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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Christopher Warner: Situational irony: The opposite of what you think | TED Talk

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

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

sitcom

n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format

synonym : comedy, TV show

(1) **sitcom** series, (2) popular **sitcom**

I love to watch **sitcoms** when I need a good laugh.

sassy

adj. rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit

synonym : impudent, audacious, rude

(1) a **sassy** child, (2) talk **sassy** to the teacher

My son has been getting **sassy** recently.

sidekick

n. a person who is closely associated with and supports another person, especially in a work or professional capacity; a person who is a close and loyal companion

synonym : companion, helper, ally

(1) a detective's **sidekick**, (2) his best friend's **sidekick**

The superhero's **sidekick** was always there to help him.

ironic

adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

synonym :

sarcastic, wry, sardonic

(1) **ironic** result, (2) an **ironic** turn of events

It was **ironic** that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

grievous

adj. causing great suffering, pain, or sorrow; serious, grave, or dire

synonym: atrocious, severe, painful

(1) **grievous** condition, (2) **grievous** mistake

The **grievous** injury he sustained in the car accident left him unable to walk.

misinterpretation

n. a mistake or error in understanding or explaining something; the act of interpreting incorrectly; an incorrect interpretation

synonym: misunderstanding, mistake, misreading

(1) **misinterpretation** of data, (2) **misinterpretation** of signals

The news article's **misinterpretation** of the study's findings confused readers

misunderstand

v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

synonym: misinterpret, misperceive, misapprehend

(1) **misunderstand** each other, (2) **misunderstand** entirely about her

You should not **misunderstand** the meaning of freedom.

coincident

adj. happening or operating in the same place or at the same time

synonym: concurrent, accompanying, coextensive

(1) **coincident** indicators, (2) a series of **coincident** events

Coincident with the negotiation, the bank was permitted to open a Beijing branch.

slapstick

n. a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other

mishaps

synonym: farce, comedy, humor

(1) **slapstick** comedy, (2) **slapstick** performance

The classic comedy routine was filled with **slapstick** humor.

precarious

adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions

synonym: precariousness, instability, uncertainty

(1) **precarious** job, (2) **precarious** financial situation

She had a **precarious** hold on the ladder and was afraid to move.

olympiad

n. a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years

(1) the modern **olympiad**, (2) summer **olympiad**

She won a gold medal in the physics **olympiad** and was praised by her teachers and peers.

tripping

adj. describing a state of mind or perception characterized by altered or distorted sensory experiences, often as a result of taking drugs or psychedelics; stumbling or faltering while walking or moving, often due to a loss of balance or coordination

synonym: trippy, hallucinogenic, mind-altering

(1) **tripping** hazards, (2) **tripping** on acid

Her **tripping** laughter echoed through the room, spreading contagious joy to everyone present.

exemplify

v. to serve as a typical example of something

synonym: illustrate, show, demonstrate

(1) **exemplify** the importance, (2) **exemplify** the solution

The example of a successful startup serves to **exemplify** the potential of the industry.

newfangled

adj. recently invented or introduced and often not well-tested or proven

synonym: innovative, modern, novel

(1) **newfangled** technology, (2) **newfangled** idea

The **newfangled** gadget was a hit at the trade show.

denture

n. a removable set of artificial teeth made from materials such as acrylic resin or porcelain used to replace missing teeth and restore oral function and appearance

(1) partial **denture**, (2) **denture** cleaning solution

My grandfather wears a full set of **dentures**.

grandkid

n. the grandchildren of a particular person

synonym: grandchildren, grandnieces, grandnephews

(1) spend the weekend with their **grandkids**, (2) cute **grandkids**

She was so proud of her **grandkids**, who were all doing well in school and had great personalities.

ensue

v. to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something

synonym: follow, occur, result

(1) **ensue** within a few years, (2) predict what will **ensue**

A power outage **ensued** after the storm knocked out the electricity.

situ

adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

synonym: situational, contextual, circumstantial

(1) ex- **situ** conservation, (2) in- **situ** control

Melanoma in **situ** is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.

Session 2: Spelling

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|--|---|
| 1. ex_____fy the importance | <i>v.</i> to serve as a typical example of something |
| 2. in-s__u control | <i>adj.</i> short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance |
| 3. the modern ol_____ad | <i>n.</i> a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years |
| 4. spend the weekend with their gr_____ids | <i>n.</i> the grandchildren of a particular person |
| 5. a series of coi_____nt events | <i>adj.</i> happening or operating in the same place or at the same time |
| 6. popular si_____m | <i>n.</i> a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format |
| 7. ir_____c result | <i>adj.</i> using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect |
| 8. partial de_____e | <i>n.</i> a removable set of artificial teeth made from materials such as acrylic resin or porcelain used to replace missing teeth and restore oral function and appearance |

ANSWERS: 1. exemplify, 2. situ, 3. olympiad, 4. grandkid, 5. coincident, 6. sitcom, 7. ironic, 8. denture

9. en__e within a few years *v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
10. mis_____ion of data *n.* a mistake or error in understanding or explaining something; the act of interpreting incorrectly; an incorrect interpretation
11. cute gr____ids *n.* the grandchildren of a particular person
12. a detective's si____ck *n.* a person who is closely associated with and supports another person, especially in a work or professional capacity; a person who is a close and loyal companion
13. new_____ed technology *adj.* recently invented or introduced and often not well-tested or proven
14. a sa__y child *adj.* rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit
15. tr____ng hazards *adj.* describing a state of mind or perception characterized by altered or distorted sensory experiences, often as a result of taking drugs or psychedelics; stumbling or faltering while walking or moving, often due to a loss of balance or coordination
16. gr____us mistake *adj.* causing great suffering, pain, or sorrow; serious, grave, or dire
17. tr____ng on acid *adj.* describing a state of mind or perception characterized by altered or distorted sensory experiences, often as a result of taking drugs or psychedelics; stumbling or faltering while walking or moving, often due to a loss of balance or coordination

ANSWERS: 9. ensue, 10. misinterpretation, 11. grandkid, 12. sidekick, 13. newfangled, 14. sassy, 15. tripping, 16. grievous, 17. tripping

18. gr____us condition *adj.* causing great suffering, pain, or sorrow; serious, grave, or dire
19. ex-s__u conservation *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
20. mis_____and each other *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
21. coi_____nt indicators *adj.* happening or operating in the same place or at the same time
22. new_____ed idea *adj.* recently invented or introduced and often not well-tested or proven
23. ex_____fy the solution *v.* to serve as a typical example of something
24. summer ol_____ad *n.* a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years
25. mis_____ion of signals *n.* a mistake or error in understanding or explaining something; the act of interpreting incorrectly; an incorrect interpretation
26. pre_____us financial situation *adj.* not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions
27. mis_____and entirely about her *v.* to interpret or understand something in the wrong way
28. an ir___c turn of events *adj.* using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

ANSWERS: 18. grievous, 19. situ, 20. misunderstand, 21. coincident, 22. newfangled, 23. exemplify, 24. olympiad, 25. misinterpretation, 26. precarious, 27. misunderstand, 28. ironic

29. talk sa__y to the teacher *adj.* rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit
30. pre_____us job *adj.* not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions
31. sl_____ck performance *n.* a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other mishaps
32. his best friend's si_____ck *n.* a person who is closely associated with and supports another person, especially in a work or professional capacity; a person who is a close and loyal companion
33. sl_____ck comedy *n.* a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other mishaps
34. si___m series *n.* a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
35. predict what will en__e *v.* to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something
36. de_____e cleaning solution *n.* a removable set of artificial teeth made from materials such as acrylic resin or porcelain used to replace missing teeth and restore oral function and appearance

ANSWERS: 29. sassy, 30. precarious, 31. slapstick, 32. sidekick, 33. slapstick, 34. sitcom, 35. ensue, 36. denture

ANSWERS:

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. You should not _____ the meaning of freedom.
v. to interpret or understand something in the wrong way

2. The news article's _____ of the study's findings confused readers
n. a mistake or error in understanding or explaining something; the act of interpreting incorrectly; an incorrect interpretation

3. The example of a successful startup serves to _____ the potential of the industry.
v. to serve as a typical example of something

4. Melanoma in _____ is considered the earliest stage of melanoma and has a high cure rate with appropriate treatment.
adj. short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

5. My grandfather wears a full set of _____.
n. a removable set of artificial teeth made from materials such as acrylic resin or porcelain used to replace missing teeth and restore oral function and appearance

6. The superhero's _____ was always there to help him.
n. a person who is closely associated with and supports another person, especially in a work or professional capacity; a person who is a close and loyal companion

7. My son has been getting _____ recently.
adj. rude and showing a lack of respect; energetic, bold, and full of spirit

ANSWERS: 1. misunderstand, 2. misinterpretation, 3. exemplify, 4. situ, 5. dentures, 6. sidekick, 7. sassy

8. It was _____ that the heavy rain started just as they set up for an outdoor picnic.

adj. using words to express something different from and often opposite to their literal or usual meaning, often for humorous or rhetorical effect

9. The _____ gadget was a hit at the trade show.

adj. recently invented or introduced and often not well-tested or proven

10. She was so proud of her _____ who were all doing well in school and had great personalities.

n. the grandchildren of a particular person

11. _____ with the negotiation, the bank was permitted to open a Beijing branch.

adj. happening or operating in the same place or at the same time

12. A power outage _____ after the storm knocked out the electricity.

v. to happen or follow as a result or consequence of something

13. Her _____ laughter echoed through the room, spreading contagious joy to everyone present.

adj. describing a state of mind or perception characterized by altered or distorted sensory experiences, often as a result of taking drugs or psychedelics; stumbling or faltering while walking or moving, often due to a loss of balance or coordination

14. She had a _____ hold on the ladder and was afraid to move.

adj. not securely held or in position; dangerously unstable or uncertain; dependent on chance or uncertain conditions

ANSWERS: 8. ironic, 9. newfangled, 10. grandkids, 11. Coincident, 12. ensued, 13. tripping, 14. precarious

15. The _____ injury he sustained in the car accident left him unable to walk.
adj. causing great suffering, pain, or sorrow; serious, grave, or dire
16. I love to watch _____ when I need a good laugh.
n. a television or radio program that features a continuing cast of characters in humorous or dramatic situations, typically presented in a half-hour format
17. The classic comedy routine was filled with _____ humor.
n. a type of comedy in which humor is generated through exaggerated physical activity especially falls and other mishaps
18. She won a gold medal in the physics _____ and was praised by her teachers and peers.
n. a period of four years, originally the time between the ancient Olympic Games and now commonly used to refer to the modern Olympic Games, which are held every four years

ANSWERS: 15. grievous, 16. sitcoms, 17. slapstick, 18. olympiad