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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Justin Hall-Tipping: Freeing energy from the grid |

TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

iceberg

n. a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier

synonym : glacier, ice mass, floe

(1) hit an **iceberg**, (2) **iceberg** melting

The ship encountered a series of **icebergs** and had to change its course.

gigaton

n. a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons

(1) **gigaton-class** bomb, (2) half a **gigaton** of CO₂

The earthquake that hit the Pacific Ocean last night is said to have released about 30 **gigatons** of energy.

humming

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

synonym : buzzing, droning, vibrating

(1) **humming** sound, (2) **humming** bird

The **humming** of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

unwind

v. to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or

twisting of something

synonym : relax, de-stress, unroll

(1) **unwind** after work, (2) **unwind** on vacation

I like to **unwind** with a good book after a long day at work.

nanoscale

adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

(1) **nanoscale** device, (2) things at the **nanoscale**

This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the **nanoscale** lattice structure of the metal.

worthless

adj. having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

synonym : valueless, useless, pointless

(1) **worthless** stock, (2) **worthless** coin

The product was found to be **worthless** as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

subtraction

n. the process or action of removing one number from another; the mathematical operation of finding the difference between two numbers or quantities

synonym : deduction, minus, withdrawal

(1) **subtraction** equation, (2) double-digit **subtraction**

The **subtraction** of expenses from revenue resulted in a net profit for the company.

cheaply

adv. in a stingy or inexpensive manner

synonym : inexpensively, tattily, stingily

(1) **cheaply** available, (2) buy stock **cheaply**

You can live very **cheaply** in Southeast Asia.

flick

v. to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement

synonym : snap, tap, flip

(1) **flicker** candle, (2) **flick** through pages

He **flicked** the light switch, and the room was illuminated.

graphite

n. a soft, black, lustrous form of carbon that is conductive and used as a lubricant and in pencils and electrodes in electrical devices

synonym : carbon, black lead, plumbago

(1) **graphite** pencil, (2) **graphite** mine

The **graphite** in the brake pads helps to reduce friction during braking.

condense

v. to reduce the volume or size of something, often by removing water or other liquid; to make something shorter, more concise, or more concentrated

synonym : compress, compact, shorten

(1) **condense** the text, (2) **condense** water vapor

I need to **condense** all of my notes into a manageable summary for my presentation.

chickenwire

n. (also known as "poultry netting") a type of woven wire mesh made of thin galvanized steel or other materials, typically used in construction, fencing, or as a protective barrier

synonym : hex netting, mesh fencing, poultry netting

(1) **chickenwire** netting, (2) **chickenwire** mesh

The chicken coop was built using sturdy **chickenwire** to keep the chickens safe.

nanotube

n. a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science

(1) **nanotube** technology, (2) metallic **nanotube**

Carbon **nanotubes** are used in various fields of science and technology due to their unique properties.

conductivity

n. the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.

synonym : conduction

(1) low **conductivity**, (2) electrical **conductivity**

High thermal **conductivity** is also essential for the exterior of the machine.

affix

v. to attach or add something to something else

synonym : attach, paste, stick

(1) **affix** a label, (2) **affix** a seal to a document

She **affixed** a stamp to the letter before mailing it.

bleach

v. to remove color or stains, whiten, or sterilize using a solution of chemicals or other substances, such as bleach

synonym : whiten, lighten, blanch

(1) **bleach** stains, (2) **bleach** hair

I need to **bleach** this shirt to remove the stains.

desalination

n. the process of removing salt, especially from seawater

(1) shut down a **desalination** plant, (2) water **desalination**

He worked on improving the equipment using the freeze-**desalination** method.

supple

adj. flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas

synonym : flexible, pliable, bendable

(1) **supple** muscles, (2) **supple** leather

The ballerina's **supple** movements left the audience mesmerized.

famine

n. a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons

synonym : hunger, starvation, drought

(1) **famine** relief, (2) coal **famine**

The severe **famine** caused by the drought has left many people without food.

thirst

n. a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something

synonym :

craving, desire, appetite

(1) a burning **thirst**, (2) **thirst** for authority

He read books to quench his **thirst** for knowledge.

Session 2: Spelling

1. gr____te pencil
n. a soft, black, lustrous form of carbon that is conductive and used as a lubricant and in pencils and electrodes in electrical devices
2. ic____g melting
n. a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier
3. water des____ion
n. the process of removing salt, especially from seawater
4. chi____re netting
n. (also known as "poultry netting") a type of woven wire mesh made of thin galvanized steel or other materials, typically used in construction, fencing, or as a protective barrier
5. co____se water vapor
v. to reduce the volume or size of something, often by removing water or other liquid; to make something shorter, more concise, or more concentrated
6. un____d after work
v. to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or twisting of something
7. a burning th____t
n. a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something
8. buy stock ch____y
adv. in a stingy or inexpensive manner
9. metallic na____be
n. a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science

ANSWERS: 1. graphite, 2. iceberg, 3. desalination, 4. chickenwire, 5. condense, 6. unwind, 7. thirst, 8. cheaply, 9. nanotube

10. fl__ker candle *v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement
11. low con_____ity *n.* the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.
12. na_____le device *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
13. su___e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
14. half a gi_____n of CO2 *n.* a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
15. fa___e relief *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
16. wo_____ss stock *adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering
17. things at the na_____le *adj.* on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale
18. bl___h hair *v.* to remove color or stains, whiten, or sterilize using a solution of chemicals or other substances, such as bleach
19. electrical con_____ity *n.* the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.
20. bl___h stains *v.* to remove color or stains, whiten, or sterilize using a solution of chemicals or other substances, such as bleach

ANSWERS: 10. flick, 11. conductivity, 12. nanoscale, 13. supple, 14. gigaton, 15. famine, 16. worthless, 17. nanoscale, 18. bleach, 19. conductivity, 20. bleach

21. su___e leather *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
22. coal fa___e *n.* a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons
23. sub_____on equation *n.* the process or action of removing one number from another; the mathematical operation of finding the difference between two numbers or quantities
24. af__x a label *v.* to attach or add something to something else
25. hit an ic_____g *n.* a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier
26. co_____se the text *v.* to reduce the volume or size of something, often by removing water or other liquid; to make something shorter, more concise, or more concentrated
27. th___t for authority *n.* a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something
28. ch_____y available *adv.* in a stingy or inexpensive manner
29. wo_____ss coin *adj.* having no value or usefulness; not worth considering
30. af__x a seal to a document *v.* to attach or add something to something else
31. gr_____te mine *n.* a soft, black, lustrous form of carbon that is conductive and used as a lubricant and in pencils and electrodes in electrical devices

ANSWERS: 21. supple, 22. famine, 23. subtraction, 24. affix, 25. iceberg, 26. condense, 27. thirst, 28. cheaply, 29. worthless, 30. affix, 31. graphite

32. gi____n-class bomb *n.* a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
33. hu____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
34. shut down a des_____ion plant *n.* the process of removing salt, especially from seawater
35. double-digit sub_____on *n.* the process or action of removing one number from another; the mathematical operation of finding the difference between two numbers or quantities
36. fl__k through pages *v.* to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement
37. un____d on vacation *v.* to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or twisting of something
38. chi_____re mesh *n.* (also known as "poultry netting") a type of woven wire mesh made of thin galvanized steel or other materials, typically used in construction, fencing, or as a protective barrier
39. hu____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
40. na____be technology *n.* a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science

ANSWERS: 32. gigaton, 33. humming, 34. desalination, 35. subtraction, 36. flick, 37. unwind, 38. chickenwire, 39. humming, 40. nanotube

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I need to _____ this shirt to remove the stains.
 - v. to remove color or stains, whiten, or sterilize using a solution of chemicals or other substances, such as bleach

2. I like to _____ with a good book after a long day at work.
 - v. to relax and release tension, often by engaging in leisure activities or by simply resting; to reverse the winding or twisting of something

3. He _____ the light switch, and the room was illuminated.
 - v. to make a sudden sharp movement or hit something quickly with a sharp movement

4. The severe _____ caused by the drought has left many people without food.
 - n. a severe shortage of food, often caused by drought, war, or economic reasons

5. High thermal _____ is also essential for the exterior of the machine.
 - n. the quality of a material's ability to conduct electricity, heat, etc.

6. He worked on improving the equipment using the freeze-_____ method.
 - n. the process of removing salt, especially from seawater

7. You can live very _____ in Southeast Asia.
 - adv. in a stingy or inexpensive manner

8. She _____ a stamp to the letter before mailing it.
 - v. to attach or add something to something else

ANSWERS: 1. bleach, 2. unwind, 3. flicked, 4. famine, 5. conductivity, 6. desalination, 7. cheaply, 8. affixed

9. The earthquake that hit the Pacific Ocean last night is said to have released about 30 _____ of energy.
- n.* a unit of explosive energy equal to one billion tons of TNT (= a powerful, yellow explosive substance); one billion tons
10. The _____ in the brake pads helps to reduce friction during braking.
- n.* a soft, black, lustrous form of carbon that is conductive and used as a lubricant and in pencils and electrodes in electrical devices
11. The _____ of expenses from revenue resulted in a net profit for the company.
- n.* the process or action of removing one number from another; the mathematical operation of finding the difference between two numbers or quantities
12. The ballerina's _____ movements left the audience mesmerized.
- adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
13. The ship encountered a series of _____ and had to change its course.
- n.* a large piece of ice floating in the sea, detached from a glacier
14. The chicken coop was built using sturdy _____ to keep the chickens safe.
- n.* (also known as "poultry netting") a type of woven wire mesh made of thin galvanized steel or other materials, typically used in construction, fencing, or as a protective barrier
15. I need to _____ all of my notes into a manageable summary for my presentation.
- v.* to reduce the volume or size of something, often by removing water or other liquid; to make something shorter, more concise, or more concentrated

ANSWERS: 9. gigatons, 10. graphite, 11. subtraction, 12. supple, 13. icebergs, 14. chickenwire, 15. condense

16. The _____ of the bees filled the air as she walked through the garden.

adj. producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee

17. The product was found to be _____ as it failed to meet the customer's expectations.

adj. having no value or usefulness; not worth considering

18. He read books to quench his _____ for knowledge.

n. a feeling of needing something to drink; a strong desire for something

19. Carbon _____ are used in various fields of science and technology due to their unique properties.

n. a tube-shaped structure that is composed of very small particles, typically with a diameter of a few nanometers; nanotubes are used in a variety of applications, including electronics and materials science

20. This process improves the strength of the metal by controlling the _____ lattice structure of the metal.

adj. on a scale that can be measured in nanometres (= one billionth of a meter); on a very small scale

ANSWERS: 16. humming, 17. worthless, 18. thirst, 19. nanotubes, 20. nanoscale