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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Claron McFadden: Singing the primal mystery | TED Talk

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Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

singe

v. to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

synonym : sear, char, burn

(1) **singe** off the hair over the flames, (2) **singe** the edges of a fabric

I didn't realize the iron was still hot and **singed** my dress.

pep

n. energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness

synonym : energy, enthusiasm, liveliness

(1) **pep** me up, (2) have a lot of **peps**

The coach gave a **pep** talk to the team before the game to boost their spirits.

soprano

n. the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet

synonym : treble

(1) **soprano** singer, (2) dramatic **soprano**

The **soprano's** voice was so beautiful that it brought the audience to tears.

brilliance

n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining

synonym : splendor, glory, luster

(1) **brilliance** of diamond, (2) economic **brilliance**

The scientist's **brilliance** led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.

repertoire

n. the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something

synonym : collection, range, reservoir

(1) musical **repertoire**, (2) cooking **repertoire**

The chef's **repertoire** of dishes includes both classic and innovative recipes.

primal

adj. of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive

synonym : original, fundamental, basic

(1) **primal** eras, (2) **primal** fear

The **primal** instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.

jealousy

n. a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire

synonym : envy, covetousness, resentment

(1) **jealousy** feeling towards another person, (2) burn with **jealousy**

His **jealousy** of his brother's success caused a rift in their relationship.

wondrous

adj. inspiring amazement or admiration; extremely beautiful and impressive

synonym : amazing, fantastic, miraculous

(1) **wondrous** sight, (2) **wondrous** adventure

The **wondrous** beauty of the sunset left us all in awe.

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.

hut

n. a small, simple, and often crude shelter or dwelling, typically made of natural materials such as wood or mud
synonym: shack, cabin, cottage

(1) shepherd's **hut**, (2) fishing **hut**

The little girl lived in a small **hut** in the woods with her family.

summertime

n. the season of summer

(1) **summertime** fun, (2) during the **summertime**

The **summertime** heat can be intense, so it's important to stay hydrated and wear sunscreen.

hush

v. to make or become silent, especially by urging or persuading others to be quiet or by speaking softly or gently; to keep something secret or confidential

synonym: clam up, quieten, settle down

(1) **hush** for a while, (2) **hush** up a case

Please **hush** your voice so that the baby can sleep.

aria

n. a song that is performed solo by a singer in an opera or oratorio, often with instrumental accompaniment

synonym: song, melody, tune

(1) **aria** singer, (2) dramatic **aria**

The soprano performed an emotional **aria** that brought the audience to tears.

notate

v. to write or mark down musical notes or symbols on a sheet of music or a musical manuscript; to make a written record or notation of something

synonym: record, jot down, annotate

(1) **notate** a transcription, (2) **notate** a poem

As a musician, you must **notate** your compositions accurately for others to read and understand.

sneeze

v. to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants

synonym : exhale, whiff, blow

(1) **sneeze** into my hand, (2) **sneeze** loudly

Whenever I get a cold, I tend to **sneeze** a lot.

clap

v. to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise

synonym : applaud, spat, acclaim

(1) **clap** my hands, (2) **clap** a book shut

We **clapped** along with the singer's song.

ode

n. a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone

synonym : poem, song, verse

(1) nature **ode**, (2) an **ode** to love

The poet composed a beautiful **ode** to nature and its wonders.

terra

n. a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area

synonym : earth, land, ground

(1) **terra** cotta, (2) **terra** firma

Scientists study the **terra** of other planets to learn more about their formations and compositions.

robotic

adj. of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

synonym : automated, mechanical, laborsaving

(1) **robotic** arm, (2) **robotic** guide operation

The surgeon removed the tumor using **robotic** video assistance.

bistro

n. a small, informal restaurant or café, typically serving simple, home-style meals or light refreshments

synonym: casual restaurant, brasserie, tavern

(1) French **bistro**, (2) cozy **bistro**

We decided to have a quick lunch at the neighborhood **bistro**.

slay

v. to kill violently, especially with a weapon

synonym: kill, murder, eliminate

(1) **slay** a dragon, (2) **slay** civilians

The singer **slayed** the audience with her powerful voice and amazing performance.

coo

n. a low, soft, murmuring sound made by a dove, pigeon, or other bird; an expression of tenderness or affection; (stands for Chief Operating Officer) a senior executive position in an organization responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations and managing various departments and functions within the company

synonym: murmur, cooing, whisper

(1) baby **coo**, (2) the **COO** of the company

The baby let out a gentle **coo** as she was rocked to sleep.

Session 2: Spelling

1. enjoyment of so____de *n.* the state of being alone and isolated from others
2. economic bri____ce *n.* the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
3. dramatic a__a *n.* a song that is performed solo by a singer in an opera or oratorio, often with instrumental accompaniment
4. an o_e to love *n.* a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone
5. c__p my hands *v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
6. h__h for a while *v.* to make or become silent, especially by urging or persuading others to be quiet or by speaking softly or gently; to keep something secret or confidential
7. ro____c guide operation *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots
8. h__h up a case *v.* to make or become silent, especially by urging or persuading others to be quiet or by speaking softly or gently; to keep something secret or confidential

ANSWERS: 1. solitude, 2. brilliance, 3. aria, 4. ode, 5. clap, 6. hush, 7. robotic, 8. hush

9. te__a firma *n.* a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area
10. p_p me up *n.* energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness
11. during the sum_____me *n.* the season of summer
12. sn___e loudly *v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
13. s__y a dragon *v.* to kill violently, especially with a weapon
14. no___e a transcription *v.* to write or mark down musical notes or symbols on a sheet of music or a musical manuscript; to make a written record or notation of something
15. bri_____ce of diamond *n.* the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining
16. wo_____us adventure *adj.* inspiring amazement or admiration; extremely beautiful and impressive
17. live in so_____de *n.* the state of being alone and isolated from others
18. pr___l eras *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
19. French bi___o *n.* a small, informal restaurant or café, typically serving simple, home-style meals or light refreshments

ANSWERS: 9. terra, 10. pep, 11. summertime, 12. sneeze, 13. slay, 14. notate, 15. brilliance, 16. wondrous, 17. solitude, 18. primal, 19. bistro

20. si__e off the hair over the flames *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
21. the C_O of the company *n.* a low, soft, murmuring sound made by a dove, pigeon, or other bird; an expression of tenderness or affection; (stands for Chief Operating Officer) a senior executive position in an organization responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations and managing various departments and functions within the company
22. sn___e into my hand *v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
23. shepherd's h_t *n.* a small, simple, and often crude shelter or dwelling, typically made of natural materials such as wood or mud
24. te__a cotta *n.* a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area
25. wo____us sight *adj.* inspiring amazement or admiration; extremely beautiful and impressive
26. cozy bi___o *n.* a small, informal restaurant or café, typically serving simple, home-style meals or light refreshments
27. ro____c arm *adj.* of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

ANSWERS: 20. singe, 21. coo, 22. sneeze, 23. hut, 24. terra, 25. wondrous, 26. bistro, 27. robotic

28. burn with je____sy *n.* a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire
29. s__y civilians *v.* to kill violently, especially with a weapon
30. dramatic so____o *n.* the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet
31. fishing h_t *n.* a small, simple, and often crude shelter or dwelling, typically made of natural materials such as wood or mud
32. nature o_e *n.* a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone
33. a__a singer *n.* a song that is performed solo by a singer in an opera or oratorio, often with instrumental accompaniment
34. musical rep____re *n.* the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something
35. no____e a poem *v.* to write or mark down musical notes or symbols on a sheet of music or a musical manuscript; to make a written record or notation of something

ANSWERS: 28. jealousy, 29. slay, 30. soprano, 31. hut, 32. ode, 33. aria, 34. repertoire, 35. notate

36. cooking rep_____re *n.* the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something
37. have a lot of p_ps *n.* energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness
38. pr___l fear *adj.* of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
39. je_____sy feeling towards another person *n.* a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire
40. so_____o singer *n.* the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet
41. baby c_o *n.* a low, soft, murmuring sound made by a dove, pigeon, or other bird; an expression of tenderness or affection; (stands for Chief Operating Officer) a senior executive position in an organization responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations and managing various departments and functions within the company

ANSWERS: 36. repertoire, 37. pep, 38. primal, 39. jealousy, 40. soprano, 41. coo

42. sum_____me fun *n.* the season of summer
43. c__p a book shut *v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise
44. si__e the edges of a fabric *v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake

ANSWERS: 42. summertime, 43. clap, 44. singe

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. The soprano performed an emotional _____ that brought the audience to tears.
n. a song that is performed solo by a singer in an opera or oratorio, often with instrumental accompaniment

2. The _____ voice was so beautiful that it brought the audience to tears.
n. the highest-pitched voice or vocal range of a female or child singer; a female or child singer with a soprano voice; the highest-pitched member of an instrumental family, such as a violin or clarinet

3. The poet composed a beautiful _____ to nature and its wonders.
n. a lyrical poem that expresses feelings or praise for a person, place, or thing; a poem that is marked by a prominent theme or tone

4. His _____ of his brother's success caused a rift in their relationship.
n. a feeling of resentment or bitterness towards someone because they have something that you desire

5. The scientist's _____ led to many groundbreaking discoveries in his field.
n. the quality of being very clever or talented; the quality of being very bright or shining

6. Scientists study the _____ of other planets to learn more about their formations and compositions.
n. a Latin word meaning earth or land, often used in scientific or technical contexts to refer to the planet itself or the soil or ground of a particular area

7. We decided to have a quick lunch at the neighborhood _____.
n. a small, informal restaurant or café, typically serving simple, home-style meals or light refreshments

ANSWERS: 1. aria, 2. soprano's, 3. ode, 4. jealousy, 5. brilliance, 6. terra, 7. bistro

8. The _____ instincts of the animal kicked in when it was threatened.
adj. of or relating to the earliest stage of development; fundamental; primitive
9. The chef's _____ of dishes includes both classic and innovative recipes.
n. the range or variety of skills, abilities, performances, or works that a person or group is capable of producing or performing; the entire body of works that is available to an individual or group to choose from when performing or producing something
10. As a musician, you must _____ your compositions accurately for others to read and understand.
v. to write or mark down musical notes or symbols on a sheet of music or a musical manuscript; to make a written record or notation of something
11. The coach gave a ____ talk to the team before the game to boost their spirits.
n. energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness; (verb) to give someone energy, enthusiasm, or liveliness
12. The singer _____ the audience with her powerful voice and amazing performance.
v. to kill violently, especially with a weapon
13. Please _____ your voice so that the baby can sleep.
v. to make or become silent, especially by urging or persuading others to be quiet or by speaking softly or gently; to keep something secret or confidential
14. The surgeon removed the tumor using _____ video assistance.
adj. of or relating to mechanical robots; (robotics) the interdisciplinary branch of computer science and engineering with the practical use of robots

ANSWERS: 8. primal, 9. repertoire, 10. notate, 11. pep, 12. slayed, 13. hush, 14. robotic

15. The baby let out a gentle ____ as she was rocked to sleep.
- n.* a low, soft, murmuring sound made by a dove, pigeon, or other bird; an expression of tenderness or affection; (stands for Chief Operating Officer) a senior executive position in an organization responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations and managing various departments and functions within the company
16. The _____ heat can be intense, so it's important to stay hydrated and wear sunscreen.
- n.* the season of summer
17. He sought _____ in the wilderness to escape the distractions of modern life.
- n.* the state of being alone and isolated from others
18. I didn't realize the iron was still hot and _____ my dress.
- v.* to burn something slightly or superficially, usually by mistake
19. The _____ beauty of the sunset left us all in awe.
- adj.* inspiring amazement or admiration; extremely beautiful and impressive
20. Whenever I get a cold, I tend to _____ a lot.
- v.* to make a sudden, involuntary expulsion of air from the nose and mouth, usually due to irritation caused by the presence of dust, pollen, or other irritants
21. The little girl lived in a small ____ in the woods with her family.
- n.* a small, simple, and often crude shelter or dwelling, typically made of natural materials such as wood or mud
22. We _____ along with the singer's song.
- v.* to hit your hands together and make a short and loud noise, mainly to show your approval or praise

ANSWERS: 15. coo, 16. summertime, 17. solitude, 18. singed, 19. wondrous, 20. sneeze, 21. hut, 22. clapped

ANSWERS: