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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Rob Harmon: How to keep rivers and streams flowing

| TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

IMPORTANT

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Session 1: Word List

dew

n. the tiny drops of water that have condensed on a cool surface overnight

synonym : condensation, vapor, fog

(1) a drop of **dew**, (2) morning **dew**

Moisture in the atmosphere condenses at night and forms **dew**.

archetype

n. a very typical example of a certain person or thing; a recurrent symbol or motif in literature, art, or mythology that represents a universal pattern of human nature

synonym : prototype, model, paradigm

(1) **archetype** symbol, (2) feminine **archetype**

The hero's journey is a common **archetype** in many myths and stories.

prickle

v. to cause a tingling or stinging sensation, often from a sharp or pointed object; to provoke or irritate someone, causing them to feel uncomfortable or annoyed; (noun) a small, pointed, and often sharp spine or thorn that grows on a plant or animal

synonym : stab, poke, jab

(1) **prickle** cell layer, (2) **prickle** with excitement

The thorns on the cactus can **prickle** your skin if you touch

them.

populate

v. to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information

synonym: inhabit, occupy, dwell

(1) **populate** the countryside, (2) **populate** the spreadsheet
Deer, squirrels, and birds primarily **populate** the forest.

cutthroat

adj. marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others

synonym: ruthless, competitive, aggressive

(1) **cutthroat** business practices, (2) **cutthroat** negotiations
The **cutthroat** competition was intense, with everyone fighting for the position.

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 no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date

synonym: outdated, old-fashioned, antique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.

conserve

v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

synonym: preserve, save, maintain

(1) means to **conserve** energy, (2) **conserve** coal resources

Children must be taught to **conserve** our natural environment.

footprint

n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface

synonym: footmark, imprint, impression

(1) **footprints** in the snow, (2) the **footprints** of an earlier civilization

We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon **footprint**.

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.

pint

n. a unit of measurement for liquid and dry substances, typically equal to 1/8th of a gallon or 16 fluid ounces, commonly used to measure beverages, such as beer or milk, as well as certain food ingredients

(1) half a **pint** of milk, (2) **pint** glass

He ordered a **pint** of beer at the pub and enjoyed it with his friends.

brew

v. to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water

synonym: make, prepare

(1) **brew** a cup of tea, (2) **brew** beer

I am going to **brew** some coffee this morning.

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.

steward

n. a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

synonym: caretaker, manager, custodian

(1) **steward** duties, (2) **steward** service

The **steward** on the flight was very helpful in assisting

passengers with their needs.

degrade

v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

synonym: demean, disgrace, impair

(1) **degrade** his public image, (2) **degrade** environmental quality

You should not **degrade** yourself by allowing them to use you.

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.

Session 2: Spelling

1. p__t glass
n. a unit of measurement for liquid and dry substances, typically equal to 1/8th of a gallon or 16 fluid ounces, commonly used to measure beverages, such as beer or milk, as well as certain food ingredients
2. pa__e entertainment
adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
3. a_t view
adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
4. pa__e trend
adj. no longer fashionable or current; outdated; considered to be old-fashioned or out of date
5. means to co____ve energy
v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
6. fo_____nts in the snow
n. a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
7. cu_____at business practices
adj. marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others
8. po____te the spreadsheet
v. to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information

ANSWERS: 1. pint, 2. passe, 3. aft, 4. passe, 5. conserve, 6. footprint, 7. cutthroat, 8. populate

9. ar_____pe symbol *n.* a very typical example of a certain person or thing; a recurrent symbol or motif in literature, art, or mythology that represents a universal pattern of human nature
10. feminine ar_____pe *n.* a very typical example of a certain person or thing; a recurrent symbol or motif in literature, art, or mythology that represents a universal pattern of human nature
11. the fo_____nts of an earlier civilization *n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
12. de_____e his public image *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
13. su____e leather *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
14. an op_____ne remark *adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
15. pr_____e with excitement *v.* to cause a tingling or stinging sensation, often from a sharp or pointed object; to provoke or irritate someone, causing them to feel uncomfortable or annoyed; (noun) a small, pointed, and often sharp spine or thorn that grows on a plant or animal

ANSWERS: 9. archetype, 10. archetype, 11. footprint, 12. degrade, 13. supple, 14. opportune, 15. prickle

16. b__w beer
v. to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water
17. pr____e cell layer
v. to cause a tingling or stinging sensation, often from a sharp or pointed object; to provoke or irritate someone, causing them to feel uncomfortable or annoyed; (noun) a small, pointed, and often sharp spine or thorn that grows on a plant or animal
18. a_t cabin
adj. (the opposite of "forward") located at or towards the rear or back of a ship, aircraft, or other vehicle
19. b__w a cup of tea
v. to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water
20. op____ne occasion
adj. suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
21. half a p__t of milk
n. a unit of measurement for liquid and dry substances, typically equal to 1/8th of a gallon or 16 fluid ounces, commonly used to measure beverages, such as beer or milk, as well as certain food ingredients
22. po____te the countryside
v. to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information
23. morning d_w
n. the tiny drops of water that have condensed on a cool surface overnight

ANSWERS: 16. brew, 17. prickle, 18. aft, 19. brew, 20. opportune, 21. pint, 22. populate, 23. dew

24. su___e muscles *adj.* flexible and easy to bend or move; gracefully agile; adaptable or responsive to change or new ideas
25. co_____ve coal resources *v.* to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction
26. st_____d service *n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
27. de_____e environmental quality *v.* to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others
28. cu_____at negotiations *adj.* marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others
29. st_____d duties *n.* a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.
30. a drop of d_w *n.* the tiny drops of water that have condensed on a cool surface overnight

ANSWERS: 24. supple, 25. conserve, 26. steward, 27. degrade, 28. cutthroat, 29. steward, 30. dew

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. I am going to _____ some coffee this morning.
 - v. to make beer or tea by mixing a substance with hot water

2. You should not _____ yourself by allowing them to use you.
 - v. to make something worse, especially in quality; to show or treat someone in a way that makes them seem no value and do not have the respect or reasonable opinion of others

3. The _____ on the flight was very helpful in assisting passengers with their needs.
 - n. a person responsible for the management and care of another's property or for the supervision of the domestic staff of a large household or organization; a person in charge of arranging for the supply of food to a college, club, etc.

4. Children must be taught to _____ our natural environment.
 - v. to protect something, especially the natural environment or culture, from change, damage, or destruction

5. The thorns on the cactus can _____ your skin if you touch them.
 - v. to cause a tingling or stinging sensation, often from a sharp or pointed object; to provoke or irritate someone, causing them to feel uncomfortable or annoyed; (noun) a small, pointed, and often sharp spine or thorn that grows on a plant or animal

6. 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

ANSWERS: 1. brew, 2. degrade, 3. steward, 4. conserve, 5. prickle, 6. supple

7. Deer, squirrels, and birds primarily _____ the forest.
- v.* to inhabit or occupy a particular area, region, or environment with a certain number or type of people, animals, or plants; to fill out or complete a form, document, or database with relevant information
8. 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
9. The _____ competition was intense, with everyone fighting for the position.
- adj.* marked by ruthless competition or deceit; willing to do anything to achieve one's goals, even if it means hurting others
10. 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
11. We choose transportation that has a smaller carbon _____.
- n.* a mark of a foot, shoe, or animal's foot left on a surface
12. The phone rang at the most _____ time.
- adj.* suitable or happening at a time that is suitable or convenient for a particular purpose
13. He ordered a _____ of beer at the pub and enjoyed it with his friends.
- n.* a unit of measurement for liquid and dry substances, typically equal to 1/8th of a gallon or 16 fluid ounces, commonly used to measure beverages, such as beer or milk, as well as certain food ingredients

ANSWERS: 7. populate, 8. passe, 9. cutthroat, 10. aft, 11. footprint, 12. opportune, 13. pint

14. Moisture in the atmosphere condenses at night and forms ____.

n. the tiny drops of water that have condensed on a cool surface overnight

15. The hero's journey is a common _____ in many myths and stories.

n. a very typical example of a certain person or thing; a recurrent symbol or motif in literature, art, or mythology that represents a universal pattern of human nature

ANSWERS: 14. dew, 15. archetype