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Vocabulary Builder Reference from...

Chris Gerdes: The future race car -- 150mph, and no driver | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/chris_gerdes_the_future_race_car_150mph_and_no_driver

Advanced Words Only

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Session 1: Word List

- doe** *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
synonym : rabbit, bunny, hare
(1) **doe** rabbit, (2) buck and **doe**
Hunters use a whistle that makes the **doe** sound to lure stags.
- 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.
- dashboard** *n.* a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview
synonym : control panel
(1) auto **dashboard**, (2) business **dashboard**
He noticed that the oil warning light on the **dashboard** of his car had turned on.

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.

icy

adj. covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness

synonym : frosty, cold, glacial

(1) **icy** clouds, (2) cast **icy** eyes

The **icy** surface of the pond was not safe for skating.

steer

v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone

synonym : guide, direct, control

(1) **steer** a steady course, (2) **steer** a conversation

The captain told him to **steer** the ship north.

sideways

adv. towards or from the side; with one side forward or to the front; (adjective, of movement) at an angle

synonym : to the edge, obliquely, sidelong

(1) fall **sideways**, (2) a **sideways** market

She glanced **sideways** at the conversation of the boy she was interested in.

slippery

adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted

synonym : smooth, glistening, furtive

(1) a **slippery** customer, (2) **slippery** ice

How extraordinarily **slippery** a liar the camera is.

pike

n. a long weapon with a pointed metal head on a wooden shaft, typically used by foot soldiers in the past; a fish with a long body, sharp teeth, and a flattened snout; a toll road

synonym : spear, lance, thruway

(1) war **piques**, (2) **pike** fishing

The **pike-wielding** soldier stood at the castle gate, prepared to defend against the invading forces.

iterate

v. to repeat or do something again, often to make improvements or correct errors; to go over or revisit something repeatedly; to restate or emphasize a point or idea

synonym : repeat, reiterate, echo

(1) **iterate** results, (2) **iterate** an experiment

We need to **iterate** on this design to improve its functionality.

resemblance

n. similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details

synonym : closeness, likeness, similarity

(1) striking **resemblance**, (2) faint **resemblance**

The **resemblance** between Anna and her mother was astonishing.

comp

v. short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment

synonym : waive, cover, provide

(1) **comp** their meal, (2) **comp** the employees with a bonus

The casino **comped** her room and meals for being a high-rolling gambler.

trade-off

n. a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

synonym : compromise, balance, exchange

(1) **trade-off** problem, (2) environmental **trade-off**

There was a **trade-off** between speed and accuracy in the task.

shave

v. to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something

synonym : trim, cut down, prune

(1) **shave** my head, (2) **shave** cheese

That supermarket tried to **shave** certain costs by saving electricity.

neuroscience

n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system

(1) the branch of **neuroscience**, (2) a theoretical concept in **neuroscience**

Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral **neuroscience**.

tease

v. to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

synonym: bully, annoy, provoke

(1) **tease** the children, (2) **tease** wool

This ad is intended to **tease** a competing product.

corkscrew

n. a twisting device used for opening bottles or jars with a cork or other stopper, typically consisting of a spiral metal rod attached to a handle

synonym: spiral, bottle opener, wine opener

(1) **corkscrew** bottle opener, (2) **corkscrew** staircase

The gymnast executed a breathtaking **corkscrew** flip, landing perfectly on the mat.

chicanery

n. the use of deceitful or dishonest methods to deceive or trick others; the practice of using clever, manipulative, or deceptive tactics, especially for personal gain

synonym: deception, trickery, fraud

(1) marketing **chicanery**, (2) financial **chicanery**

The politician's **chicanery** and deceit were exposed during the investigation.

downshift

v. to switch from a financially rewarding but stressful career or lifestyle to a less stressful, lower-paying, but

more fulfilling one; to change to a lower gear in a vehicle
(1) economic **downshift**, (2) make a little **downshift** in your work

As credit becomes scarce and education and healthcare costs rise, millions of middle-class Americans have to **downshift**.

maneuver

n. a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage

synonym: gimmick, trick, action

(1) political **maneuvers**, (2) made a great **maneuver**

In this class, we learn the basic **maneuver** of the plane.

reflex

n. an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli

synonym: reaction, response, instinct

(1) **reflex** test, (2) knee **reflex**

My leg kicked involuntarily when the doctor tapped my knee with the **reflex** hammer.

phenomenal

adj. extremely good or impressive; outstanding

synonym: extraordinary, remarkable, impressive

(1) **phenomenal** success, (2) **phenomenal** growth

The athlete's **phenomenal** performance broke all previous records.

instinctive

adj. relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency

synonym: spontaneous, intuitive, natural

(1) **instinctive** reaction, (2) **instinctive** behavior

It was **instinctive** for the mother to protect her child from harm.

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.

chauffeur

n. a professional driver of a private or executive car

synonym: driver, private driver

(1) a **chauffeur-driven** limousine, (2) a **chauffeur's** licence

The private **chauffeur** drove the CEO to the airport in a luxurious limousine.

intuition

n. the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why

synonym: instinct, gut feeling, sixth sense

(1) creative **intuition**, (2) **intuition** research

Some studies suggest that people's **intuitions** can be influenced by their experiences and biases.

Session 2: Spelling

1. co_____ew bottle opener *n.* a twisting device used for opening bottles or jars with a cork or other stopper, typically consisting of a spiral metal rod attached to a handle
2. co_____ew staircase *n.* a twisting device used for opening bottles or jars with a cork or other stopper, typically consisting of a spiral metal rod attached to a handle
3. sl_____ry ice *adj.* difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted
4. hu_____g bird *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
5. sh__e my head *v.* to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something
6. auto da_____rd *n.* a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview
7. the branch of neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
8. make a little do_____ft in your work *v.* to switch from a financially rewarding but stressful career or lifestyle to a less stressful, lower-paying, but more fulfilling one; to change to a lower gear in a vehicle

ANSWERS: 1. corkscrew, 2. corkscrew, 3. slippery, 4. humming, 5. shave, 6. dashboard, 7. neuroscience, 8. downshift

9. knee re___x *n.* an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli
10. striking res_____ce *n.* similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
11. 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
12. ins_____ve behavior *adj.* relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency
13. political ma_____ers *n.* a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage
14. business da_____rd *n.* a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview
15. te__e wool *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
16. c__p their meal *v.* short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment
17. p__e fishing *n.* a long weapon with a pointed metal head on a wooden shaft, typically used by foot soldiers in the past; a fish with a long body, sharp teeth, and a flattened snout; a toll road

ANSWERS: 9. reflex, 10. resemblance, 11. robotic, 12. instinctive, 13. maneuver, 14. dashboard, 15. tease, 16. comp, 17. pike

18. it_____e an experiment *v.* to repeat or do something again, often to make improvements or correct errors; to go over or revisit something repeatedly; to restate or emphasize a point or idea
19. environmental tr_____ff *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
20. in_____on research *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
21. creative in_____on *n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
22. a sl_____ry customer *adj.* difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted
23. st__r a steady course *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
24. re___x test *n.* an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli
25. ex-s__u conservation *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance

ANSWERS: 18. iterate, 19. trade-off, 20. intuition, 21. intuition, 22. slippery, 23. steer, 24. reflex, 25. situ

26. tr_____ff problem *n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise
27. a si_____ys market *adv.* towards or from the side; with one side forward or to the front; (adjective, of movement) at an angle
28. cast i_y eyes *adj.* covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness
29. st__r a conversation *v.* to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
30. a theoretical concept in neu_____nce *n.* the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
31. a ch_____ur's licence *n.* a professional driver of a private or executive car
32. hu_____g sound *adj.* producing a continuous, low, vibrating sound like that of the bee
33. te__e the children *v.* to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing
34. faint res_____ce *n.* similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
35. sh__e cheese *v.* to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something
36. 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: 26. trade-off, 27. sideways, 28. icy, 29. steer, 30. neuroscience, 31. chauffeur, 32. humming, 33. tease, 34. resemblance, 35. shave, 36. robotic

37. a ch_____ur-driven limousine *n.* a professional driver of a private or executive car
38. d_e rabbit *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
39. marketing ch_____ry *n.* the use of deceitful or dishonest methods to deceive or trick others; the practice of using clever, manipulative, or deceptive tactics, especially for personal gain
40. phe_____al success *adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
41. war p__es *n.* a long weapon with a pointed metal head on a wooden shaft, typically used by foot soldiers in the past; a fish with a long body, sharp teeth, and a flattened snout; a toll road
42. i_y clouds *adj.* covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness
43. fall si_____ys *adv.* towards or from the side; with one side forward or to the front; (adjective, of movement) at an angle
44. economic do_____ft *v.* to switch from a financially rewarding but stressful career or lifestyle to a less stressful, lower-paying, but more fulfilling one; to change to a lower gear in a vehicle
45. made a great ma_____er *n.* a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage

ANSWERS: 37. chauffeur, 38. doe, 39. chicanery, 40. phenomenal, 41. pike, 42. icy, 43. sideways, 44. downshift, 45. maneuver

46. phe_____al growth *adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
47. it_____e results *v.* to repeat or do something again, often to make improvements or correct errors; to go over or revisit something repeatedly; to restate or emphasize a point or idea
48. in-s__u control *adj.* short for "situated," meaning located or placed in a particular position or circumstance
49. ins_____ve reaction *adj.* relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency
50. financial ch_____ry *n.* the use of deceitful or dishonest methods to deceive or trick others; the practice of using clever, manipulative, or deceptive tactics, especially for personal gain
51. buck and d_e *n.* a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit
52. c__p the employees with a bonus *v.* short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment

ANSWERS: 46. phenomenal, 47. iterate, 48. situ, 49. instinctive, 50. chicanery, 51. doe, 52. comp

Session 3: Fill in the Blanks

1. Hunters use a whistle that makes the ____ sound to lure stags.
n. a mature female of mammals of which the male is called a buck, such as a deer or a rabbit

2. 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

3. 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

4. He noticed that the oil warning light on the _____ of his car had turned on.
n. a control panel set within the central console of a vehicle or small aircraft; a diagram that depicts critical information, typically one that provides a business overview

5. The politician's _____ and deceit were exposed during the investigation.
n. the use of deceitful or dishonest methods to deceive or trick others; the practice of using clever, manipulative, or deceptive tactics, especially for personal gain

6. That supermarket tried to ____ certain costs by saving electricity.
v. to remove body hair with a razor; to cut the price of something

7. This ad is intended to ____ a competing product.
v. to make fun of someone or make jokes about them, either in a playful way or to upset them; to separate the fibers of something; to ruffle a person's or animal's hair by combing

ANSWERS: 1. doe, 2. situ, 3. robotic, 4. dashboard, 5. chicanery, 6. shave, 7. tease

8. The ____ surface of the pond was not safe for skating.

adj. covered with ice or frost; very cold; lacking warmth or friendliness

9. It was _____ for the mother to protect her child from harm.

adj. relating to or based on instinct; done without conscious thought, as if from an inner compulsion or natural tendency

10. 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

11. In this class, we learn the basic _____ of the plane.

n. a motion or combination of moves that requires skill and care; a clever strategy, activity, or movement intended to give someone an advantage

12. She glanced _____ at the conversation of the boy she was interested in.

adv. towards or from the side; with one side forward or to the front; (adjective, of movement) at an angle

13. We need to _____ on this design to improve its functionality.

v. to repeat or do something again, often to make improvements or correct errors; to go over or revisit something repeatedly; to restate or emphasize a point or idea

14. How extraordinarily _____ a liar the camera is.

adj. difficult to hold firmly or stand on because it is wet or smooth; not to be trusted

15. My leg kicked involuntarily when the doctor tapped my knee with the _____ hammer.

n. an automatic and unthinking response to a particular stimulus; a physical reaction to external stimuli

ANSWERS: 8. icy, 9. instinctive, 10. humming, 11. maneuver, 12. sideways, 13. iterate, 14. slippery, 15. reflex

16. The casino _____ her room and meals for being a high-rolling gambler.
- v.* short for "compensate," meaning to give goods or services to someone without asking for payment
17. The gymnast executed a breathtaking _____ flip, landing perfectly on the mat.
- n.* a twisting device used for opening bottles or jars with a cork or other stopper, typically consisting of a spiral metal rod attached to a handle
18. As credit becomes scarce and education and healthcare costs rise, millions of middle-class Americans have to _____.
- v.* to switch from a financially rewarding but stressful career or lifestyle to a less stressful, lower-paying, but more fulfilling one; to change to a lower gear in a vehicle
19. The athlete's _____ performance broke all previous records.
- adj.* extremely good or impressive; outstanding
20. Some studies suggest that people's _____ can be influenced by their experiences and biases.
- n.* the ability to understand or know something without reasoning or evidence; a feeling that guides a person to do or believe something without fully understanding why
21. The private _____ drove the CEO to the airport in a luxurious limousine.
- n.* a professional driver of a private or executive car
22. There was a _____ between speed and accuracy in the task.
- n.* a balance achieved between two desirable but incompatible features; an exchange that occurs as a compromise

ANSWERS: 16. comped, 17. corkscrew, 18. downshift, 19. phenomenal, 20. intuitions, 21. chauffeur, 22. trade-off

23. The _____ between Anna and her mother was astonishing.
n. similarity in appearance or exterior or superficial details
24. The captain told him to _____ the ship north.
v. to control the direction or movement of a vehicle; to direct a course of action; to guide or motivate someone
25. Our university is famous for its professors, who are well-versed in behavioral _____.
n. the scientific study of the function, structure, and disorder of the brain and the nervous system
26. The _____ soldier stood at the castle gate, prepared to defend against the invading forces.
n. a long weapon with a pointed metal head on a wooden shaft, typically used by foot soldiers in the past; a fish with a long body, sharp teeth, and a flattened snout; a toll road

ANSWERS: 23. resemblance, 24. steer, 25. neuroscience, 26. pike-wielding