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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Kakenya Ntaiya: A girl who demanded school | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

moth

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

(1) **moth** larva, (2) **moth** attracted to the light

The **moth** is a serious threat to the farm's output.

puberty

n. the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction

synonym : adolescence, young adulthood

(1) at the height of **puberty** ., (2) the onset of **puberty**

In this culture, men are initiated when they reach **puberty**.

passee

adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

synonym : outdated, old-fashioned, antique

(1) **passee** entertainment, (2) **passee** trend

Bell-bottom jeans, once considered **passee** fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.

sibling

n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

synonym : brother, sister, relative

(1) have a **sibling** quarrel, (2) play with my **siblings**

Children often copy their parents or elder **siblings**.

firewood

n. wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes

synonym: fire logs, fire sticks, kindling

(1) chop **firewood**, (2) stacks of **firewood**

My neighbor gave me some extra **firewood** from their own supply.

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.

determinant

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

synonym: cause, factor, element

(1) environmental **determinant**, (2) a **determinant** of crop yields

One **determinant** of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

rite

n. a formal or ceremonial act or set of acts performed in a traditional or prescribed way; a religious or spiritual ceremony or practice

synonym: ceremony, ritual, practice

(1) perform the **rite**, (2) **rite** of passage into adulthood

The bishop performed the **rite** of consecration for the new church.

womanhood

n. the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman

synonym: femininity, womanliness, womanly nature

(1) **womanhood** experience, (2) embrace **womanhood**

The celebration of **womanhood** is often disregarded in male-dominated industries.

crossroad

n. a place where two or more roads or paths cross or intersect; a point of decision or choice, often involving significant consequences

synonym : intersection, junction, fork

(1) critical **crossroad**, (2) major **crossroad**

I'm at a career **crossroads** and unsure which path to take.

stigma

n. a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

synonym : mark, blemish, disgrace

(1) social **stigma**, (2) **stigma** against obesity

The mental health **stigma** often prevents people from seeking treatment.

sham

n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not

synonym : bogus, counterfeit, fraudulent

(1) a **sham** battle, (2) turn out to be all **sham**

The data he prepared was completely **sham**.

courtyard

n. an open space surrounded by buildings or walls, often in the center of a building or group of buildings

synonym : patio, garden, atrium

(1) quiet **courtyard**, (2) spacious **courtyard**

The hotel's beautiful **courtyard** was the perfect spot for a wedding reception.

clitoral

adj. relating to or involving the clitoris, a sensitive organ in female sexual anatomy that is key to sexual pleasure

synonym : vaginal, vulval, genital

(1) **clitoral** hood, (2) **clitoral** orgasm

Some women report increased sexual pleasure from **clitoral** stimulation.

aft *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

(1) **aft** cabin, (2) **aft** view

The **aft** section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

anesthesia *n.* a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes

(1) **anesthesia** for surgery, (2) local **anesthesia**

He is in general **anesthesia** under the surgeon.

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.

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.

pave *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use

synonym: surface, coat, cover

(1) **pave** a new path, (2) **pave** a smoother road

They **paved** the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.

dictate *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded

synonym: read out, prescribe, order

(1) **dictate** a letter to secretary, (2) **dictate** to the associate

The allies **dictated** the terms of surrender to the country.

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.

cafeteria

n. a restaurant where customers serve themselves from a counter and pay for what they have taken, often found in factories, colleges, hospitals, etc.

synonym : canteen, mess hall, restaurant

(1) **cafeteria** lunch, (2) office **cafeteria**

The university's **cafeteria** was busy with students and staff grabbing a quick lunch.

genital

adj. of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs

synonym : reproductive, genetic, sexual

(1) **genital** bleeding, (2) pain in the **genital** area

The **genital** organs of the human body are necessary for reproduction.

mutilation

n. the act of severely damaging or injuring a person's body or body part, particularly through cutting or disfiguring; the condition of being so damaged or disfigured

synonym : disfigurement, dismemberment, amputation

(1) **mutilation** crime, (2) physical **mutilation**

The **mutilation** of the artwork was a devastating loss for the artist.

mutilate

v. to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably

synonym : maim, disfigure, deform

(1) **mutilate** a document, (2) **mutilate** a body

It is cruel for anyone to **mutilate** an animal for any reason.

pun *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
synonym : joke, quip, wordplay
(1) witty **pun**, (2) silly **pun**
The comedian's **pun** had the audience laughing out loud.

orphan *n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
synonym : waif, stray, fatherless child
(1) **orphan** care, (2) asylum for **orphan** children
The little girl was a war **orphan** and lived in a group home.

fearless *adj.* having no fear; brave
synonym : brave, courageous, daring
(1) **fearless** attitude, (2) **fearless** bravery
The **fearless** firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child.

grandchild *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
synonym : offspring, descendant, progeny
(1) **grandchild-grandparent** relationship, (2) **grandchild** development
The grandparents take care of their **grandchild** while the parents are at work.

Session 2: Spelling

1. major cr_____ad
n. a place where two or more roads or paths cross or intersect; a point of decision or choice, often involving significant consequences
2. local ane_____ia
n. a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes
3. a s__m battle
n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
4. environmental det_____nt
n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
5. quiet co_____rd
n. an open space surrounded by buildings or walls, often in the center of a building or group of buildings
6. 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
7. or___n care
n. a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
8. m__h larva
n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

ANSWERS: 1. crossroad, 2. anesthesia, 3. sham, 4. determinant, 5. courtyard, 6. rusty, 7. orphan, 8. moth

9. perform the r__e *n.* a formal or ceremonial act or set of acts performed in a traditional or prescribed way; a religious or spiritual ceremony or practice
10. a w__t of summons *n.* a written legal order or command
11. r__e of passage into adulthood *n.* a formal or ceremonial act or set of acts performed in a traditional or prescribed way; a religious or spiritual ceremony or practice
12. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
13. p__e a new path *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
14. m__h attracted to the light *n.* an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light
15. the onset of pu_____y *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
16. office ca_____ia *n.* a restaurant where customers serve themselves from a counter and pay for what they have taken, often found in factories, colleges, hospitals, etc.
17. ane_____ia for surgery *n.* a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes

ANSWERS: 9. rite, 10. writ, 11. rite, 12. opportune, 13. pave, 14. moth, 15. puberty, 16. cafeteria, 17. anesthesia

18. silly p_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
19. have a si_____g quarrel *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
20. j__n denim *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
21. op_____ne occasion *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
22. issue a w__t *n.* a written legal order or command
23. mu_____te a document *v.* to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably
24. cl_____al hood *adj.* relating to or involving the clitoris, a sensitive organ in female sexual anatomy that is key to sexual pleasure
25. chop fi_____od *n.* wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes
26. critical cr_____ad *n.* a place where two or more roads or paths cross or intersect; a point of decision or choice, often involving significant consequences
27. pa__e trend *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
28. st___a against obesity *n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

ANSWERS: 18. pun, 19. sibling, 20. jean, 21. opportune, 22. writ, 23. mutilate, 24. clitoral, 25. firewood, 26. crossroad, 27. passe, 28. stigma

29. social st___a *n.* a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person
30. spacious co_____rd *n.* an open space surrounded by buildings or walls, often in the center of a building or group of buildings
31. mu_____te a body *v.* to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably
32. gra_____ld-grandparent relationship *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
33. a_t cabin *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
34. di_____e to the associate *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
35. pain in the ge_____l area *adj.* of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs
36. ge_____l bleeding *adj.* of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs
37. a det_____nt of crop yields *n.* a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result
38. play with my si_____gs *n.* a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents
39. mut_____on crime *n.* the act of severely damaging or injuring a person's body or body part, particularly through cutting or disfiguring; the condition of being so damaged or disfigured

ANSWERS: 29. stigma, 30. courtyard, 31. mutilate, 32. grandchild, 33. aft, 34. dictate, 35. genital, 36. genital, 37. determinant, 38. sibling, 39. mutilation

40. cl_____al orgasm *adj.* relating to or involving the clitoris, a sensitive organ in female sexual anatomy that is key to sexual pleasure
41. at the height of pu_____y. *n.* the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
42. a j___n skirt *n.* a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
43. witty p_n *n.* a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
44. ca_____ia lunch *n.* a restaurant where customers serve themselves from a counter and pay for what they have taken, often found in factories, colleges, hospitals, etc.
45. a_t view *adj.* (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
46. di_____e a letter to secretary *v.* to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
47. pa__e entertainment *adj.* no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
48. physical mut_____on *n.* the act of severely damaging or injuring a person's body or body part, particularly through cutting or disfiguring; the condition of being so damaged or disfigured

ANSWERS: 40. clitoral, 41. puberty, 42. jean, 43. pun, 44. cafeteria, 45. aft, 46. dictate, 47. passe, 48. mutilation

49. gra_____ld development *n.* a child of someone's son or daughter
50. turn out to be all s__m *n.* something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
51. asylum for or___n children *n.* a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
52. stacks of fi_____od *n.* wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes
53. p__e a smoother road *v.* to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
54. embrace wo_____od *n.* the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman
55. fe_____ss attitude *adj.* having no fear; brave
56. fe_____ss bravery *adj.* having no fear; brave
57. wo_____od experience *n.* the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman
58. 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

ANSWERS: 49. grandchild, 50. sham, 51. orphan, 52. firewood, 53. pave, 54. womanhood, 55. fearless, 56. fearless, 57. womanhood, 58. rusty

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The _____ of the artwork was a devastating loss for the artist.
n. the act of severely damaging or injuring a person's body or body part, particularly through cutting or disfiguring; the condition of being so damaged or disfigured
2. They _____ the courtyard with bricks, giving it a more polished appearance.
v. to cover something with a hard, flat material such as stones, bricks, or concrete, to make it suitable for travel or use
3. The grandparents take care of their _____ while the parents are at work.
n. a child of someone's son or daughter
4. It is cruel for anyone to _____ an animal for any reason.
v. to cause severe damage, disfigurement, or injury, usually to a person or an animal; to destroy, alter, or damage something severely or irreparably
5. She wore her favorite pair of _____ to the party.
n. a sturdy cotton twill fabric, typically blue, used for jeans and other clothing
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. Children often copy their parents or elder _____.
n. a brother or sister; member of a family born to the same parents

ANSWERS: 1. mutilation, 2. paved, 3. grandchild, 4. mutilate, 5. jeans, 6. rusty, 7. siblings

8. My neighbor gave me some extra _____ from their own supply.
n. wood used as fuel for fires, particularly for heating, cooking, or other purposes
9. The bishop performed the _____ of consecration for the new church.
n. a formal or ceremonial act or set of acts performed in a traditional or prescribed way; a religious or spiritual ceremony or practice
10. The comedian's _____ had the audience laughing out loud.
n. a humorous play on words or use of words that sound similar but have different meanings, often for a comedic effect; a form of wordplay
11. Bell-bottom jeans, once considered _____ fashion, have made a surprising comeback in recent years.
adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
12. In this culture, men are initiated when they reach _____.
n. the process of a person's physical changes through which their sexual organs develop and become capable of reproduction
13. The allies _____ the terms of surrender to the country.
v. to state or give order with total authority; to say or read aloud for somebody else to write down or to be recorded
14. He is in general _____ under the surgeon.
n. a state of controlled, temporary loss of bodily sensation or awareness that is induced for medical purposes
15. The university's _____ was busy with students and staff grabbing a quick lunch.
n. a restaurant where customers serve themselves from a counter and pay for what they have taken, often found in factories, colleges, hospitals, etc.

ANSWERS: 8. firewood, 9. rite, 10. pun, 11. passe, 12. puberty, 13. dictated, 14. anesthesia, 15. cafeteria

16. I'm at a career _____ and unsure which path to take.
n. a place where two or more roads or paths cross or intersect; a point of decision or choice, often involving significant consequences
17. The celebration of _____ is often disregarded in male-dominated industries.
n. the state or condition of being an adult female; a term used to describe the social and cultural aspects of being a woman
18. The _____ organs of the human body are necessary for reproduction.
adj. of or relating to the external and internal reproductive organs
19. The data he prepared was completely _____.
n. something that is not as good or true as it seems to be and is intended to deceive people; a person who pretends to be something they are not
20. The hotel's beautiful _____ was the perfect spot for a wedding reception.
n. an open space surrounded by buildings or walls, often in the center of a building or group of buildings
21. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
22. The little girl was a war _____ and lived in a group home.
n. a child whose parents are dead or have abandoned them
23. The _____ firefighter rushed into the burning building to save a trapped child.
adj. having no fear; brave

ANSWERS: 16. crossroads, 17. womanhood, 18. genital, 19. sham, 20. courtyard, 21. opportune, 22. orphan, 23. fearless

24. Some women report increased sexual pleasure from _____ stimulation.

adj. relating to or involving the clitoris, a sensitive organ in female sexual anatomy that is key to sexual pleasure

25. The ____ section of the ship suffered significant damage after the collision with the reef.

adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle

26. The mental health _____ often prevents people from seeking treatment.

n. a mark of shame or disgrace associated with a particular circumstance, quality, or person

27. One _____ of success is having a positive attitude and a strong work ethic.

n. a factor, circumstance, or condition that contributes to the shaping, influencing, or determining of a particular outcome or result

28. The ____ is a serious threat to the farm's output.

n. an insect with wings similar to a butterfly that travels at night and is attracted to light

29. He was served with a _____ of eviction, giving him the notice to vacate the property.

n. a written legal order or command

ANSWERS: 24. clitoral, 25. aft, 26. stigma, 27. determinant, 28. moth, 29. writ