy

ANSWERS: 12. narrator, 13. predator, 14. lure, 15. garner, 16. propulsion, 17. devour, 18. hydrophone, 19. unobtrusive, 20. imitate, 21. luminescent

22. in_____fy diplomatic efforts *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
23. indirect ill_____ion *n.* light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment
24. l__e foreign investment *v.* to tempt or persuade someone to do something
25. fla_____ht batteries *n.* a portable electric light with a handle and a switch that can be turned on and off
26. dia_____ck's venom *n.* a venomous snake found in North and Central America, characterized by the diamond-shaped or diamond-like pattern on its skin, particularly on its back
27. je_____sh sting *n.* a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging
28. im_____e painting styles *v.* to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something
29. ter_____ng experience *adj.* very frightening or intimidating
30. te__e the children *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
31. popular fa_____le *n.* a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals

ANSWERS: 22. intensify, 23. illumination, 24. lure, 25. flashlight, 26. diamondback, 27. jellyfish, 28. imitate, 29. terrifying, 30. tease, 31. fairytale

32. in_____fy a good relationship *v.* to increase or make something increase in extent or strength
33. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
34. fla_____ht beam *n.* a portable electric light with a handle and a switch that can be turned on and off
35. lo_____ne buoy *n.* a type of fishing gear consisting of a long main line with many smaller baited lines attached to it at intervals; a type of clothing or fashion style that is distinguished by long, flowing lines and loose, comfortable shapes
36. j_g grinding machine *n.* a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool
37. pi_____el windmill *n.* a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire
38. mi__y forest *adj.* characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought
39. mesmerizing lum_____nt effect *adj.* emitting light or glowing softly, often without heat; having the ability to produce or emit light, especially through chemical reactions or by absorbing and then releasing energy

ANSWERS: 32. intensify, 33. opportune, 34. flashlight, 35. longline, 36. jig, 37. pinwheel, 38. misty, 39. luminescent

40. fa_____le romance *n.* a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals
41. de___r a meal *v.* to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly
42. sub_____le pump *adj.* able to be operated or used underwater; capable of being submerged in water or other liquid
43. hyd_____ne sensor *n.* a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance
44. apex pr_____or *n.* an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
45. fishing lo_____ne *n.* a type of fishing gear consisting of a long main line with many smaller baited lines attached to it at intervals; a type of clothing or fashion style that is distinguished by long, flowing lines and loose, comfortable shapes
46. ga___r good reviews *v.* to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention
47. ex-convict bu_____r *n.* a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime
48. starry ill_____ion *n.* light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment

ANSWERS: 40. fairytale, 41. devour, 42. submersible, 43. hydrophone, 44. predator, 45. longline, 46. garner, 47. burglar, 48. illumination

49. uno_____ve presence *adj.* not conspicuous or noticeable, especially in a way that is intended to avoid attracting attention or causing disruption; not interfering or obstructing
50. sub_____le cable *adj.* able to be operated or used underwater; capable of being submerged in water or other liquid
51. te__e wool *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
52. mi__y intention *adj.* characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought
53. b__p the horn *v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning
54. dancing a j_g *n.* a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool
55. c__w each word *v.* to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it
56. a toy pi_____el *n.* a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire
57. ter_____ng events *adj.* very frightening or intimidating

ANSWERS: 49. unobtrusive, 50. submersible, 51. tease, 52. misty, 53. beep, 54. jig, 55. chew, 56. pinwheel, 57. terrifying

58. w__r up and down
- v. to make a low, continuous, and often rhythmic sound, similar to the sound of a machine or a motor rotating at high speed; (noun) a low, continuous sound that is produced by something rotating quickly or moving rapidly through the air
59. machines w__ring
- v. to make a low, continuous, and often rhythmic sound, similar to the sound of a machine or a motor rotating at high speed; (noun) a low, continuous sound that is produced by something rotating quickly or moving rapidly through the air
60. pro_____on technology
- n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means
61. Eastern dia_____ck
- n. a venomous snake found in North and Central America, characterized by the diamond-shaped or diamond-like pattern on its skin, particularly on its back
62. posterior te_____le
- n. a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving

ANSWERS: 58. whir, 59. whir, 60. propulsion, 61. diamondback, 62. tentacle

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ vehicle can explore the depths of the ocean.
adj. able to be operated or used underwater; capable of being submerged in water or other liquid
2. The military uses _____ for underwater surveillance and communication.
n. a device used to detect and analyze sound waves in water, typically used for underwater acoustics research, sonar systems, or underwater surveillance
3. The beach was filled with hundreds of _____ so swimming was not recommended.
n. a marine creature with a soft, jelly-like body and tentacles for stinging
4. The skilled _____ bypassed the alarm system and entered the house without making a sound.
n. a person who unlawfully enters a building or other property to steal or commit another crime
5. The native South American animals were in danger because of the _____ arrival.
n. an animal whose natural behavior is to prey on others
6. The spacecraft's _____ system helped it travel through space.
n. the act or process of propelling or driving something forward, often using a motor, engine, or other mechanical means
7. The news of her promotion _____ her.
v. to make someone feel suddenly enthusiastic or eager

ANSWERS: 1. submersible, 2. hydrophones, 3. jellyfish, 4. burglar, 5. predator's, 6. propulsion, 7. excited

8. The phone rang at the most _____ time.

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

9. She _____ the mystery novel in one sitting.

v. to eat or consume something eagerly or ravenously; or to destroy something rapidly

10. The _____ rattlesnake is a common venomous snake in many parts of North America.

n. a venomous snake found in North and Central America, characterized by the diamond-shaped or diamond-like pattern on its skin, particularly on its back

11. The security cameras were designed to be _____ and blend in with their surroundings.

adj. not conspicuous or noticeable, especially in a way that is intended to avoid attracting attention or causing disruption; not interfering or obstructing

12. The _____ stars illuminated the night sky.

adj. emitting light or glowing softly, often without heat; having the ability to produce or emit light, especially through chemical reactions or by absorbing and then releasing energy

13. The legendary _____ was said to have the ability to sink ships.

n. a legendary sea monster of enormous size and strength, typically described as having multiple arms or tentacles

14. _____ fishing gear has been criticized for its impact on marine ecosystems.

n. a type of fishing gear consisting of a long main line with many smaller baited lines attached to it at intervals; a type of clothing or fashion style that is distinguished by long, flowing lines and loose, comfortable shapes

ANSWERS: 8. opportune, 9. devoured, 10. diamondback, 11. unobtrusive, 12. luminescent, 13. kraken, 14. Longline

15. He spun the _____ and it stopped with the pointer on five.
- n.* a toy consisting of curved and colored paper or plastic that is pinned to a stick and spins when you blow on it; a circular firework that spins round and round, emitting colorful fire
16. The _____ makes use of the local dialect.
- n.* a person who tells a story, especially in a book or film
17. The police caught the fugitive criminal in the _____ of an expanded investigation.
- n.* a flexible, mobile, and long arm-like organ used for feeling and holding things, catching food, or moving
18. Large earthquakes often generate _____ tsunamis.
- adj.* very frightening or intimidating
19. He used a backup _____ to find his way through the dark cave.
- n.* a portable electric light with a handle and a switch that can be turned on and off
20. The skylight will give adequate _____ from above.
- n.* light or source of light; the degree of visibility of your environment
21. This ad is intended to _____ a competing product.
- v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
22. The timer _____ reminding me that the cake was ready to come out of the oven.
- v.* to make a short, high-pitched sound, typically as a signal or warning

ANSWERS: 15. pinwheel, 16. narrator, 17. tentacles, 18. terrifying, 19. flashlight, 20. illumination, 21. tease, 22. beeped,

23. My dog loves to _____ on bones.

- v. to crush or grind something, especially food, with the teeth and then swallow it

24. He _____ the modus operandi of the famous phantom thief.

- v. to copy the speech, behavior, appearance, etc. of someone or something

25. The _____ morning made it hard to see the road ahead.

- adj. characterized by, obscured by, or enveloped in mist or fog; hazy or unclear, often referring to the quality of a memory or thought

26. Rebels have pledged to _____ the armed struggle against the dictatorship.

- v. to increase or make something increase in extent or strength

27. The traditional Irish _____ is a lively folk dance involving much footwork.

- n. a lively dance with a fast tempo and typically involving hopping movements; a device or tool used for guiding or directing a cutting or drilling tool

28. He used his charm and charisma to _____ support for his campaign.

- v. to acquire or accumulate something through effort or attention

29. The sound of the engine _____ as the plane took off.

- v. to make a low, continuous, and often rhythmic sound, similar to the sound of a machine or a motor rotating at high speed; (noun) a low, continuous sound that is produced by something rotating quickly or moving rapidly through the air

30. The salesperson used a special offer to _____ customers into buying the product.

- v. to tempt or persuade someone to do something

31. The children's book was a _____ about a princess and her journey to find true love.

- n. a type of story that typically involves magic, traditional folklore, or fantastical elements; often features talking animals, enchanted objects, and heroic characters who overcome obstacles to achieve their goals

ANSWERS: 23. chew, 24. imitated, 25. misty, 26. intensify, 27. jig, 28. garner, 29. whirred, 30. lure, 31. fairytale

ANSWERS: